

JACK SENECHAL

PRINCIPAL ENGINEER / COACH / LEADER

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SUMMARY

- Proven leader in software development and team management
- Committed mentor and coach, elevating team members' skill sets and fostering professional growth
- Strategic thinker, mercurial innovator, and expert problem solver
- Resilient and dedicated, ready to embrace challenges and opportunities
- Strong customer focus, advocating for impactful changes and ensuring product value
- Entrepreneurial spirit with experience in co-founding and consulting roles
- 20 years of engineering experience

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Co-founder, Mirror App

(May 2023 - Current)

- Working with GPT-4 to build a virtual astrologer chat app.
- Full-stack development with Ruby on Rails, HTML+CSS, Javascript, responsive UI+UX design.
- Infrastructure implementation with scalable hosting, database, CI/CD, and CDN.
- Managing GPT conversation context, roles, and backend streaming processes.
- Project management, roadmap planning, prioritization, and critical path identification.

Principal Software Engineer, Kantata

(2017 - Dec 2023)

- Operations Team Leadership: Over four years, I recruited and led a new team dedicated to building and scaling the infrastructure platform. I was instrumental in leading the transition towards a DevOps culture throughout the organization. I created a clear, calm, and constructive environment that allowed the team to thrive. I was responsible for roadmap stewardship, untangling requirements, and arranging priorities to maximize flow. We transitioned a large legacy infrastructure codebase to cutting edge, cloud-native, IAC-oriented tools. I was also involved in coding, architecture, and collaboration on numerous mission-critical projects.
- Insights Platform Leadership: For three months, I led a short transition team that was responsible for overseeing and improving the BI data pipeline. We successfully migrated the pipeline to Kubernetes.
- M-Bridge Platform Leadership: For two years, I spearheaded a new team to stabilize and enhance an agent-based integration platform. We established operational metrics that significantly reduced errors and incidents by approximately 100x. We successfully performed a migration to Kubernetes with zero downtime, including relational, document, and cache databases.
- Additional Responsibilities: I took on cross-functional roles that included mentorship and coaching, interviewing and hiring, and organizational change management and process optimization. My efforts were recognized when I received the Top Performer Award in 2021.

Lead Developer, Co-founder, Pegg

(2014 - 2017)

- Development: Design, architecture, and implementation of cross-platform mobile game targeted at iOS and Android via PhoneGap.
- Team Processes: Implementing and honing development workflow with agile methods such as pair programming, testing, and continuous integration. Developing launch strategy, setting up processes and workflows to enable rapid response to issues.
- Business Strategy: product design, monetization strategy, marketing strategy, as well as contributing to the company's mission, vision, and governance models.

- Technology: Famo.us/Flux front-end, Parse/Node backend, Firebase for realtime notifications and chat, Webpack and Gulp build environment, Karma/Chai testing, and continuous deployment to AWS/Cloudfront via CircleCI.

Consultant and Entrepreneur

(2008 - 2014)

- 2014 - Rapid prototyping of global-graph technologies using XDI. Integration of XDI services with existing Ruby on Rails application. Launched beta cloud name service based on XDI and Node.js.
- Superluminal Systems - 2013 - Helped to develop the Superluminal Learning Management System and launch the first client site. Building data visualizations and UI elements in D3. Wordpress plugin wrangling, development and customization.
- OpenTest Pro, LLC - 2008 - 2012 - Founded the company to provide educational resources relating to automated testing and continuous integration using open source tools in a PHP environment. Technical writing, web application development in Ruby on Rails and Flex, studio voiceover recording, and project management.
- Turnbull & Asser shirtmakers - 2009 - Built a virtual showroom for their bespoke department, allowing users to browse fabrics and place orders. Ruby on Rails backend, Flash frontend.

Web Developer, OnForce, Inc

(2006 - 2007)

- Introduced automated testing and continuous integration. Implemented comprehensive test suite for the public-facing API.
- Project managed the implementation of Salesforce throughout the company, and oversaw the administration of the application.
- Integrated OnForce platform with Salesforce APIs to provide up-to-date customer information for sales and support teams.

Development Lead, JBA Network

(2003 - 2006)

- Project manager and lead programmer for mynewsletterbuilder.com. Architected and implemented the initial release, and later oversaw the development team for the project.
- Developed a modular, evented, MVC programming framework.
- Concept development, project management, and programming for other company products and services, including www.jukeboxalive.com and www.byregion.net.
- Systems administration and networking (Linux, Windows).

Intern, US Navy FNM0D

(2001)

- Programmer, database designer for the Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Detachment.
- Migrated Navy weather data from a flat text format to a MySQL database.
- Wrote a Java application to quality check, normalize, and convert weather data to a MySQL-accessible format.

SKILLS

Technical Skills

- **Languages & Frameworks:** Ruby on Rails, Node.js, JavaScript, Bash, Python, React.
- **Databases:** MySQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Redis, Cloud-based data services.
- **Tools & Platforms:** Kubernetes, AWS (Amazon Web Services), CircleCI, GitHub Actions, Terraform, Ansible, Linux, Git, Webpack, Cloudfront.
- **Web Technologies:** HTML, CSS, Front-end Development, Responsive Design, Back-end Development, Distributed Systems, Web3/DWeb, Decentralized Technologies.
- **Software Development:** Object-Oriented Programming (OOP), Functional Programming, API Design and Development, Automated Testing, Continuous Integration, Continuous Deployment, CI/CD, System Architecture, Microservices.

Methodologies

- **Project Management:** Agile, Pair Programming, Test-Driven Development (TDD), DevOps, Lean Thinking, Rapid Prototyping, Scrum, Kanban.
- **Design & Architecture:** Software Design Patterns, Systems Design, Infrastructure as Code (IAC), Data Pipeline Design, Cloud-Native Architecture, User Interface Design.

Organizational & Soft Skills

- **Leadership & Management:** Team Building, Cross-Functional Leadership, Coaching & Mentoring, Talent Recruitment & Development, High-Performance Team Management, Strategic Planning, Decision Making, Change Management.
- **Communication & Collaboration:** Effective Communication, Stakeholder Engagement, Negotiation, Problem-Solving, Conflict Resolution, Customer-Oriented Approach.
- **Innovation & Creativity:** Entrepreneurship, Creative Problem Solving, Product Development and Innovation, Adaptive Learning, Forward-Thinking.

Additional Competencies

- **Industry Knowledge:** Software Engineering, Web Development, Cloud Computing, AI/ML Familiarity, Startup Ecosystem, SaaS, PaaS, B2B Software.
- **Personal Attributes:** Resilient, Innovative, Dedicated, Entrepreneurial, Strategic Thinker, Out of the Box Thinker, Detail-Oriented, Analytical, Kind and Compassionate, Truth Seeker.

EDUCATION

University of North Carolina at Asheville

(May, 2003)

- BA in Mathematics, minor in Computer Science.
- Graduated with distinction in Mathematics.
- Undergraduate research in 4D fractals.

RECOMMENDATIONS

“Jack is **an exceptional engineer and leader**. He strives to **deeply understand the technology** he’s working on while remaining cognizant of the socio-technical components that may be a factor in any project. He’s thorough, detail-oriented, and outcome-oriented, which means **the solutions he architects, builds, and collaborates on come out better**. Jack also strives to be at the forefront of new technology and assess how he can leverage it. Newer tech like GenAI can be complex and ever-evolving, and Jack is not one to back down but step up and embrace. He does all this with a **strong team mentality**, is a phenomenal team player, and can **effectively delegate to help lift others’ skill sets**.”

– Brandon Clifford, Director of DevOps, Kantata

“Jack is a fantastic engineer always ready to **help solve problems and more importantly, teach you how to solve them**. He guided me and my team through a bunch of challenging gitops situations with patience and kindness, leading by example. Always diligent with his work, willing to roll up his sleeves to get things done and **find creative solutions**, maybe tinkering in some kind of script that would make the manual processes easier and more resilient. Everyone would be lucky to have someone like him in their teams!”

– Cesar Palafox Garza, Principal Software Engineer, Kantata

“Jack has **had quite a profound impact on my career**. As a young engineer, I was fortunate enough to work with Jack as my coach. He served as a great mentor, helping me build both technical and professional skills and **forming me into the engineer that I am today**. Throughout our time together, Jack was caring and invested in helping me set goals and develop my career. **His mentorship was a key factor in elevating myself from an incoming Junior Engineer to an Engineering Manager**. Jack has a great curiosity and a strong set of technical capabilities that allow him to serve as a great example for others and a key contributor to any team!”

– Wesley Morlock, Engineering Manager, Kantata

“Jack provided invaluable leadership as a Principal Software Engineer at Kantata. He was a powerful voice for the technology but made sure to **advocate for changes that were also certain to provide immediate impact to the customer**. I highly recommend Jack as a excellent dev ops engineer and as a technical leader.”

– Nathan Perry, Principal Software Engineer, Kantata

“Jack is talented both as software developer and as an operations engineer. While working together in a Principal Engineer capacity, I saw how **passionate Jack is about helping his colleagues and his organization level up**. He is a great engineer with excellent leadership and organizational abilities.”

– Jason Larsen, Software Engineering Manager, Kantata

“Jack is a great co-worker. He is **awesome at understanding the direction teams need to go to make important improvements in Kantata’s Engineering organization as a whole**. He has been instrumental in building and implementing strategies to upgrade Ruby, Rails, and React. If I had any questions about infrastructure and Kubernetes he would be able to answer and **provide solid explanations to the entire team**.”

– Justin Hurstwright, Principal Software Engineer, Kantata

“Jack is a phenomenal resource to work with. He is **very knowledgeable about programming and cloud infrastructure** and is always eager to learn new things.”

– Donovan Hubbard, Senior DevOps Engineer, Kantata

“Jack has a flair for finding better, faster, and more reliable ways to get things done. He **advocates best practices, like unit testing, and has a deep knowledge of OO architecture**. Jack thinks on his toes, and will always be there with the team at 4 a.m. if circumstance requires it. `:%s/average developers/developers like jack/g` if you know what’s good for you.”

– Greg Whitescarver, Founder, Mojave

“With Jack, **the more complex the problem, the more simple his solutions**. From eradicating dynamic php bugs to providing innovative javascript capabilities, Master Senechal is more than a mind to be reckoned with, he’s an **integrative capacity builder** with a wide range of technological expertise. If there is anything that can be done through web development, Jack can figure out how to do it, and make it happen.”

– Adam Apollo, Cofounder & CEO, Superluminal Systems

The latest version of this document can be found at <http://jacksenechal.com/resume>