JAMES ZUCKER

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SENIOR TECHNOLOGY LEADER

Hands-on, collaborative, performance-driven SME and technology executive with unique ability to address and communicate with executive committees, execution teams, and clients while directing large-scale programs supporting financial, business, IP, and technology initiatives. Leverage technology integrations, innovations, and opportunities to achieve highest level of operating performance at lowest marginal cost and risk. Apply horizontal integration approach to ensure that individual, team and corporate objectives continue to remain in alignment with organizational goals. Trusted business partner and out-of-the-box thinker with ability to anticipate / adapt to change, thrive in challenging environments, and overcome roadblocks to project / program success.

CORE LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES

Global Complex Program / Project Management	Team Development / Deployment / Mentoring
Integrating Technology & Business Solutions	Technology Analysis / Solutions Development
IP Protection / Licensing & Contract Negotiations	Performance & Process Improvement / Metrics
Optimizing Customer Experience & Quality	Multi-Functional / Cultural Leadership

Product Innovation & Lifecycle Management

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2020 – Present

Ness Digital Engineering – San Francisco, CA
Leading Solution Provider in Financial Services Architecture and Leading Digital Transformantion Projects
Lead Financial Services Architect / Enterprise Architect
Driving development of leading-edge technology patterns and adapting them to Risk and Trading use cases to move companies from EOD Batch to streaming/event-based processing.

- Certifications; AWS Solution Architect Professional, Snowflake Technical Sales Professional
- Delivered next-generation Compliance System for a leading asset manager, moving them from micro-batch processing to streaming event-based processing leveraging Confluent Kafka and AWS Kinesis Data Analytics Flink.
- Architected approach for leading financial institution to re-architect their practice of manually building demo applications to sales to generate it off of the production code base. This greatly improves the time to market to the Sales team and allows them to demo new features as soon as they are released.
- Migrated Bond Calculations for a legacy Java 8 on-prem monolithic architecture to the cloud on AWS EKS to allow a global Financial services company to leverage the compute capacity of the cloud to scale for heavy volumes without requiring changes by the on-prem application owners.
- Developed Ness Data Modernization approach to establish data governance and create a springboard for transformation projects at clients leveraging Kafka, Avro Schemas, and Apache Flink technologies to implement best practices in data governance.
- Leveraging the Ness Data Modernization approach, Designed vendor integration for a regional bank to move to Data Governance model that let them implement new systems at a higher velocity in an evolutionary maner without disrupting the organization.
- Created 'Flink University' to create a formal training and certification process to train developers to leverage Flink & Kafka to solve common use cases in Financial Institutions. I delivered this training for over 37 engineers internally and at clients to up-skill them to leading-edge technologies in the past 24 months.
- Lead technical validation process with AWS to achieve AWS Premier Tier Partner, Financial Service Competency, DevOps Competency, and Migration Competency.

2017 – 2020

EZOPS Inc – San Francisco, CA
Leading AI-powered data control & automation platform driving transformative operational efficiency for financial firms.
CTO
Built a modern DevOps driven global product company across 6 locations, 55 engineers, 23 QA and 11 PM/BA.

- Built Engineering, QA, Product Management, Support and Implementation teams from the ground up by adopting DevOps first approach and industry best practices.
- Trained and mentored teams in emerging technologies Docker, Python, AWS(EC2, ECS Oracle/Postgress, RDS, Lambda, S3, IAM, Cloudwatch, System Manager, VPN, CodeBuild, CloudFormation, Cost Explorer), Infrastructure as code, SpotInst, GorillaStack, Blazemeter, AppliTools, Postman, Swagger, Liquibase, Zendesk, DataDog, Nexus, TestLink, SendSafely.
- Built DevOps process centered around Confluence, JIRA, Bitbucket, Nexus, CI/CD, TestLink, Slack and Zoom by driving daily iterative collaboration across a global team by valuing talking over email, creating a zero-email culture.

- Developed and implemented Open Source, OEM and Vendor management programs and other required controls.
- Individual contributions include design, implementation and support of serverless architecture for Machine Learning, containerized deployment, git migration, Liquibase implementation, global WAN, CI/CD and integrated 17 PAAS tools to enable the DevOps process.

FundPaas – San Francisco, CA   2016 – 2017
Fintech startup creating PAAS solution for JOBS Act crowd funding providing self-service compliance and payments.
CTO
- Sole engineer set technical direction and released platform into production in less than 4 months.
- Tech stack Java Spring, JavaScript, ECS, RDS, Lambda, Postgres, S3 and CloudFormation. Implemented DevOps practices to scale with minimum staffing including AWS, Github, Jira, Confluence, GorillaSack, Docker, Linux.

Strategic DevOps LLC – San Francisco, CA   2015 – 2017
Fintech Devops consulting practice focused on implementation of best practices for containerization and AWS.
Fintech Devops Consultant
- Focus technologies: Docker, AWS, ECS, EKS, EC2, RDS, Oracle, MySql, Postgres, S3, Lambda, IAM, CloudWatch, CloudFormation, JIRA, Confluence, Bitbucket, GitHub, python, shell, Linux, ubuntu.
- Top contributor on opensource projects focusing on introduction of containerization, including CapitalOne Hygieia.

Calypso Technology – San Francisco, CA   2010 – 2015
Leading firm offering integrated trading, risk and processing platform for derivatives and treasury products.
Vice-President
Lead global engineering operations with 5 direct and matrix management of 416 supporting all research and development activities covering engineering, product management, quality assurance, and support. Accountable for project coordination & execution, IP management, software releases, and application development. Track and manage $35 million budget and contract negotiations for products and services. Oversee innovative recruiting programs that led to hiring 23 Engineers. Institute regular bi-monthly release process to push over 800 reported fixes to all clients.
- Saved 83% in product release delivery times to all clients in response to fast-changing economic conditions that were driving down interest rates.
- 47%+ improvement in project on-time delivery achieved by optimizing interaction between product management, support, and engineering resources.
- 56% defect correction cycle time improvement with on-time delivery of enhancements to >92% by developing centralized exception monitoring for engineering to meet critical SLA requirements.
- 95% of routine changes automated and 100% of releases achieved through change from process based on 1-2 person heroics to global team working as service provider.
- Brought to market new best of breed architecture and three product offerings for Internet facing product line.
- Cut IP negotiations from years to under three months by revolutionizing how company conducted negotiations with third party vendors to protect its IP interests.
- Reduced 200 compliance issues to zero by reviewing open source compliance and putting controls in place validated by third party audit.
- Annual $6 million client relationship protected by managing requirements discussion between management team and largest client to drive agreement on key implementation issues.
- $5 million saved per year by analyzing potential costs of ownership for OEM application servers.
- Saved $487,000 per year by negotiating renewed capacity for cloud resources, while increasing resources by 250% and improving performance by 50%.
- Delivered $187,000+ per year in cost savings by negotiating favorable terms and conditions for contracts to purchase software development tools.

CITIGROUP – New York, NY   2005 – 2010
Director – Credit Risk Computation (2009 – 2010) / Director – Flow Credit Technology (2007 – 2009)
Managed daily operations from overseeing credit risk computations and front office development managing 72 staff members in two teams supporting 21 trading desks across capital markets. Directed front to back transactions and executed vendor / platform agreements. Solved chronic issues in trading platform that persisted for five years in less than four months.
- Saved business $30 million over five years by driving balanced build vs buy analysis.
- Implemented Calypso for Global Emerging Markets for Trade Capture for CDS/Bonds and IR Swaps.
- Managed downsize of department by 30% without disruptions to client delivery, consolidated four locations to two.
- Created automated process to track and manage global counter-party risk reporting requirements for credit desk during credit crisis.
Senior VP – Structured & EM Credit Technology (2005 – 2007)

Led three teams consisting of 47 staff members supporting two $100 million business vertical. Oversaw all front office risk and transaction functions. Horizontally supported 21 trade desks and integration to global back office. Managed structured and emerging markets credit technology teams. Freed up $15 billion in capital used by structured credit by gaining Value at Risk (VAR) approval by Federal Reserve. Drove implementation of new Credit product for Asset Back Securities to enable multi-million dollar new market opportunity.

SALOMON BROTHERS / CITIGROUP – New York, NY **1992 – 2005**
Senior Vice President (1999 – 2005) / Vice-President (1994 – 1999)
Promoted to oversee operations supporting design and build-out of global data warehouse for derivative products. Integrating global credit platform (Calypso) within firm's global derivatives back office. Built industry best-of-breed data warehouse to manage derivatives between 12 systems with over 1 million trades processed across six countries. Spearheaded initiative to build best-of-breed swap accounting system that is still in production today.

MILITARY EXPERIENCE

NEW YORK ARMY NATIONAL GUARD – Kingston, NY **1983 – 2005**
Key Leadership Positions: Battalion Operations Officer / Brigade Fire Support Officer / Company Commander
- Achieved integration and allocation of 1233% expansion in forces in less than 72 hours by organizing logistics for homeland security missions for 6,000+ soldiers in more than 18 months.
- Commanded homeland security mission in train stations, leading 75 soldiers for six months in NYC.

EDUCATION

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK COLLEGE – New Paltz, NY
B.A. in Computer Science; Minor: Communications / History