Chris Radcliff

Seattle, WA
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Ambition

I lead thoughtful, accountable engineering teams to build hard-working systems that move mountains of data to improve people's lives. I enjoy designing, implementing, revising, and beating the ever-loving heck out of production software, and guiding other engineers toward a passion for doing the same.

Skills

software architecture – technology decisions, systems planning, and capacity analysis

people management – regular one-on-ones, compensation reviews, and performance feedback

agile development – planning in a scrum or kanban style, backed by tracking tools from Jira to sticky notes

engineering mentorship – development plans, code reviews, engineering summits, and tech talks

hiring great engineers – recruiting, phone screens, technical interviews, and hiring for diversity

budgeting – fixed and operational cost management for people, colocated hardware, and cloud infrastructure

Experience

Software Engineering Manager – Return Path

February 2014 – Present

I manage a team that builds data pipeline processing applications in Java, Python, Node.js, and Ruby, storing terabytes per day in Kafka, Elasticsearch, Amazon S3, and Hadoop, deployed to a datacenter and AWS. The team increased pipeline throughput by 2000% over 3 years (to 10TB per day) while consistently maintaining 99.9% uptime and keeping per-message processing costs steady.

Includes hiring, agile rituals, budgets, capacity planning, 1:1s, career path and technical development for engineers, planning Mandatory Fun celebrations for team successes, code reviews, and regular turns on-call.

I also developed the company's Engineering Summits, quarterly workshops that bring engineers and data scientists together for Ignite talks and engineer-led roundtables on technical topics.

> "Chris is one of the best managers I've ever had the benefit to work for. ... It's the rare manager that can offer you both career and life advice while also giving critiques and insights into design and implementation directions."
>
> — Craig Swift, Principal Software Engineer at Return Path

> "Chris was charged with the processing and delivery of the company's data, as well as spend control and the delivery of new customer-facing features. Because of Chris' management style, his team quickly became THE model team at our company."
>
> — Trevor Harris, Product Manager at Return Path

Technical Director – Captura Group

October 2011 – January 2014

Leading a small team, I designed and built SaaS applications and social-data APIs in Ruby, Javascript, MySQL, and Postgres, deployed to AWS. As part of the inaugural Code for America accelerator cohort, I developed Measured Voice, a social-media management service for government clients, from design and prototyping through production use by loyal customers.

> "Chris is an absolute expert in creating reliable, secure, fast and usable web-based software. We could not have built Measured Voice without him."
>
> — Jed Sundwall, Director at Captura Group

Senior Software Engineer – Eventful

June 2005 – October 2011

As a senior engineer, I designed a data export system for Eventful partners that drove millions of dollars in yearly revenue for the company. I represented the company at the first Mashup Camp unconference in 2006, leading a team of Eventful engineers and partner developers to take home the $30k first prize at the event.

> "Chris is simply amazing. His incredible technical prowess is matched by his calm, diplomatic, and super-productive handling of anything that comes his way."
>
> — Theresa O'Connor, Senior Software Engineer at Eventful

More Details

Full text of these recommendations (and others) can be found on my LinkedIn profile:
https://linkedin.com/in/chrisradcliff

The latest version of this resume is on Github:
https://globalspin.github.io/