

Gerald E. Bennett, PhD

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Solutions Architect | Technical Architect | DevOps | Java Engineer

On a mission to help companies with solving technological problems;
improve my craft and the art of programming and to share this joy with others

EXPERIENCE

JANUARY 2022 – MAY 2023

SR. ENTERPRISE ARCHITECT, NINJAONE LLC.

- Designed and implemented a robust Wamp Authentication Service (WAS) utilizing Kotlin, Spring-Boot, REDIS, PostgreSQL to authenticate WAMP authorization requests for NinjaOne SAAS monolith and microservices applications.
- Led the development of AWS Cloud Development Kit (CDK) infrastructure and established a seamless CI/CD pipeline for deploying services to Amazon Elastic Container Service (ECS). The implementation of this robust solution involved transforming the monolithic architecture into a microservices-based model, effectively enhancing scalability, maintainability, and deployment efficiency.
- Developed/Architected structured logging framework for AWS CloudWatch, NewRelic, Sentry and SplunkCloud using Mapped Diagnostic Context.
- Performed reviewer role tasks for NinjaOne Backend Applications including: code and design review, git repo management and performance test improvements.
- Created various POC's to determine technical direction ex: containerized builds using Earthly; containerization using Cloud Native Buildpacks and paketo buildpacks for frontend react applications, nginx, backend SpringBoot and python applications.
- Scrutinized architecture and code designs of NinjaOne backend server applications.

OCTOBER 2018 – JANUARY 2022

SR. ENTERPRISE ARCHITECT/SOLUTIONS ARCHITECT, TEXAS MUTUAL WORKFORCE

- Established identity management strategy by researching leading industry solutions by creating demos, evaluations, and negotiating with management and team leads and rolling out solutions to production
- Established single-sign-on strategy using PKCE flows and illustrated using Angular.
- Evaluated build-vs-buy proposal for automation end-of-year payroll. This effort included a working prototype using the following technologies: React, Typescript and Python Lambdas, AWS Textract, CloudFront, API Gateway
- Participated as a member of the enterprise architect team to evaluate the selection of the cloud vendors and transition to cloud. Evaluated AWS, Azure, and Pivotal Cloud Foundry.
- Established DevOps and CI/CD strategy and tool evaluation selection for artifact repository system: Nexus vs JFrog Artifactory; code quality code security tool: SonarQube, VeraCode; Build Tools: Gradle, Apache Maven; Deployment Tools: AWS CDK, Terraform, Kubernetes, Waypoint, AWS-CLI
- Build containerization conversion automation cli tool to allow apps to run locally inside Docker Desktop legacy J2EE App and Spring-Boot.
- Conducted work sessions to improve developers coding, testing and work flow practices for topics like Kubernetes, Docker, PostMan, Git and Selenium.
- Explored Caching strategies for caching mechanisms with spring-boot security such as Redis

JUNE 2018 – OCTOBER 2018

SOLUTION ARCHITECT / SENIOR JAVA DEVELOPER, TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS PARTNERS

- Architected the integration Apache Activiti processing engine into NIC backend application to provide asynchronous workflow capabilities which is a crucial component of the document and request processing backend engine.

OCTOBER 2017 – APRIL 2018

SOLUTION ARCHITECT / SENIOR JAVA DEVELOPER, THERMOFISHER SCIENTIFIC - AUSTIN, TEXAS

- Responsible for delivering and maintaining CI/CD workflow of various applications.
- Developed Groovy DSL framework to automatically generate and maintain over 150 Jenkins Jobs and pipelines
- Assisted QA Team design and architect Cucumber automated data driven, JUnit, Selenium test framework
- Implemented Karate BDD Rest based automated test suite for different microservices
- Completed code review and built microservices, using spring boot docker and Apache Solr backend technologies

MAY 2017 – AUGUST 2017

SENIOR JAVA CONSULTANT, KFORCE INC. SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS / USAA - SAN ANTONIO TEXAS

- Developed front-end Apache Wicket modules for multi-factor authentication and authorization
- Created both functional and integration Selenium test harness for the multi-factor authentication and authorization
- Integrated application with backend REST based services

OCTOBER 2016 – JANUARY 2017

SENIOR JAVA ORACLE RETAIL CONSULTANT, LILLIE RNB, INC. - ATLANTA GEORGIA – METRA/BNSF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Scrutinized Java systems current architecture and compared different WebServices architectures to determine the best path for integration of TruRating and LAW applications.

- Constructed a framework for the installation of Micros XStore utilizing Ansible roles, playbooks, and Ansible Vault
- Enhanced security
- Reduced installation time
- Increased flexibility in deployment topologies through the automation framework
- Resolved 25+ bugs while performing an upgrade of the ORPOS solutions in Metra's Stores, meeting a strict deadline while delivering codes, introducing build, and testing and upgrading processes
- Mentored team members on the Oracle Retail Store Applications

2011 – 2016

CONSULTANT, VOLUNTEER ADVISOR

- Independent Java Developer/Consultant
- Performed automation of multiple applications
- Conducted automation of Web management tasks by creating JavaFX, Selenium, and WebDriver App
- Created Java/JPA/Java receipt entry application for Ginger Aruba Corporation
- Supplied virtual training modules of Oracle Retail Store Applications for Oracle Corporation

2010 – 2011

ARCHITECT/MANAGER, COGNIZANT CORPORATION AUSTIN, TEXAS/ LOWES CORP MONTERREY, MEXICO

- Constructed integration solutions for the improvement of Oracle Retail applications for the Lowe's Corporation International team. Travelled more than 75% of the time.
- Spearheaded a team to ensure reliability and stability in Lowe's retail stores in Monterrey, Mexico, as well as fashioning a procedure for deciphering production software issues
- Created and executed the procedures needed to perform production repairs and support, upgrade, version control, and testing strategies for Cognizant Lowe's Production Support Team while managing the off-site team in India and on-site Monterrey Mexico

2003 – 2010

PERFORMANCE ARCHITECT, (2008 – 2010), ORACLE CORPORATION - AUSTIN, TEXAS

- Designed and architected an automated performance test framework/benchmark for the Oracle Retail Point-of-Sale Oracle Retail Enterprise Java/J2EE applications
- Originated automated load performance testing
- Designed HTTP/HTML tests utilized to load test the Oracle BackOffice application
- Created, executed and finely tuned performance bottlenecks for the specific ORPOS topology and applications

Senior Development Engineer/Consultant (2004 – 2008)

Provided on-site solutions, deployment, mentoring for 360Commerce store and enterprise retail applications for 6 different clients. Provided consultation on resource configuration, assimilation, and performance improvement matters of production environments. Served as the architectural and technical liaison for Sears USA and as a member of the sales team for Sears Canada proof of concept phase.

Senior Java Application Developer (2003 – 2004)

Conducted error resolution, code synchronization repairing, and closing complex software amendment requests.

- Accomplished performance and reliability enhancements for customer services work for 4 different clients

2003

CONSULTANT/SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER, VIEO, INC. - AUSTIN, TEXAS

Originated white and black box JUnit test cases utilized to analyze VIEO's Adaptive Application Infrastructure Management Client/Server, executing integration and system level Java test cases to test the security, server provisioning, and object relational mapping integrity of Vieo's "On-Demand" computing business domain java code.

2002

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER, TONIC SOFTWARE INC. - AUSTIN, TEXAS

Created, executed, and integrated a JavaScript/Jython test case framework into a preexisting Jython automation test tool allowing for test case modularization and the development of test case drivers.

- Designed test schemes, test drivers, and test cases in Java, JavaScript, and Jython to analyze Tonic's Web Application Management Server and Scripting API, involving the testing of Tonic's job types
- Developed and implemented test plans and wrote UNIX test scripts
- Conducted code compliance, code coverage, and performance testing

1999 – 2001

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER, CLEARCOMMERCE CORPORATION, AUSTIN, TEXAS

- Designed and implemented first generation client side Java messaging API for the 4.x ClearCommerce enterprise payment engine.
- Converted the API interface to an XML based interface to automatically generate C++ and Java client implementation code of the API
- Architected and developed a test framework to facilitate testing and express test cases in any programming language
- Took initiative to mentor team to ensure a deeper understanding of the ClearCommerce products

1997 – 1991

DEVELOPER/SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR, SILICON RESOURCES - AUSTIN, TEXAS

Develop tools for hardware Engineers/Consultants; Performs Sys Admin tasks and maintain HP/UX AIX and Linux systems

EDUCATION

DECEMBER 1995

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - AUSTIN, TX

SEPTEMBER 1990

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY – CAMBRIDGE, MA

SKILLS

- Technical Expertise
 - Platforms: Gradle, Maven, Ansible, Docker, VirtualBox, Git, Ant,
 - Languages & Frameworks: Java, Shell and DOS Scripting, Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, JSON/YAML/XML Spring Boot, Spring Cloud, Apache Activiti, Oracle Retail Store
 - Tools & IDE: Postman, Eclipse, VS Code, Emacs, Spacemacs, Vi
- Experienced
 - Container Platforms: AWS, Azure, Terraform, Kubernetes, Amazon CDK
 - Application Servers: Websphere, Weblogic, JBoss
 - Identity Providers: Okta, Cognito, Ping Identity, KeyCloak
 - Architecture: MVC, J2EE, Spring-Boot Microservices Architecture
 - Devops & Infrastructure Tools: Jenkins, Oracle Micros XStore, HP LoadRunner, Apache Kafka & Solr, VMWare, Hyper-V, Apache Camel, WebSphere MQ, FioranoMQ
 - Databases: Vagrant, Packer, Ansible, Chef DSL, Terraform
 - Other: Oracle 11g, IBM Db2, H2, MySQL, DynamoDB
 - Adaptability, Versatility, Creativity, Performance Testing, Problem Solving and Resolution, Mentoring
- Familiar
 - Languages: SQL, Groovy DSL, Perl, Go, NodeJS, Angular, React
 - Databases/Caches: MongoDB, Redis, DynamoDB