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Dear Tomek (and other LifeCheq folks),

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, India's first employee-owned software company. I designed Nilenso with a mission to build critical infrastructure products for our clients, whether for-profit like GoJek or non-profit like Simple.org. At both DRW and Nilenso, I taught my teams Clojure and FP. Under my leadership Nilenso built massive, distributed systems, almost exclusively in Clojure.

I've been a Clojure advocate for a long time. Back in 2011, I introduced Clojure 1.2.0 to the DRW 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 the 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. Even in my recent leadership roles, I still tend to use Babashka for automation. But I also have a lot of recent surface area with the Clojure world. During Covid, I wrote the original Pariyatti digital library in Clojure and I was the keynote speaker at the most recent IN/Clojure conference:

- <https://github.com/pariyatti/kosa-clj>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VrIWxYbnnqM>

The past 4 years of working on database startups even had a lot of Clojure in my day to day. XTDB was written in Clojure and although Endatabas was written in Common Lisp, it was still an immutable database (taking inspiration from Datomic), so Clojure's design principles were always on our minds.

I've spent the past 20 years moving around the world (across Canada, the USA, the UK, and India). I'm very comfortable with international development — both in terms of varied timezones and cultures. Stathis tells me that there's a variety of opportunity with the LifeCheq team to work in both leadership and delivery roles; I'm excited about both. Although I've spent most of the past decade in leadership roles, I still love the instant feedback of the REPL and the satisfaction of delivering concrete software to users. I'm happy to discuss how I might fit in at LifeCheq across the spectrum from IC to EM/PM.

I look forward to learning more about LifeCheq and filling in the details of my long story!

All the best,



Steven Deobald