Rik Wanders

Senior Full Stack Developer

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Dutch Senior Full Stack Developer residing in Spain, 12+ years Full Stack Python & Node.js experience, scaling complex, high-traffic & data heavy applications with Django & React, and leading agile development teams. Additional skills in DevOps, CI/CD & UX design. Always current with industry trends, AI, and security practices. Thrives in agile teams and/or startup environments. 5+ years remote work experience.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Chipta | Amsterdam, NL | Lead Developer | 09/2018 - 06/2024

- Optimized development team (3-5 devs) output with 25%, by leading agile methods and strict code review processes
- Enabled processing thousands of orders per minute, by optimizing SQL queries & Python/Django processes with 30-60%
- Decreased regression with 90%, by establishing TDD with quality testing suite using Django & Selenium (+80% coverage)
- Reduced deploy time -80% & enabled regular releases, by orchestrating CI/CD systems on Linode using Ansible & Python
- Streamlined onboarding, by coordinating development environment setup of 4 Docker microservices in Docker Compose
- Maintained backward compatibility with legacy PHP system & database, by customizing Django codebase
- Enabled clients to organize automatically managed online events with Zoom, by integrating Zoom with OAuth in Django

Tender-it | Amsterdam, NL | Lead Developer | 03/2014 - 06/2018

- Delivered complete platform with Python, Django & React in consultation with non-technical founders
- Developed industry-first Elasticsearch-powered search engine for filtering & scoring hundreds of thousands of tenders
- Transformed thousands of tenders daily into structured data, by making web crawlers & importers with Django & Celery
- Enabled market entry via subscription system with monthly/yearly recurring payments, using React, Django & Celery

TravelBird | Amsterdam, NL | Senior Full Stack Developer | 03/2013 - 08/2014

- Shipped native iOS booking app in Objective-C scrum team (4) within 5 months, handling 15%+ of bookings in 3 months
- Designed REST API using DRF, deployed on AWS, accommodating iOS & Android apps and mobile website
- Supported acquisition by sending thousands of emails with marketing system using Python, Django, Celery & SendGrid

SWIS | Leiden, NL | Mid-level Web Developer | 08/2011 - 02/2013

- Delivered web projects for major clients (Bol.com) as part of company's best of 5 Scrum teams using custom PHP CMS
- Cultivated advanced frontend & UX skills with jQuery & CSS3, increasing user product engagement & client satisfaction

Gamepoint | The Hague, NL | Junior / Mid-level Web Developer | 08/2007 - 06/2011

- Implemented payment integrations, internationalization, and optimized MySQL database structures & queries
- Promoted to mid-level developer in 10+ developer team, maintaining large-scale PHP codebase & Linux servers setup

SKILLS

- **Backend:** Python | Django | Django REST Framework (DRF) | Flask | RESTful API & LLM integrations | pytest
- **Frontend:** JavaScript | Node.js | TypeScript | React | React Native | Svelte | Tailwind CSS | Jest
- **Databases:** PostgreSQL | MySQL | MariaDB | SQLite | SQL optimization | Elasticsearch | MongoDB
- **Development tools:** Git | GitHub | Git Flow | Claude Code | Cursor | VSCode
- **DevOps:** Docker (Compose) | CI/CD | Ansible | GitHub Actions
- **Cloud Platforms:** Vercel | Linode | Amazon Web Services (AWS)

NOTABLE PROJECTS

LitState | ⬡ ★ 152 | 2020 - 2023

Reactive state management library for Lit Web Components, Open-sourced on GitHub & NPM. Used in production at Chipta (ticket shop). I used Lit + LitState as a simpler, lightweight and browser-native alternative to React + Redux.

Django Admin Relation Links | ⬡ ★ 108 | 2017 - 2020

Django Admin navigation enhancement, simplifying navigation between related database objects. Open-sourced on GitHub and PyPi. Effectively used at Chipta & Tender-it.

Git Submodules Guide | ⬡ ★ 1022 | 2014

Popular GitHub Gist explaining Git submodules fundamentals. Helped many developers understand submodules effectively.