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Dear Splash Hiring Team,

I have been in technology leadership roles for over 10 years. Starting with my time at ThoughtWorks and DRW Trading, I led and mentored teams of dozens of developers. When I left DRW, I moved to India and started Nilenso Software, an employee-owned software consultancy with a mission to work with clients building critical infrastructure products, whether for-profit like GoJek or non-profit like Simple.org. Throughout these roles, I would coordinate between clients/stakeholders and other project teams. Project inceptions required that I plan the overall project scope with clients and agree upon initial timelines and priorities based on that scope. For most of my time at Nilenso, I was responsible for relationships with our clients, from defining success (and, in particular, what “done” meant for any given task or project) to ensuring successful delivery. I am very comfortable leading, guiding, and mentoring teams so that they grow toward self-sufficiency. Nilenso’s continued existence is evidence that I have done this, even at the scale of an entire company.

While at DRW Trading, I introduced Clojure 1.2.0 to the Trade Infrastructure team. Our first Clojure service was a 15-line replacement for a 50-line C# daemon which tee’d UDP traffic on the essential messaging layer (LBM) used throughout the firm. This simple initial proving ground led to our use of Clojure and ClojureScript throughout the company. After DRW, I trained my staff at Nilenso in Clojure and sold large Clojure projects at Staples Labs and GoJek. As a result, I’ve seen Clojure in some very high-volume, distributed systems. More recently, even in leadership roles, I’ve used Babashka for automation while working on XTDB and wrote the original Pariyatti digital library in Clojure:

<https://github.com/pariyatti/kosa-clj>

Although I have spent most of the past 10 years in leadership roles — hiring and training staff, selling and managing accounts, running businesses, and building products — I would like to get back to my roots and really build something useful again. I’ve spoken to Adam Komblevitz about the environment at Splash, and it sounds like an engaging place to work.

I look forward to hearing from you about this or future roles.

All the best,



Steven Deobald