ROCKY GRAY

Software Engineering Leader

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EXPERIENCE

Engineering Manager
Reddit

Dec 2024 — Oct 2025   Remote — San Francisco, CA

- **Led the Ads API Platform and Business Engineering teams**, driving partner integrations, platform reliability, and cross-functional delivery to unlock new revenue opportunities.
- **Rate Limit Redesign**: Coordinated Reddit's first private beta launch for a platform project by aligning with external partners and 20+ internal teams to define and implement upstream system policies.
- **MCP Server Implementation**: Guided the team that built the first MCP server in the Ads organization, which earned top recognition at Reddit's company-wide hackathon. Established myself as a subject matter expert (SME) in MCP design and implementation.

Leadership | API Platform | Data Engineering | Go | Python
OpenAPI

Engineering Manager
Cash App

Feb 2023 — present   Remote — San Francisco, CA

- Accountable for the **real-time distributed ledger** that tracks all financial transactions within the Cash App ecosystem.
- Directed teams across **core infrastructure for money movement**, balancing reliability with innovation.
- Mentored engineers and established strong **system design practices**, helping scale the platform for growth and resilience.

Leadership | API Platform | Data Engineering | Java

Engineering Manager
Twitter

Nov 2020 — Nov 2022   Remote — San Francisco, CA

- **Scaled global Ads API Data Service teams** from 5 to 15 engineers, creating two specialized groups.
- Promoted multiple engineers (ICs to Staff and one to EM), demonstrating strong people development and leadership.
- Defined a **multi-year roadmap** to improve API development velocity and cross-functional delivery.
- Drove adoption of an **architectural pattern** enabling parallel product experimentation, accelerating both ads and API innovation.

Leadership | API Platform | Data Engineering | Scala | Java
GraphQL | OpenAPI

Senior Software Engineering Manager
Capital One

Apr 2018 — October 2020   McLean, VA

- Tech lead and people leader for the Focus platform, enabling secure, scalable document storage and third-party integrations.
- Delivered **dual-region architecture, asynchronous virus scanning, and object-level encryption** to strengthen resiliency.
- Won a **Technical Excellence Award** for innovation, reliability, and platform growth.
- Co-inventor on multiple patents derived from platform designs.

NodeJS | Go | Java | Kubernetes | Aurora MySQL | Cassandra
Terraform | CloudFormation | Ansible | AWS | API Platform
OpenAPI | Data Engineering | Leadership

Lead Software Engineer
Storyblocks

Dec 2014 — Mar 2018   Arlington, VA

- Tech lead of Strategic Technologies team, providing **platforms, cloud infrastructure, data pipelines, and enterprise APIs**.
- Led AWS migration, event-driven KPI pipeline, and established enterprise APIs that generated $1M+ new revenue.
- Advocated for engineers, provided mentorship, and supported organizational growth.

PHP | NodeJS | Scala | React | Angular | Python | Ruby
Docker | MySQL | Postgres | MongoDB | CloudFormation
Ansible | Data Engineering | API Platform | OpenAPI | AWS
Leadership

Software Engineer
Capital One

Jul 2012 — Dec 2014   Vienna, VA

- Built first **REST APIs for credit card resources** and co-developed the **API Developer Portal**—banking's first public APIs.

API | Java | OpenAPI | Data Engineering

LIFE PHILOSOPHY

"Never give up."

STRENGHTS

System Design & Architecture
Large-scale distributed systems, platform design

Leadership
Building, mentoring, and scaling high-performing teams

Platforms & APIs
Ads APIs, ledgers, financial systems, enterprise integrations

Execution
Driving corss-functional alignment, delivering impact

EDUCATION

B.E. in Computer Engineering
Vanderbilt University

CERTIFICATIONS

Solutions Architect Associate
Jan 2019: EET55E012B1QQC5L

Certified Secure Software Engineer Associate
March 2020

PATENTS

US Patent US10474506B1
"Finite state machine driven workflows," Nov. 12 2019

US Patent US10997611B2
"Distribution of media with tracking and analysis of media usage for royalty, loyalty and collection of metadata," May. 4 2021

US Patent US11171945B2
"Time-based token trust depreciation," Nov. 9 2021

US Patent US11113678B2
"Systems configured to manage user-related external party-activity software objects by using machine-readable indicia and methods of use thereof," Sept. 7 2021