

# Gniewomir Świechowski

- English—C1, Polish—Native
- Cracow, Poland
- CET/CEST, UTC +1/UTC +2
- Remote or hybrid in Cracow
- B2B contracts preferred over employment
- Most up-to-date version of the CV [is available as a webpage](#).
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- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Quora answers](#)

## Executive Summary

- Backend/Full stack engineer
- ~14 years of commercial experience
  - TypeScript/Node/NestJS
  - React/Redux/Saga/Storybook
  - PHP/Symfony
  - Python/Bash - scripting
  - Docker/Terraform/Ansible
  - TDD/DDD
- Focused on frictionless automated testing
- Worked with AWS, Azure & DigitalOcean
- User of "AI" tools, but not "Vibe coder"

# Who am I as a professional

- I believe that development speed is a function of quality in any non-trivial code-base
- I consider automated tests the best form of documentation
- I consider static code analysis and code standard enforcement tools as a must
- Focused on SOLID, testable, maintainable code, and developer experience
- I'm deeply aware that every decision in our line of work is a trade-off
- I've put most of my learning into testing and managing complexity. Languages, frameworks & libs come and go
- Familiar with "AI" tools like Cursor & models powering them. While LLMs still have fundamental limitations as a form of machine learning, in practice they can supercharge experienced engineers - as long as a human is still at the steering wheel.
- Not a DevOps, but I was setting up and maintaining CI pipelines for SMB, and used Docker, Terraform, Ansible, GitHub, GitLab, etc. to keep infrastructure in VCS. Worked with Azure, DigitalOcean, and AWS
- Not a database geek, but on friendly terms with PostgreSQL - I can act on `EXPLAIN ANALYZE` results or switch to another dialect with some help from the documentation. Waiting for a good reason to use a NoSQL database instead
- Happy to create a frontend as part of work on a full stack project or to set up its foundations for other developers to use - as I did many times before, but I don't consider myself a Frontend developer.
- Haven't trained for white-board algorithmic challenges. The best way of assessing my value for a potential employer is a recruitment task or an interview with a developer of similar or greater experience
- Used to and fond of working in international, diverse teams and English-only communication

# Who am I as a person

- I believe in Paul Saffo "Strong Opinions, Weakly Held." mental framework
- I assumed the role of informal **tech** lead a few times, when it was required to move the project forward, but I love to solve problems—not to manage people
- Extensive, although often shallow, knowledge of current trends, technologies, and tools used in the backend, frontend, and operations. I keep mental bookmarks and evaluate tools when a need arises
- I have research skills and curiosity and adapt fast to new methodologies, tools, and technologies.
- I love good reportage or sci-fi from the 80s, vintage cocktail bars, and switching from one nerdy obsession to another.
- I lift heavy. Gym is the best stress management tool I've ever tried.

# Personal project

OAuth2 Authorization Server. Repository: [nestjs-oauth-authorization-server](#)

Stack: TypeScript+NestJS, Postgres, Redis (planned for production)

## Goals:

- Fully functional, RFC-compliant and production-ready OAuth 2.0 Authorization Server & Client implementing Authorization Code flow with PKCE for public clients - like SPA and mobile apps
- Get to know better OAuth 2.0 spec with extensions & its gotchas
- Test if I can align current coding LLMs with rigid architectural constraints
- To have alternative for vendor lock-in with Clerk, or its competition

# Experience

## SwingDev/Hippo Insurance NYSE: HIPPO, insurance, USA

### Software engineer remote, from 07-2023 to 07-2025

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Part of Agent Enablement and Underwriting teams.

- Varied projects aimed at improving the productivity of our sales agents.
  - Varied data migration projects—mostly involving Salesforce.
  - Partook in the redesign of Underwriting Domain to increase the visibility of our decision-making process.
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Microservices   TypeScript   Node   NestJS   REST+OpenAPI   PostgreSQL   GraphQL   Salesforce   SQS

Point of contact for references: Krystian Koper & Andrew Paulson, Engineering Managers

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## Speychain Ltd startup, marketplace, UK

### Software consultant remote, from 06-2023 to 06-2023

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Scaffolding of the MVP for a contractee team.

- Worked with business to define domain & map it to the database and GraphQL API design.
- Set up CI and toolchain for backend development & testing.

One-month contract. Haven't extended because of a more permanent proposition.

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TypeScript   Node   NestJS   PostgreSQL   GraphQL   Prisma   Heroku   Clerk

Point of contact for references: Martin Richter, CTO

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## **Ownplay Inc.** startup, mobile game, USA

### **Software consultant** remote, from 11-2022 to 05-2023

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- Created backoffice APIs, React-based SPA admin panels, and part of analytics for a mobile game, and its web-based prototype
- Built infrastructure for testing, and convinced the team to adopt the same approach for the rest of the project
- Coached junior developers

The contract was cut short because the company pivoted. In March 2024 I received an offer to jump back on board.

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TypeScript Node NestJS PostgreSQL REST+OpenAPI React Redux

Point of contact for references: Alexander Ovchinnikov, CTO

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## **Aterian** NASDAQ: ATER, e-commerce/logistic/ML company, USA

### **Backend developer** hybrid, from 11-2020 to 11-2022

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Greenfield project, layered architecture, CQRS, DDD, TDD.

- As a team, we built from scratch working multi-tenant affiliate platform on top of the Amazon Attribution program, before appropriate APIs were even available and backoffice for parts of the process that could not be automated
  - Built a BDD-like testing solution allowing for fast writing human-readable integration/E2E tests
  - In addition to backend work, I've set up our frontend architecture, which provided a Stimulus-like experience for our frontend developers, after we decided against React and SPA frontend
  - I performed some light DevOps and security-hardening tasks
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PHP Symfony PostgreSQL TypeScript Vagrant Jenkins GitHub Ansible Terraform Azure

Point of contact for references: Jakub Włodek, Team Leader

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## **Dogadamycie sp. z o.o.** translation company, PL

### **Full stack developer** remote, from 01-2019 to 10-2020

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- Took the role of informal tech lead during the process of bringing in-house previously outsourced software
  - Built docker & GitLab based CI for the company
  - Offloaded long-running workloads to queue
  - Introduced automated testing
  - Unified seven different customer panels into one project—maintenance and QA were killing us
  - Greatly improved UX of the customer journey and automatic valuation process
  - Integrated multiple payment systems and CAT software
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PHP Laravel PostgreSQL Redis JavaScript JQuery GitLab Docker

Point of contact for references available on request: Robert Siemiński, CTO

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## **Joymile** startup, middleman for used cars, PL

### **Full stack developer** onsite, from 04-2018 to 01-2019

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- I convinced my - now friends - then acquaintances to employ a mostly-PHP and JavaScript developer to do Python. They didn't regret this decision. A month later I was contributing on par with my peers.
- Moved legacy PHP supporting systems and almost 3 years worth of data to our main Python-based infrastructure
- We built a mostly React-based customer journey that provided both great UX and gathered every possible bit of data that could help our sales, which we feed to our CRM and marketing automation

Company dissolved, as we were unable to secure another round of financing.

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Python Django PostgreSQL Redis Kafka GraphQL JavaScript Node React Redux Docker

Point of contact for references: Wojciech Frycz, CTO

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**Gremi Media SA** publisher of "Rzeczpospolita" and [rp.pl](http://rp.pl), PL

**Technical Architect** onsite, from 09-2016 to 03-2018

**Team Leader** onsite, from 04-2016 to 08-2016

**Senior Web Developer** onsite, from 10-2015 to 03-2016

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## Business impact

- Added millions of missing pieces of content—lost after previous CMS migration—back to search engines index
- Removed discrepancies in our analytics falsifying traffic reports
- Improved uptime/availability of our main property from around 97.6% to 99.4%
- Improved loading times for our customers and their consistency by order of magnitude
- Reworked our advertising system to allow new ad formats and better experience for our customers
- The whole process improved our traffic and Unique Users numbers by around one third

## Technical impact

- Migrated the company from FTP deployment and SVN to Git, and on-premises GitLab for the deployment process
  - Banned FTP access to production. I built and maintained GIT<->SVN bridge for the transition period
  - Understood, fixed our implementation and documented a badly misused and misunderstood caching system
  - Introduced automated testing and proper telemetry
  - Increased template and code reuse by orders of magnitude
  - Replaced an assorted collection of PHP 5.2.17 (version enforced by vendor) scripts augmenting our legacy CMS, by self-built Symfony-inspired light framework enabling us to introduce automated testing and creation of Vagrant-based local environments for developers
  - Replaced template-embedded frontend scripts with a proper build process and React-based components
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Archeotech PHP Symfony JavaScript Node JQuery React Vagrant GitLab Shell

Point of contact for references available on request: Tomasz Witkowski, Director of IT

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**Uwazaj.pl** startup, a middleman between lawyers and customers, PL

**Full stack developer** remote, from 05-2015 to 05-2017

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- Took over after the software house failed to deliver both in terms of features and quality and built our product from scratch just in time to meet our investor's roadmap
  - Built a visual "no code" Landing Page builder for our marketing with A/B testing capabilities, adapted to manage the whole website by our non-technical staff
  - Integrated content-marketing/sales part with our custom CRM and call-center
  - Set up our payment system
  - Supported the project during its lifetime as a sole developer/ops
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PHP JavaScript JQuery WordPress Gulp Foundation SASS

Point of contact for references available on request: Dariusz Koltko, CEO

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**Idium AS/Idium Kraków Sp. z o.o** website-as-service company, NO/PL

**Junior PHP Developer** onsite, from 05-2014 to 01-2015

**Senior WordPress Consultant** onsite, from 01-2014 to 04-2014

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- As a team, we built and maintained a framework allowing for ultra-fast delivery of customized, feature-complete WordPress websites for Scandinavian businesses
  - Built an internal application automating the generation of SEO reports used by our sales
  - Took part in cleanup and hardening effort after two separate security incidents
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PHP WordPress JavaScript Shell

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# Assorted freelance contracts

## Web developer remote, from 01-2011 to 06-2015

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Building, adding features, and maintaining various websites, WordPress plugins, and themes.

Occasional migration from Joomla or custom solutions to WordPress.

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PHP   WordPress   WooCommerce   JavaScript   SASS/LESS   Gulp/Grunt

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## Internet media

## Journalist, editor, and blogger remote, from 10-2007 to 06-2012

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Writing for multiple internet media entities, including o2 sp. z o.o. (currently: *Grupa Wirtualna Polska*), Antyweb and the Polish edition of PC World Computer about IT-related and unrelated topics.

Working as an editor/managing editor in two big blog networks.

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