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Hey team. I hope you enjoyed receiving the package as much as I enjoyed making it. Unfortunately a cake wouldn't fit, so I included some coffee-infused chocolate from Wellington. Like me, it's taken a long journey to be part of this application.

I'm writing to apply for the Backend Engineer position listed on your website. With my academic background in robotics, hardware skills, extensive backend development experience and enthusiasm for working in small, innovative teams, I believe I could be a great fit at Matta.

I really enjoyed my time at university. I spent four years in mechatronics labs and workshops, coming up with cool ideas and building them with good friends. Two of my favourite projects were an automated drill press for my capstone project and a robot I built to pick up micron-scale objects. I even wrote a paper about that.

Having started my career back in New Zealand, I moved to London a couple of years ago to pursue bigger opportunities. This was hands down the best decision I've ever made. Moving here, I found myself meeting so many kindred spirits - builders and nerds; circles that reciprocated my enthusiasm for big ideas.

I was buzzing when Mesh-AI hired me to work in their data science team. We spent 18 months building an AI-powered works planning platform for National Grid, and now we're applying some of that learning on a gig with NESO. They want us to build models that can automate dispatch - pointedly confronting futuristic ideas of an AI-controlled energy system. The scale of the problem is very attractive, however, having worked in the energy sector for some years now, I know advancements are slow. I'm keen to work in an industry where I can make a more immediate impact.

This year I decided that building meaningful things was my biggest priority, and I've fully committed to this initiative. I've designed and built a functioning camera. I've studied things from my day job that interested me and written about them. I've built a website. I've also spent a week building the most overengineered envelope the world has ever seen. I've done all this to record and celebrate my work, rekindle the fun I had during my studies, and apply to innovative companies like Matta.

I see this role as a great opportunity to contribute to futuristic endeavours in the immediate term, and believe that the environment would be one in which all of my - rather eclectic - skills and interests would be put to good use.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

Daniel Crimp

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