

# DESMOND O'LEARY

## Senior Full-Stack Software Developer / Architect / Lead

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### PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior/Staff **Full-Stack Engineer** and **Architect** with **extensive experience** designing, building, and scaling robust web applications for fintech, SaaS, and e-commerce across startups and enterprises.

Expert in **technical transformation**, leading migrations from **monoliths to microservices**, **AI-driven automation**, and diverse tech stack adaptation to deliver cost-effective, high-impact solutions. Recognized for **driving innovation**, **optimizing performance**, **mentoring teams**, and aligning engineering with business goals.

### CORE SKILLS

- **Architecture:** AI-driven SDLC, distributed microservices, micro-frontends, API-first architecture, federated GraphQL, serverless/event-driven systems, legacy modernization, schema-driven UIs.
- **Leadership:** Mentorship, code quality, engineering culture, technical writing
- **Frontend:** React, Vue.js, JavaScript, TypeScript, CSS, Tailwind, Ant Design
- **Backend:** Ruby on Rails, Laravel (PHP 8.x), Node.js, Java EE, Golang, REST/GraphQL APIs, Auth0/Okta SSO
- **Data & Integration:** PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, Cassandra, Redis, Elasticsearch, Kafka
- **DevOps/Cloud:** AWS (Lambda, Fargate, RDS, S3), Docker, Kubernetes, Terraform, CI/CD, Datadog
- **Testing/Quality:** BDD/TDD (RSpec, Pest, PHPUnit, Cypress, Behat), security (OWASP Top 10)

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### Helcim ~ Senior Software Developer/Architect ~ October 2024 – Present

- **Architected and led** migration from a legacy PHP monolith to Laravel microservices + Vue.js microfrontend, dramatically improving customer and developer experience.
- **Developed an AI-driven code generation pipeline;** automated creation of Laravel models, services, tests, GraphQL schema, and Vue.js pages—reducing scaffolding time by 80%.
- **Drove cross-team alignment** by collaborating in AI, Frontend, and Laravel Guilds—sharing best practices and fostering continuous improvement.
- **Mentored and coached** six engineers; two earned promotions within six months through hands-on support and knowledge sharing.
- **Partnered with Product & Security** to implement robust observability and compliance, reducing security incidents by 40%.

**Acquired Skills** (Laravel, PHP 8.x, VueJS, Golang, Blueprint, Vue-Query, OpenAPI, NodeJS, MySQL)

#### Omni-Tech Solutions ~ Lead Full Stack Dev/Architect/Contractor (July 2020- Sept 2024)

##### MajorClarity (Staff Dev / Architect):

- Integrated **Auth0 SSO** for **4M+ students**, cutting login errors by **90%**.
- Introduced **Vue.js micro-frontends** into Rails monolith, boosting dev velocity by **35%** and reducing legacy code by **50%**.
- Normalized & synced **4M+** student records via Sidekiq, reducing latency **85%** and duplication.
- Achieved **90%+** test coverage, slashing production defects by **80%**

**Spacelist (Sr Dev / Architect):**

- Engineered Rails-based listing importer, onboarding 10 clients in 3 months; increased data throughput by **200%**.
- Optimised sitemap generation time (6 h → 50 min) via Redis/Sidekiq batching; supported 1M+ property links.
- Bulk-updated 100K+ S3 assets to correct metadata, eliminating 95% of preview errors.

**Geoforce (Sr Dev / Architect):**

- Built Okta SSO solution, delivering on time despite 40% team attrition; zero production outages.
- Automated Okta provisioning with Terraform, cutting manual effort by **80%** and eliminating human errors.
- Streamlined dev environment setup from 3 days to 2 hrs via Terraform/Helm templates.

**Relay Platform (Lead Sr Dev / Architect):**

- Designed and delivered I5 Cyber Quoting Platform (Rails + React) in 8 weeks, facilitating a \$3M acquisition.
- Built JSON Schema-driven React components for complex forms/localisation, reducing front-end code by **35%**.
- Implemented real-time quote comparisons (ActiveChannel, Apollo Client), elevating quoting efficiency by **25%**.

**Acquired Skills** (Ruby on Rails, Laravel (PHP 8.x), React, GraphQL, PostgreSQL, AWS, Docker, Terraform, BDD/TDD frameworks)

**Trufla Technology ~ Senior Software Developer/Architect ~ December 2018 – June 2020**

- **Led** full-stack engineering of Cyber Quoting Platform (Rails & React), securing a \$4M deal and architecting for 10x user growth.
- Upgraded Rails 4 → 5 for 150K+ LOC, retiring 60+ gems, cutting security vulnerabilities by **70%**.
- Introduced GraphQL and component-based React, boosting UI performance by **30%** and lowering front-end bug rate by **50%**.
- Established rigorous BDD/TDD processes (RSpec, Cypress), raising code coverage to **85%** and reducing defects by **60%**.

**Acquired Skills** (Ruby on Rails, React, NodeJS, GraphQL, PostgreSQL, DRY Validation, SideKiq, Rspec, React, NodeJS, GraphQL, Ant Design, JSON Schema, ESLint, Prettier, EmberJS)

**Earlier Experience (2010 - 2018)**

- **Led full-stack development and architecture** across senior roles at Cisco, SMART Technologies, Trufla, Solium, and Hubstaff; Built and delivered platforms for insurance, HR, productivity, and EdTech—consistently on time and to high quality standards.
- **Automated core workflows and modernized and scaled legacy systems** with **95%+** reconciliation automation (Solium), faster malware detection (Cisco), and multi-tenant SaaS enablement (Trufla).
- **Mentored and coached engineers, championed TDD/BDD, CI/CD, security best practices**, and **fostered** a high-performing, collaborative engineering culture.

**EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS**

1999-2004 - Bachelor of Engineering (Software Engineering), Athlone Institute of Technology

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND INTERESTS**

My interests include soccer, swimming, mountain biking, and reading sci-fi fantasy books.

**REFERENCES**

Available upon request