JOHN WATI

ENTERPRISE SOLUTION ARCHITECT, LEAD BACKEND SOFTWARE ENGINEER

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

Nexford University
Master of Business Administration
2023-2024) (on-going)

MBA with Specialization in International Business

Technical University of Mombasa
Bachelor of Science - BS, Information Technology
2012 - 2016

Software Engineering, mathematics and IOT

Butere Boys High School
KCSE: A
2006 - 2010
KCSE A 2006 - 2010

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified AWS solutions architect
TOGAF Certified
ITIL Certified

LANGUAGES

English
Swahili
Native Kenyan

PROFILE

Dynamic Solutions Architect with over decade of expertise in designing and implementing cutting-edge solutions for complex business challenges. Proficient in bridging the gap between business objectives and technical requirements, I excel in crafting tailored solutions that optimize efficiency, drive growth, and align with strategic goals. With a proven track record in leading cross-functional teams, fostering innovation, and delivering results-driven solutions, I bring a meticulous approach and strong analytical skills to anticipate roadblocks and develop effective mitigation strategies.

Passionate about staying current with industry trends, I thrive in dynamic environments, combining technical expertise with business acumen to drive organizational success. My background spans DevOps & cloud architecture, software engineering, and enterprise architecture. I am agile and adept at fostering cross-functional collaboration and business-focused decision-making.

" .. We can save the world, but first we need the source code, infrastructure and a good architecture..",

WORK EXPERIENCE

Group Enterprise Solutions Architect

KCB Bank PLC   January 2024 – Present

Responsibilities:
- Develop and implement IT architecture strategies aligned with business goals.
- Lead the design and integration of various enterprise systems and platforms.
- Coordinate with stakeholders to understand business requirements and translate them into technical solutions.
- Ensure the scalability, security, and performance of IT infrastructure.
- Oversee the lifecycle of IT projects, from conception to deployment and maintenance.
- Facilitate effective communication between technical teams and business units.
- Conduct technical reviews and provide guidance on best practices.
- Manage and mitigate risks associated with IT architecture and integration projects.
- Rollout Enterprise Architecture through the organisation subsidiaries using TOGAF as a guideline

Achievements:
- Successfully integrated county Governments and corporates into KCB I-bank platform
- Successfully integrated Bulk biller services into KCB's digital platforms, enhancing customer convenience and operational efficiency.
- Designed a comprehensive Tea Growers Database Management System, streamlining data management processes for agricultural partners.
- Led the "GH2H ROLLOUT (KCB subsidiaries across Africa)" system transition, ensuring minimal disruption and effective team training.
- Implemented an automated high-value transaction notification system for iBank, improving real-time monitoring and customer alerting mechanisms.

Tools & Technologies Used:
- WSO2, ERP Systems: Dynamics 365 Finance and Operations, Temenos T24 Core Banking System, SQL Server, Oracle, Jira, Confluence, Microsoft Project , Java, RESTful APIs, SOAP, Node JS, Python, Identity and access management tools, encryption protocols.Azure Monitor, Splunk, Microsoft Teams, Slack.

Backend Engineering:
Java (Main), PHP, Node.js, Python, SpringBoot, Flask, Laravel, CodeIgniter, Express (NodeJS)

Frontend Development:
Bootstrap (HTML5, CSS), JavaScript, Vue.js, Angular

Data Strategy and Big Data:
Database Development: MySQL, MSSQL, Oracle DB, MongoDB, DynamoDB, Firebase
Big Data Stack: Hadoop, Hive, Spark, HBase, Cassandra, CouchDB, Apache Storm, Apache Airflow

Quality Assurance:
JUNIT, Mockito , SonarQube , RestAssured, Java Selenium, Jmeter

Integrations:
Apache Nifi, WS02

Architecture:
Design Patterns: Microservices, MVC, Singleton, DTO, Frameworks: SpringBoot, Flask, Laravel, CodeIgniter, Express (NodeJS, Vue.js, Angular)

DevOps, DevSecOps, and Cloud Computing:
DevOps: Linux Servers, Docker, Kubernetes, GIT, Jenkins, Ansible, Terraform, OpenShift, Vagrant
DevSecOps: Security practices integrated into DevOps processes
Cloud Computing: AWS, Azure, GCP

Scripting and Automation:
Bash Script, Groovy Script, Python
Mobile Development:
Android, Flutter

Big Data Tools:
Kafka, RabbitMQ, Apache NiFi, Active MQ

Toolbox:
Archimate, Draw.io, IntelliJ, Diagrams (Backend Engineering:------------------------------------

INDUSTRIES

Banking

Fintech

Insurance

Healthcare

EdTech

SME

WORK EXPERIENCE

Enterprise Solutions Architect, Technical Product Owner

Mpesa Africa   2023-2024

Responsibilities:
- Solution Architecture: Designed and implemented Compliance and Anti-Money Laundering (AML) solutions, aligning with organisational goals.
- Product Ownership: Drove the technical product roadmap for Compliance and AML, prioritising features and ensuring timely delivery.
- Stakeholder Management: Facilitated communication between business stakeholders, product managers, and development teams.
- Implementation Oversight: Led end-to-end implementation, ensuring seamless integration and compliance with regulations.
- Team Collaboration: Provided technical guidance, fostering innovation and continuous improvement within the technical teams.

Achievements:
- Successful Compliance Implementation: Deployed solutions enhancing regulatory adherence and risk mitigation.
- AML Process Optimisation: Implemented solutions improving efficiency, reducing false positives, and optimising resources.
- Cross-Functional Collaboration: Bridged the gap between technical and business teams, accelerating decision-making.
- Enhanced Support through Monitoring: Deployed monitoring solutions, improving support capabilities and reducing system downtimes.
- On-Time Product Delivery: Ensured timely delivery, meeting or exceeding project timelines.

Tools and Technologies: TOGAF, Compliance and AML Software (Siron, Dow Jones),GCP, Project Management (Jira), AZURE, Collaboration Platforms (Confluence), Databases (Mongo DB, Oracle, MySQL), API Integration, Security Protocols, CI/CD Tools, Java, Microservices, Dapr, ArgoCD, AWS, Red Hat.

Banking Solution Architect, Lead Backend Software Engineer

Bring Global   **2021 – 2022**

Responsibilities:
- **Solution Design and Implementation::** Led the design and implementation of the Backbase solution at ABBank: Enhanced customer experience and operational efficiency
- **Strategic Leadership:** Directed solution architecture and stakeholder collaboration Aligned requirements with Backbase capabilities
- **Customization and Integration:** Customized and integrated the Backbase platform| Ensured compliance with industry standards and security protocols
- **Project Management::** Managed project lifecycle, planning, risk mitigation, and timely delivery
- **Technical Leadership:** Conducted code reviews and mentored developers
- **Integration Expertise:** Developed integration patterns and API management

Achievements:
- Successful Backbase Deployment: Enhanced digital banking capabilities
- Scalable Architecture: Engineered a scalable, resilient architecture
- Process Optimization: Streamlined workflows and reduced operational costs
- ERP and Banking System Synchronization: Developed solution for Dynamics 365 and Temenos T24 at Development Bank Ghana
- Leadership Recognition: Acknowledged by ABBank's management for on-time delivery
- Successful Deployments:
  - Standard Bank of Mozambique
  - MCB Bank (Mauritius)
  - ABB Bank (Vietnam)
  - KCB Bank (Kenya) - I-banking integration
  - Development Bank of Ghana

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Tools and Technologies: Backbase Platform, JIRA, Git, GCP, MuleSoft, Apigee, Jenkins, Agile Methodologies,Azure Slack, Docker, AWS, Splunk, Selenium, TOGAF.,Java, SpringBoot, Agile, DevSecOps, UML, Scrum, AWS, WSO2, Selenium, Rest-Assured.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Engineer (Backend & DevOps)

Smart Applications International   2019-2020

Responsibilities:

- Core System Development: Developed and maintained the backbone of underwriting, Benefit Management, and claims systems as a core team member (ABACUS).
- Architecture and DevOps Leadership: Led architecture and DevOps operations, utilizing Java, Spring Boot, and microservices for robust system development.
- Integration Expertise:Integrated over 60 insurance and hospital systems into the core systems using enterprise integration patterns (EIP) and ETL with WSO2 across Africa.
- EDI Solutions: Developed and implemented Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) solutions, facilitating seamless data exchange between systems.
- Technical Mentorship: Provided technical mentorship and guidance to junior developers, contributing to skill development within the team.
- Innovation and Collaboration: Contributed to research, development, and product innovation initiatives, prototyping new ideas and technologies. Collaborated with business analysts to understand client challenges and create innovative solutions.
- Infrastructure as Code (IaC): Implemented infrastructure as code based on planned architecture, ensuring efficient deployment and scalability.
- Automated Deployment and Testing: Automated deployment and testing processes, enabling continuous delivery and reducing time-to-market.
- Containerization and Orchestration: Managed containerization and orchestration for efficient deployment, utilizing Docker, Kubernetes, and OpenShift.
- System Deployment and Monitoring: Built, deployed, monitored, and troubleshooted systems, ensuring robust and reliable application performance.
- Monitoring and Logging Solutions: Implemented monitoring and logging solutions for diverse technology stacks and container orchestration platforms.
- Tool Setup and Infrastructure: Set up necessary tools and infrastructure for seamless development and deployment workflows.

Achievements:

- Led the successful development and maintenance of critical underwriting, Benefit Management, and claims systems.
- Successfully integrated numerous insurance and hospital systems, enhancing interoperability.
- Implemented Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) solutions, streamlining data exchange processes.
- Provided effective technical mentorship, contributing to the skill development of the team.
- Successfully implementeda infrastructure automation, enhancing deployment efficiency.
- Automated deployment processes, contributing to continuous delivery practices.
- Effectively managed containerization and orchestration, optimizing deployment workflows.
- Established robust monitoring and logging solutions for improved system reliability.

Technology Stack:

- Java, Keycloak, Swagger, Postman, Spring Boot, Spring Cloud, Kafka, RabbitMQ, Oracle Database, MySQL Database, PostgreSQL Database, MS SQL Database, Apache Camel, Jenkins, Git, Microservice Architecture, POJO, Realm, GraphQL, Package Manager (Maven, Npm, Gradle), JUnit & Mockito Framework, Continuous Delivery (GitLab CI/CD, Jenkins, Fastlane), Agile Frameworks (Scrum, Kanban), Jasper Reports, Grafana, Power BI, ETL.Docker, Kubernetes, DevOps, Git, OpenShift, AWS, Linux Servers, Azure, Jenkins, Ansible, Terraform.

Software developer

Savoir Microsystems Ltd   2013-2018

Professional Experience:

- Designed and executed scalable enterprise solutions while working collaboratively with stakeholders, developers, and project managers.
- Practiced DevOps principles to ensure testing and continuous release in a timely manner.
- Developed, tested, deployed, and maintained e-commerce solutions for Westgate Mall, Two Rivers Mall, and Simlaw Seed.
- Co-created innovative web and mobile applications for Simlaw Seed's Android platform.
- Participated in requirements gathering, design discussions, and solution architecture.
- Conducted extensive testing and debugging to ensure software quality and collaborated with cross-functional teams for seamless integration.

Notable Achievements:

- NTRANET/CRM for Car Dealer/Yards Management Solutions:
  - Spearheaded the development of CRM with loan collection and integrations.
  - Led a UI/UX overhaul and added accounting and supply chain management.
  - Successfully deployed in more than 200 car yards across East Africa.
- E-LEARNING PLATFORM:
  - Developed an e-learning solution for web and mobile platforms.
  - Integrated with mobile money, banking services, and video streaming.
  - Supported peer-to-peer chatting and access to e-books.
- Successfully developed and maintained e-commerce solutions for Westgate Mall and Two Rivers Mall.
- Co-created innovative web and mobile applications, enhancing Simlaw Seed's digital presence.

Technologies Stack:

- Proficient in Java, JSF, Bootstrap, MySQL database, Git, Mockito, Linux server, GraphQL, Event Sourcing pattern, JavaScript, Arduino C++, Laravel PHP, Python, Spring Boot, Vue.js, Git, Jenkins, Docker, Kubernetes, MySQL, Android, AWS, Jira, and Agile methodologies.