Corey Gale

Engineering Leader & Platform Expert | coreygale@gmail.com
LinkedIn: coreygale.com | GitHub: mechtron | Blog: corey.tech

EDUCATION

MCMASTER UNIVERSITY
Bachelor of Engineering, Mechatronics
Apr 2013, completed with co-op

SKILLS

MANAGEMENT
Cost reduction • Team building • Mentorship • Global process • Recruiting • Vendor relationships • Public speaking

DEVOPS
CI/CD • Monitoring • Alerting • Logging • Security • Developer enablement

LANGUAGES
Python • JavaScript • Ruby • Bash • C# • Embedded C • Assembly

DATA ENGINEERING
Snowflake • Looker • Databricks • AirFlow • Stitch • Atlan

DATABASES & STORES
MySQL • Postgres • MongoDB • RabbitMQ • Redis • memcached • Consul

CI & CD
Jenkins • GitHub Actions • GitLab • CircleCI • Drone CI

CONTAINERS
Docker • Kubernetes • Helm • EKS • ECS

IAC & BUILD TOOLS
Terraform • Terragrunt • Troposphere • Ansible • Packer • make • grunt

METRICS & MONITORING
Prometheus • Grafana • Looker • ELK (ElasticSearch, logstash, Kibana) • New Relic • VividCortex • PagerDuty

AWS
EC2 • EKS • ECS • ECR • Lambda • RDS • DynamoDB • ElasticCache • IAM • CloudWatch • S3 • SNS • SQS • VPC

BACKEND
Django w/Django REST Framework • Node.js w/Express • dotnetcore w/Kestral • Nginx • Traefik • Ambassador

FRONTEND
Bootstrap • React • VueJS • KnockoutJS

EXPERIENCE

GUMGUM | Senior Director of Engineering, Cloud & Data
June 2024 – Present | Santa Monica, CA
- Oversaw the DevOps, Data Platform and Analytics Engineering teams (20+ SWEs and 4 EMs in most timezones)
- Consolidated data and cloud systems from two acquired companies into a single global team and standard
- Massive scale on a budget: billions of events/hour, dozens of TB processed/day, trillions of events stored
- Created a cost-saving process that saved millions through workload rearchitectures, contract negotiations and improved spend accountability
- Expanded GumGum's presence to GCP with minimal unit cost increases
- Gradually refined the DevOps team into a Platform Engineering team
- Collaborated with Finance team to form annual cloud budget (8 figures)

GUMGUM | Director of Engineering, Data & DevOps
Sep 2021 – June 2024 | Santa Monica, CA
- Oversaw the DevOps, Data Engineering and Business Intelligence (20+ SWEs and 3 EMs)
- Improved scalability and reduced overhead of key business systems through standardization, consolidation and migration to managed services
- Platformized key technologies, enabling feature teams to own their data
- Recruited top-value talent for specialized roles

GUMGUM | Senior Engineering Manager
Jan 2021 – Sep 2021 | Santa Monica, CA
- Oversaw the DevOps, Data Engineering and Business Informatics teams (10 engineers in 5 timezones)
- Directed cross-team initiatives to increase core system scalability, reduce overhead and push towards platform engineering
- Maintained key vendor relationships

GUMGUM | DevOps Manager
Aug 2019 – Jan 2021 | Santa Monica, CA
- Led, mentored and managed a globally-distributed team of 5 talented DevOps engineers who were responsible for building, maintaining and operationalizing dozens of mission-critical systems at GumGum
- Revamped hiring process to analyze a wider range of technical skills earlier in the interview process, resulting in a shorter hiring loop and improved candidate experience

GUMGUM | Senior DevOps Engineer
Aug 2018 – Aug 2019 | Santa Monica, CA
- Supported a diverse, highly-distributed (1000s of nodes) technology stack built around a low-latency Java application that handles >20M RPM
- Built AWS infrastructure for CV ML inference with multi-environment Terraform IaC, automated deployments, and custom auto-scaling metrics
- Designed reference architecture for introducing Kubernetes including new patterns for traffic routing with Ambassador and IaC packaging with Helm
- Created a tool (mechtron/ami-bakery) that enables idempotent AMI builds
- Active in public speaking: spoke at a joint webinar with Hashicorp/SpotInst

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PERSONAL PROJECTS

WEST LA DEVOPS MEETUP
2019 – 2021
- Bi-monthly technical Meetup hosted at GumGum HQ
- We provided industry updates and hosted tech talks from well-known industry experts

IMAGE CLASSIFIER | ML
2018 - 2019
- App that provides live classifications of user-provided image links
- Tech stack: DRF, TensorFlow, Keras, ImageNet, Redis, MySQL, Nginx, VueJS, Kubernetes, Helm

TABB | Backend & DevOps
2016 – 2018
- Wrote the backend system for an iOS app that keeps track of debts between friends
- Users create Tabbs using our app's convenient wizard
- Tabb backend automatically sends out reminders to debtors via SMS/email

RADI-US | Fullstack
2015 – 2016
- Developed the server and single-page web app for an instant-messaging platform that connected its users in a special geolocalized chatroom known as the "radi-us"
- Users friended each other by tapping the usernames attached to messages from other nearby users
- Friends are able to privately message each other without the geofencing restrictions of the radi-us

ENTREPRENEURSHIP
Recipient of $25k Jumpstart grant from FedDev Ontario (2013) • Winner of Hamilton Startup Weekend 2013

RING/AMAZON | Senior DevOps Engineer
Mar 2018 – Aug 2018 | Santa Monica, CA
- Amazon-aquired video doorbell company with >5M connected devices
- Established organizational patterns for writing Terraform IaC. Wrote core common module libraries.
- Designed and built a custom blue-green deployment controller that enabled zero-downtime deployments and rollbacks of OpsWorks stacks
- Represented DevOps for a special project tasked with transitioning our systems, tools and processes into the Amazon ecosystem

SIXT4/TRIPSTACK | DevOps Engineer
Mar 2017 – Mar 2018 | Toronto, ON
- Established core DevOps processes and patterns used to develop and deploy the business' core application
- Designed and implemented application infrastructure in AWS, including reporting stack built an ELK stack for real-time metrics

TOP HAT | DevOps Engineer
Nov 2015 – Mar 2017 | Toronto, ON
- Designed and implemented a variety of tools, services and processes that enabled devs to more effectively write, test and deploy new code
- Assessed new product features and recommended changes that improved system performance, scalability and security
- Significantly reduced testing costs by migrating our test suite from the private cloud to a self-hosted solution that could cost-effectively scale

FIRMEX | DevOps Engineer
Dec 2013 – Nov 2015 | Toronto, ON
- Created core DevOps processes for a new B2B/B2C product specializing in secure large file transfer
- Pitched idea for a new product feature that was green-lit and developed by a special cross-functional team. Sales team was able to leverage the industry-first feature to win new deals.

QUICKEE | Co-founder
Nov 2012 – Jan 2014 | Hamilton, ON
- Created a smartphone app (iOS & Android) that enabled our users to order food for delivery in under 30 seconds
- Led a team of five extremely driven individuals to design, validate and release the SaaS platform to delivery restaurants

BLACKBERRY | Reliability Engineering System Developer
May 2011 – Aug 2012 | Cambridge, ON
- Designed and implemented a complex, yet robust software control system for world-class accelerated life test hardware
- Managed tests for unreleased BlackBerry devices. Optimized the project management workload by automating daily tasks with Python.

MCMASTER UNIVERSITY | LEAP Mechatronics Instructor
Sep 2010 – Aug 2011 | Hamilton, ON
- Instructed an introductory course in Mechatronics for first-year McMaster Engineering students
- Designed a PIC-based robotics platform complete with custom PCBs