# MATTHEW WHITTAKER

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I have spent most of my life striving to channel high value business ideas into elegant and effective technical solutions. Though I genuinely enjoy any technical or business challenge, my favorites lie in the early stages of bringing ideas and visions to reality.  My hope is to continue to grow and use my skills to multiply the efforts of smart teams to move the needle in how technology is used in the world we share.

## CAREER SUMMARY

Currently, I serve as an advisor and consultant to several start-up companies who are working hard to find a product market fit.  Using my vast industry experience, I help ensure these companies  keep high technical standards and use the latest best practices.  I founded several companies; one was sold, and one was pitched to Y-combinator. Additionally, I worked at IBM's Boston Innovation Center for five years after college and have lead a number of start-up companies to profitability. All of this has given me  years of experience in scaling both technology and teams.

## SKILLS

Objective-C, Swift, Xcode, Storyboards, Ruby, Rails, Javascript, Node, Express, KOA, Angular, React, AWS, Chef, Puppet, Python, Django, Salt Stack, TDD, BDD, Agile, seasoned UI/UX experience, Discovery and Recommendation algorithms, Document and Group filtering algorithms, Optimization techniques, leadership and coaching

## EXPERIENCE

### Independent Consultant | 2012 - present
*Advisor, coach, tech heavy hitter*

- Built foundational technical stack including API, mobile attendant app, and web dispatch system for Leap Transit (rideleap.com).  Leap went on to raise 2.2 million with Andreessen Horowitz & Index Ventures using this technology.

- Assisted Gain Fitness (gainfitness.com) through a successful company pivot where the whole technical team was replaced and proprietary technology extracted to form new direction. Extracted technology, built new API and tech foundation, hired new team and setup formal processes.

- Optimized the foundation of FitOrbits, now Kumu (getkumu.com), mobile app. Worked with the team in converting an alpha prototype into the production quality app for the companies new direction. Introduced best practices for animations and performance in the app.

### AFAR | 2010-12
*Technical lead*

- Built initial prototype for an innovative social search engine for the travel space. Using a document matching algorithm we where able to unite and rank travelers with shared interests in a real-time search for travel advise.

- Spearheaded the incorporation of continuous integration and code review processes into the development work flow which resulted in improved developer morale.

- Collaborated with business owners in defining the product roadmap and assisted in prioritization of key product features.

### Blurb | 2007-09
*Senior Software Engineer*

- Re-architected and built a new e-commerce platform for blurb.com using best practices including Single Responsibility Principle, Test Driven Development and Modular/Extensible Components.  The new platform was seamlessly switched over and immediately reduced checkout incidents and increased productivity for new deliverables built on the platform.

- Built the Blurb GroupBook Facebook application using the Facebook API, FBML, FJS, and integrated into the Facebook Notification system to produce a viral growth opportunity for the app. The Facebook application was integrated into the existing code base to utilize code reuse as well as ease in maintainability.

### IBM | 2001-06
*Solution Architect / Lead Developer*

- Engineered creative solutions on numerous projects for clients that included Fidelity, Boston Coach, Sprint and AIG while working at Innovation Center in Cambridge, MA.

- Member of an elite team of engineers working under mid-west executive fixing failing and behind schedule projects in his portfolio.