

Christopher J Talavera
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SUMMARY

Results-driven Senior Full-Stack Software Engineer with over a decade of experience in designing and implementing SaaS-based enterprise applications. Led the development of Springbig's subscription and digital gift card service to enhance customer retention, while managing an engineering team focused on optimizing marketing and loyalty platforms. Key contributor to LoadNinja, SmartBear's first in-house SaaS product for Fortune 500 clients, with a proven track record of delivering innovative, scalable solutions that prioritize performance and user experience.

KEY SKILLS

- Advanced: Javascript (React, Node.js), HTML/CSS, Tailwind, AWS (S3, DynamoDB, EC2, Lambda, API Gateway, Step Functions, Cognito, Kinesis, CloudFormation, CDK, AWS Glue), PostgreSQL
- Familiar: C#, C/C++, Java, PHP, MySQL, Javascript (AngularJS 1.x), Rails
- English (native), Spanish (native)

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineering Manager

Springbig / Boca Raton, FL (Remote) / September 2022 - August 2024

- Led the integration of our platform with third-party POS providers, enabling seamless cross-communication of customer information, transactions, visits, and merchant product data, while empowering merchants to send targeted marketing campaigns to customers.
- Co-architected and managed the development of a subscription service integrated with payment gateway(s), allowing merchants to create paid subscription plans. This service provided customers with exclusive rewards and deals, while generating a new revenue stream through profit-sharing agreements with clients.
- Managed the development of a service allowing merchants to offer digital gift cards (through an integration with Birchmount) that a customer can purchase and load using loyalty points or a payment card and use it to make purchases at a merchant's store or send it as a gift to a friend. This allows merchant customers more flexibility in how they purchase products at a store, increasing customer retention.
- Reviewed and approved developers' PR's (Pull Requests), ensuring code quality and adherence to standards. Resolved roadblocks by offering technical insights, collaborating with product teams for clarifications, and coordinating with other team leads to facilitate knowledge sharing.

Software Engineer

Springbig / Boca Raton, FL (Remote) / October 2021 - September 2022

- Contributed to a specialized development team tasked with solving complex issues, primarily in AWS and occasionally in Rails backend, that other teams lacked the expertise to address.
- Enhanced the company's AWS infrastructure by developing and modifying deployment pipelines in AWS CodePipeline, utilizing Node.js and TypeScript, for AWS Lambda, EventBridge, Systems Manager, IAM, and other AWS service resources, leveraging AWS CDK for resource provisioning.

- Developed an AWS Lambda function (microservice) triggered by a daily EventBridge rule to import BlueConic CDP customer segments from an S3-hosted CSV file. This data (millions of records) was processed in batches via workers, for targeted marketing campaigns.
- Automated the migration of Postgres tables to AWS Redshift by creating deployment pipelines for AWS Glue resources and writing Python scripts for AWS Glue jobs. Personally oversaw the migration of approximately 30 tables to multiple new development environments on AWS.

Senior Software Engineer

SmartBear Software Inc / Coconut Creek, FL / March 2017 - September 2021

- Developed, validated, and debugged front-end (AngularJS 1.x) and backend (Java) code for AlertSite, an API, application, and website monitoring web platform.
- Helped found and build LoadNinja, a leading load testing SaaS web platform, from the ground up. Developed using React (front-end), AWS, and Node.js (back-end) and allows for the visual recording of load testing scripts, without writing code, and running load tests, all using real Chrome browsers.
- Developed the functionality (Node.js, Express) of the LoadNinja recorder that allows for the visual recording of load testing scripts, generated as a Mocha script in real-time, by exposing to the end user an active, graphical instance of a headless Chrome browser, shown via frames of the browser GUI sent over WebSocket and controlled by Chrome DevTools Protocol to allow for the automation of user actions on the browser, running on an EC2 instance and for the visual replay of the recorder-generated Mocha script.
- Developed the logic for correctly and equally distributing load test virtual users across multiple EC2 instances, spun up for a load test using the scripts, regions and proportions specified by the end user, via an AWS Lambda microservice written in Node.js.
- Developed AWS Lambda microservice, written in Node.js, that allows for the saving of a recording of a failed load test script iteration using FFMPEG as a layer in the Lambda function to piece together the gathered image frames of the script iteration playback into a single video which is then saved to S3 so that the user may view the video in their load test report, after the load test has completed
- Helped mentor new team members and help them get familiar with the codebase.
- Worked with team lead to figure out the feasibility of and architect new features using personal overall knowledge of the LoadNinja platform.
- Worked with customer support, and at times directly with customers, to help identify and fix individual or overall platform issues.

Intern Software Developer

QQ Solutions / Deerfield Beach, FL / May 2010 - December 2016

- Developed, validated, and debugged front-end (HTML, CSS, JS [AngularJS 1.X]) and back-end (.NET) code for internal tools website used by Product Support
- Developed, validated, and debugged Windows Form tools written in C#
- Reviewed, analyzed, and modified the VBA source code and layout of Microsoft Access Forms

EDUCATION

Florida Atlantic University / Boca Raton, FL

B.S. Computer Science / December 2016

University of Central Florida / Orlando, FL

A.A. / July 2015