Guilherme Silveira dos Santos

Senior Software Engineer | Go Specialist | Freelancer

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Senior Software Engineer with 15+ years of experience, specializing in backend development with Go—my primary and preferred language since 2015. I've designed and built distributed systems, microservices, and event-driven architectures across multiple industries including fintech, e-commerce, and AI platforms.

I enjoy working on greenfield projects and have led personal initiatives such as an ERP for SMEs with e-invoicing and a multi-currency investment tracker. My open-source contributions include well-known projects like gRPC-Gateway and Elastic's Go client.

Beyond backend development, I'm comfortable across the stack—from infrastructure (Kubernetes, Terraform, CI/CD) to frontend when needed. I bring a product mindset, clean code, and strong communication skills. Currently open for freelance and consulting opportunities focused on Go-based systems, cloud-native apps, and high-performance backend platforms.

🧠 Skills

Go / Golang

Message Broker
Kafka, Pub/Sub, NATS, SQS/SNS, RabbitMQ

Infrastructure / Automation
Terraform, Ansible, bash scripting

CI / CD
GitLab CI, GitHub Actions, Jenkins, CircleCI

Python

Relational Databases
MySQL, MariaDB, Postgres

Cloud Platforms
AWS, GCP, DigitalOcean

AI / LLM
ChatGPT, Prompt design, Custom model integration

System Design
Event-driven, REST, gRPC, Pub/Sub

NoSQL
MongoDB, Redis, ElasticSearch

Containers / Orchestration
Docker, Kubernetes

Agile Practices
XP, TDD, Scrum, Kanban

💼 Work Experience

May 2023 – present Palo Alto - CA, USA	**Birdie AI,** *Head of Engineering* ⧉ Led and restructured the engineering team, rebuilt the entire data pipeline, and launched a feedback intelligence platform powered by LLMs (e.g., ChatGPT) and fine-tuned custom models. Architected the system from scratch with Go microservices using an event-driven design over Google Pub/Sub, ElasticSearch, and Postgres. Drove engineering excellence, improved delivery processes, and enabled scalable AI-powered insights for enterprise customers.
May 2022 – May 2023 Paris, FR	**Qonto,** *Staff Engineer* ⧉ Contributed to the evolution of Qonto's backend architecture by defining new Go development standards, mentoring teams, and leading the rollout of a scalable, event-driven architecture. Worked closely with cross-functional teams to align technical decisions with business goals in a high-growth fintech environment.

Jun 2020 – Apr 2022 Berlin, DE	**Zalando,** *Senior Software Engineer* ⧉ Modernized the Campaign and Content Solution (CCS) platform by designing and building Go-based microservices to replace a legacy PHP system. Migrated from SOAP to RESTful APIs and introduced Kafka-driven, event-based architecture to support better scalability and maintainability. Also developed a critical service for onboarding product articles from partners and internal teams like logistics and supplier ops.
Mar 2013 – Present	**Giox Tecnologia,** *Founder & Lead Engineer* Founded and built a SaaS ERP platform for small businesses, later evolving it into a certified Brazilian e-invoicing system. Designed the architecture, developed the full stack, and managed DevOps to support scalability and automation. Originally built as a PHP monolith, the platform was re-architected into Go and PHP microservices with NSQ, MongoDB, and Vue.js. Developed a modern SPA frontend with Vuetify and Firebase, and managed infrastructure with Docker, Ansible, and GitLab CI.
Nov 2019 – Jun 2020	**ProShare by Volkswagen,** *Senior Software Engineer* Developed the backend for a B2B car-sharing platform within the Volkswagen Group, focused on professional users. Built Go-based microservices with gRPC for inter-service communication, and exposed both GraphQL and REST APIs for mobile and web clients. Designed and deployed cloud-native infrastructure on AWS using Terraform and Kubernetes.
Jan 2018 – Nov 2019	**DeliveryHero,** *Senior Software Engineer* ⧉ Played a key role in modernizing Pandora's platform (Foodora + Foodpanda), migrating a legacy PHP monolith to Go microservices with an event-driven architecture. As part of the Search & Discovery team, built a high-traffic API used by four brands across 20 countries, improving average response times by 6× using ElasticSearch, Redis, and MySQL. Promoted Go adoption across the organization by defining engineering standards, delivering training, and co-developing a new open-source library.
Sep 2016 – Dec 2017	**Ridelink,** *Technical Lead* Led a polyglot engineering team in building a car-sharing platform, primarily using PHP (Symfony, Silex), with some services in Go and Python. Designed and deployed AWS-based infrastructure leveraging ECS, SQS, SNS, RDS, ElasticCache, and ElasticSearch. Built and open-sourced a CLI tool, deploy-ecs, to automate continuous deployments across environments.

🎓 Education

Jun 2011	**UNIVALI University,** *BSc in Computer Engineering*