Title: Nigel Dsouza: Architecting the Future of Cloud Innovation in American FinTech

Nigel Dsouza is a Principal Software Engineer and Tech Lead at Fidelity Investments, where he is regarded as one of the most influential cloud engineers driving innovation in alternative investments and enterprise DevOps. Originally from Mumbai, India, Nigel moved to the United States in August 2019 with a dream to become part of the country’s technological heartbeat. That dream, backed by world-class skills, has become a reality. Today, his work powers mission-critical systems at one of America’s largest financial institutions—and he’s just getting started.

From STEM Scholar to Strategic Technologist  
After earning his Master’s degree in Computer Science in May 2021, Nigel was quickly recognized for his exceptional skills in infrastructure automation and cloud-native engineering. He began his professional career in the U.S. as a Software Consultant for Capgemini, working on-site with Fidelity Investments. In a matter of months, he was leading critical aspects of infrastructure development, creating automated solutions that enhanced resilience, scalability, and developer productivity across teams.

His background in cloud computing, paired with deep expertise in AWS, Terraform, Java, and CI/CD systems, enabled him to deliver what others couldn’t: production-ready, event-driven architectures that could self-heal, recover from infrastructure failures, and enable massive deployment speed improvements. In one notable project, he reduced deployment pipeline times from 20 minutes to just 5—an innovation adopted widely across Fidelity’s agile squads.

An Unbreakable Spirit Amidst Visa Challenges  
Despite his immense contributions, Nigel’s ability to stay in the U.S. was tested again and again. Fidelity wanted to hire him full-time, but as a non-citizen on F-1 STEM OPT, he was ineligible for direct employment under their policies. He entered the H-1B visa lottery not once, not twice—but four consecutive times. Each year, he was met with the crushing disappointment of not being selected in a system that accepts only 85,000 from a pool of over 400,000 applicants.

But Nigel's journey is one of persistence. Refusing to leave behind the platforms he built, the teams he mentored, and the vision he was executing, he enrolled in a second Master’s program under Day 1 CPT to maintain lawful status. With Fidelity’s support, he transitioned through multiple vendors—Capgemini, Capco, and eventually The Staffed 360 LLC—while maintaining continuous leadership on core projects. His value was so evident that Fidelity’s senior leadership and enterprise cloud teams fought to retain him, reworking contracts and allocating special resources to keep him on board.

Engineering Impact That Resonates Across Fidelity  
Nigel’s contributions have left a deep imprint on Fidelity's technology ecosystem. He led infrastructure automation for Fidelity’s Alternative Investments platform, one of the firm’s top six enterprise initiatives. This platform gives American investors access to private markets through a streamlined, secure, and cloud-resilient experience.

Among his standout achievements:

* Developed and led the Disaster Recovery Automation system that eliminated manual deployment errors during Control-M infrastructure outages.
* Spearheaded Terraform migration and modularization, transforming Fidelity’s DevOps capabilities across multiple squads.
* Created reusable CI/CD utility pipelines, which are now standard within several product areas at Fidelity.
* Led the “Capital Call Workflow” development—an enterprise-wide solution for secure asset funding automation—helping Fidelity scale its investment operations.
* Delivered live architecture solutions to cross-functional teams under high-pressure, production-critical circumstances, often during off-hours and weekends.

Respected by Peers, Trusted by Leaders  
Nigel is known not only for his technical ability but also for his humility, approachability, and collaborative spirit. His impact has been publicly and repeatedly recognized:

* Five Recognition Central awards from Fidelity Investments.
* Praise from senior engineering leadership, including statements such as “you should have been an architect.”
* Letters of recommendation from Chapter Leads, Squad Leaders, and VPs recognizing him as “the most innovative and impactful developer we’ve worked with in the past three years.”

His technical excellence is matched by his passion for knowledge sharing—he regularly holds Knowledge Transfer (KT) sessions for other engineers, contributes to architecture reviews, and mentors junior developers within his squads and beyond.

Looking Ahead: Cloud Innovation as a National Asset  
Nigel’s vision is rooted in the belief that scalable, secure, and intelligent cloud infrastructure is foundational to American innovation. His future plans include leading national-level infrastructure modernization initiatives, mentoring the next generation of U.S.-based engineers, and continuing to architect high-reliability platforms for financial services, healthcare, and government systems.

Through his O-1A visa petition, Nigel seeks the opportunity to continue this work at the highest levels. His portfolio not only demonstrates extraordinary ability but a rare combination of resilience, humility, and dedication to advancing the technological leadership of the United States.