

Matthew Smith – Software Engineer

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Federal + Private Sector Experience

Based in KY | Open to Remote Roles in the USA. | Open to Roles in KY.

Summary

Full-Stack Software Engineer with extensive experience modernizing and delivering enterprise systems in federal and private sectors. Expert in Java (Spring Boot, Quarkus, Liferay, GWT) and JavaScript/TypeScript (React, Svelte, Angular), with a proven record on mission-critical FEMA systems, including the Preparedness Toolkit (PrepToolkit) and Unified Reporting Tool (URT), supporting THIRA, CPG, NIMS, and UAWG frameworks. Skilled in designing scalable RESTful APIs, modernizing legacy applications, implementing containerized microservices with Docker/Podman, and managing relational databases (MySQL, PostgreSQL, SQL Server) with Flyway migrations. Experienced mentoring teams and driving maintainability, performance, and technical excellence in fully remote, agile environments.

Technical Highlights

Backend: Java (Spring Boot, Quarkus), MySQL, PostgreSQL, SQL Server, Flyway migrations

Frontend: JavaScript/TypeScript (Svelte, React, Angular), GWT, Bootstrap, Tailwind

DevOps & Tools: Gradle, Maven, Git, Docker, Podman, AWS (Lambda, S3), Apache Tomcat

Platforms and Frameworks: Liferay 7, Node.js, npm

Work Experience

Software Engineer | 4 Arrows Consulting (FEMA Contract – PrepToolkit) • 2019–Present

- Delivered core modules of the Preparedness Toolkit (PrepToolkit), supporting FEMA's national exercise, training, and preparedness programs, including URT, REPP, and HSEEP, used by federal, state, and private partners.
- Enhanced URT assessment and reporting capabilities across THIRA, CPG, NIMS, and UAWG frameworks, aligning outputs with FEMA's evolving compliance and fiscal-year requirements.
- Designed and implemented Spring-based REST APIs integrated with Liferay 7.2 portlets and GWT front-end components, following layered architecture principles (Data → Service → API → Presentation) to improve scalability, maintainability, and code organization.
- Modernized legacy GWT/Liferay portlets into Svelte and REST-driven micro frontends, reducing maintenance overhead and improving frontend performance.
- Supported backend modernization with Spring Boot microservices, containerized via Podman, integrated with MySQL, and managed via Flyway migrations.
- Delivered automated document and data exports using Docmosis, OpenCSV, and Apache POI, streamlining FEMA reporting and compliance workflows.

- Led peer code reviews and mentored junior developers on dependency management, Gradle optimization, and PMD-based static analysis, raising overall code quality.
- Integrated Spring Web Security with Liferay's role-based permissions, ensuring secure access control across legacy and modern systems.

Tech Stack: Java, Spring Boot, Gradle, Quarkus, Google Web Toolkit (GWT), MySQL, Liferay 7, Apache HTTP Server, JavaScript/TypeScript, Svelte, Node.js, npm, AWS Lambda, Git

Applications Developer | United Parcel Service (UPS) • Louisville, KY • 2017–2019

- Maintained and enhanced enterprise logistics systems used across UPS ground operations, improving system reliability and operational efficiency.
- Developed UI features and backend logic for a real-time transportation visibility and logistics system, enabling faster decision-making and operational insight.
- Translated requirements into discrete rules for the Drools inference engine, streamlining complex business logic processing and reducing manual intervention.
- Conducted performance tuning using JMeter and Roadrunner, identifying and resolving bottlenecks in real-time transportation tracking systems.
- Delivered features on a three-week agile sprint cycle and provided 24/7 production support, minimizing downtime and ensuring mission-critical reliability.

Tech Stack: Java, Spring Framework, Maven/Gradle Drools (BRMS), WebLogic, ActiveMQ, SQL Server, TFVC

Software Developer | Apax Software • Lexington, KY • 2016–2017

- Delivered Python/Django and AngularJS web applications for clients including Presbyterian Church (USA) and University of Kentucky, boosting user engagement.
- Developed CMS tools, event registration systems, and wellness apps, streamlining client workflows and improving operational efficiency.
- Managed multiple client projects simultaneously using GitHub Flow, ensuring timely delivery and consistent version control practices.

Tech Stack: Python, Django, JavaScript (AngularJS, jQuery), Bootstrap, AWS, Git, PHP, Drupal

Programming Analyst | Knowledge Facilitations Group (KFG) • Richmond, KY • 2015–2016

- Developed Python components for EDITRACE, KFG's Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) platform, enhancing translation, validation, and mapping functionality.
- Built tools to process and validate data in multiple formats, including XML, X12, EDIFACT, CSV, Excel, Tradacom, JSON, and IDoc, improving data quality and workflow efficiency.
- Implemented a web-based console to analyze the EDI process in real time, reducing troubleshooting time and improving end-user insight.

Tech Stack: Python, EDI (X12, XML, EDIFACT, Tradacoms, JSON, IDOC), Bootstrap, Git

Education

Eastern Kentucky University – Richmond, KY

B.S. in Computer Science, 2015

Member, Upsilon Pi Epsilon Honors Society for the Computing and Information Disciplines