Eric Tavela

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Professional Summary

Practical and talented software engineer and architect with over twenty years of experience. Passionate about software craftsmanship, cloud native technologies, building supportive and capable development teams, and software development process best practices.

Relevant Professional Experience

Aura (Burlington, MA), Senior Platform Engineer

2021 - present

Design, implement and deploy foundational platform services in AWS for the Aura digital security tool suite. Services are implemented as Node.js 16 AWS Lambda functions, must operate at high-scale (approximately 15 million API invocations per day) and provide a high level of security to secure customer authentication and billing data.

Green Light Software (Reston, VA), Founding Member

2020 - present

As a side project, founded software start-up to provide operational support for worker cooperatives. Project architecture is implemented to run on Kubernetes 1.21 as lightweight Node.js 16 microservices invoked via Knative Eventing and Serving 0.26 within an Istio 1.12 service mesh with Cassandra 4.0 as the data store and React 17.0 as the front end. Infrastructure configuration and CI/CD are implemented with Terraform 1.1, Argo CD 2.2 and Tekton Pipeline 0.32.

CompuGain (Herndon, VA), Full Stack Engineer

2020 - 2021

Designed and implemented high-performance message ingestion framework and other software components for College Board's Learning Management System (LMS) using AWS Lambda (Node.js 14 with Serverless Framework), SNS, SQS, DynamoDB and RDS (Aurora PostgreSQL). Set up CI/CD for the LMS project with framework built on AWS CodeBuild and CodePipeline services.

Jus Cogens (Washington, DC), Founding Member

2019 - 2020

As the principal technical founding member, established the architecture, delivery platform and development process for Jus Cogens, a web-based international legal research tool, in addition to implementing components across all tiers.

Jus Cogens is designed as a set of RESTful and message-driven microservices with a React/Redux front-end. The software platform employs Java SE, Spring Boot, Python, ReactJS, MongoDB, RabbitMQ, and Elasticsearch. The continuous delivery platform uses Jenkins X and associated technologies (Helm, Docker, etc.) to deploy components to a Kubernetes cluster running on Google Cloud Platform.

CompuGain (Herndon, VA), Senior Architecture / Software Engineer

2017 - 2019

Led a development team for CollegeBoard's Advanced Placement (AP) course registration and exam ordering software platform. Designed the exam ordering microservice and implemented Java and Python components for other microservices. Core technologies include Spring Boot, AWS Lambda, AWS ECS, AWS DynamoDB, AWS RDS PostgreSQL.

5AM Solutions (Rockville, MD) Founder, Software Architect, Software Engineer

2003 - 2017

As Founder, set the initial technical direction for 5AM and built a vital client portfolio through successful delivery of projects and building a high-performing software development staff.

Page 1 Eric Tavela

Led implementation teams to deliver software for major healthcare and life sciences clients including Pfizer, the National Cancer Institute and Thermo Fisher Scientific. Notable projects include:

Technical Lead on project Sunrise that manages data capture and processing for pharmaceutical clinical trials via an AngularJS front-end backed by a microservices infrastructure.

Technologies include Spring Boot, AngularJS, JHipster, MySQL, Cassandra, Cucumber, Serenity and Docker.

Architect and Technical Lead on foodfraud.org version 2.0 for the U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention. The application tracks and reports instances of food supply adulterants for industry clients.

Technologies applied include Spring Boot, AngularJS, CAS authentication integration and Oracle RDBMS.

 Architect and Technical Lead for the Pfizer Blue Button project, the first solution to deliver clinical trial data directly to patients. The solution transforms Oracle Clinical study exports to industry standard FHIR Resources and HL7 C-CDA documents and provides a RESTful API to retrieve HL7 C-CDA documents and PDF representations.

Technologies include Spring MVC, Tomcat, and MDHT CDA for HL7.

- Architect and Technical Lead for caArray 2.0 for the National Cancer Institute used by NCI-funded research to manage and share gene expression microarray data between cancer researchers.
- Developed materials for and delivered 5AM's internal hands-on UML 2.0 with Enterprise Architect training course.

Number Six Software, Senior Software Consultant

2000 - 2003

Mentored development organizations in object-oriented development technologies. Specific duties included hands-on consulting in Java EE technology, web application design, object-oriented analysis and design, UML and technical best practices.

- Consultant to Booz Allen Hamilton: designed and implemented the middle-tier architecture for a U.S. State Department project targeted for worldwide deployment. Mentored development personnel in EJB analysis and design and provided guidance in UML modeling and applying the Rational Unified Process.
- Consultant to Freddie Mac: instituted major improvements in development build, test, and deployment processes for Project Enterprise, a mission-critical Java EE project. Directed change management and build activities for a large development staff (60+ developers) during a major restructuring effort, moving from feature set based development to a subsystem-based approach. Coordinated efforts of a team of subsystem integrators and managed activities of the main integration team.
- Taught classroom-based Rational Software courses in Object-Oriented Analysis and Design with UML and ClearQuest and ClearCase Administration.

UNISYS, Principal Programmer Analyst

1998 - 1999

Developed software on-site at the U.S. Coast Guard Operation Systems Center.

- Developed application to automate USCG web server procedures with ASP front-end, Java SE business layer and SQL Server database.
- Analyst and data modeler for a mission-essential USCG marine safety operations project.

Eric Tavela Page 2

 Awarded Contractor Employee of the Quarter and twice awarded Unisys Achievement Award for Excellence.

AMTI, Internet Administrator

1996 - 1998

Performed a wide range of application development and system administration activities to support United States Coast Guard internet services.

- Installed and administered firewall, DNS, SMTP and NNTP services in heterogeneous Unix environments.
- Developed application to track USCG-wide Y2K system upgrade activities with IIS, JavaScript and SQL Server.

AOL, Internet Systems Developer

1995 - 1996

Developed internal and customer-contracted web-based applications for AOL's internet hosting division.

Developed applications to automate deployment of web servers and databases on a network of SGI hardware and registration of domains and DNS for one of the first-ever web hosting platforms.

Certifications

- Certified Kubernetes Administrator 2021
- Certified Kubernetes Developer 2021
- Apache Cassandra 3 Developer Associate 2021
- AWS Certified Solutions Architect Associate 2017
- ScrumAlliance Certified ScrumMaster 2009
- IBM Rational Certified Instructor (2000 2007): ClearCase and ClearQuest Administration, Object-Oriented Analysis & Design with UML, Rational Rose and Principles in Object Technology
- IBM Rational Unified Process Certified Consultant, 2002
- Sun Certified Web Component Developer for Java 2 Platform, Enterprise Edition, 2002
- Sun Certified Java 2 Programmer, 2000

Awards and Notables

Contributing author for 2008 Jolt Award winning book, Continuous Integration: Improving Software **Quality and Removing Risk**

Page 3 Eric Tavela