NOEL J. YOUNG

Senior Software Engineer
PHP | JS | Python | Go

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Software Engineer with 14 years of experience designing and delivering mission-critical backend systems across e-commerce, payments, telecommunications, and logistics. Proven track record leading complex, high-risk integrations, including large-scale, multi-region payment gateway implementations for enterprise clients. Strong expertise in PHP and modern backend architectures, with deep experience in financial workflows, high-volume ETL pipelines, RESTful integrations, and relational databases. Known for end-to-end ownership, pragmatic problem-solving, and bridging technical execution with business requirements in fast-moving, production-critical environments.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Engineer – Actindo AG (Germany)   Jul 2023 – Dec 2025

- Led the development for the Nintendo Europe payment gateway integration, ensuring reliability and compliance across multiple regions.
- Designed and implemented REST integrations with systems including:
  - Nintendo Payment Gateway,
  - Adyen,
  - PayPal,
  - BMW PGW,
  - Salesforce Commerce Cloud.
- Built and maintained high-volume ETL and omni-channel workflows.
- Ownership of release quality for payment workflows.
- Reduced operational risk through proactive debugging and monitoring.
- Code reviews / Debugging / Bug fixing / New feature development.
- All backend work in PHP. Front-end in Javascript (Polymer framework). Grafana dashboards for monitoring.

Software Engineer – Devprox (South Africa)   Jan 2023 – Jul 2023

- PHP Swoole for concurrency.
- Implemented Redis caching for stock availability checks.
- Backend done in PHP.

Engineering Manager – Megafreight Services (South Africa)   Mar 2019 – Dec 2022

- Hands-on Engineering Manager leading architecture and core development for Megafreight's freight forwarding systems, combining technical leadership with active contribution across backend, frontend, and integrations.
- Designed and implemented Vue.js front-end applications backed by Laravel (PHP) services to support operational and financial workflows across the business.
- Led SQL performance optimization, including query analysis, indexing strategies, and advanced reporting using window functions to improve system responsiveness and financial insight accuracy.
- Owned the financial systems supporting freight forwarding operations, including:
  - Profit & loss calculation per shipment
  - Accounts payable and receivable workflows
  - Delivered management reporting dashboards providing visibility into costs by branch and client, supporting data-driven commercial decisions.
- Implemented multiple enterprise-grade integrations, including:
  - Air cargo integration with Champ Cargohub via REST, using a containerized Java service (Docker)
  - Sea freight EDI integration with C.H. Robinson using the AS2 protocol, developed in Python, significantly reducing manual shipment processing.
  - Customs system integrations via REST APIs to automate shipment status updates.
  - Financial system integration with NetSuite using SOAP APIs.
  - Automated exchange rate integration using Fixer, improving financial accuracy and operational efficiency.
- Led recruitment, onboarding, mentoring, and management of engineering staff while maintaining hands-on technical involvement.
- Designed legacy-to-new-system integration strategies, ensuring data synchronization and business continuity during platform modernization.
- Developed a shipment status management system during the COVID remote-work period, providing leadership with real-time operational visibility across active shipments.

Engineering Manager – Switch Telecom (South Africa)   Apr 2016 – Feb 2019

- Hands-on engineering manager leading architecture and core development:
  - Led recruitment, onboarding, mentoring, and management of engineering staff while maintaining hands-on technical involvement.
  - Grew development team from 1 to 5.
  - Implemented process from daily standups, to code review, CI pipelines and communications with management.
- Built, tested and deployed an Asterisk-based VOIP switchboard and tools - still in use today:
  - Call recordings
  - IVR (Interactive voice response)
  - Auto provision with physical handsets.
  - Speed dials
- SOAP integrations with CRDB for automated number porting.
- API integrations with credit Bureau for client credit score checks.

- o Bulk mailer for client communications.
- o Major rebrand implemented in 2018 in wordpress.
- o Custom PHP backend with AngularJS on the front-end

Founder & Developer – Nift (South Africa)   Jan 2015 – Dec 2017

- o Created a platform designed to help new-car buyers obtain the best market quotes by aggregating offers from multiple dealerships.
- o Achieved early user traction and secured interest from ABSA bank, leading to high-level discussions with Warren Squires (then Chief Investment Officer of the Barclays Africa Seeker Fund).
- o Over 150 car dealerships signed up.
- o Although funding was not secured, the project demonstrated strong market potential and provided valuable experience in product development, stakeholder engagement, and startup operations.
- o Shut down end of 2017.
- o Custom PHP and JQuery Javascript framework.

Founder & Developer – Student Notes (South Africa)   Jan 2013 – Dec 2017

- o Partnered in building an online marketplace that enabled students to buy and sell study notes securely and efficiently.
- o Contributed to platform design, development, and early user adoption while exploring sustainable monetization and growth strategies.
- o The project was shut down around 2017.
- o Drupal / PHP site.

Software / Web Developer (South Africa)   May 2011 – Apr 2016

- o Various roles as web & PHP developer.
- o Drupal development.
- o WordPress development.
- o Procurement systems.
- o PHP development on biometrics platforms.
- o More information is available on request.

EDUCATION

- o Certificate in IT Management – University of Cape Town (2021)
- o Diploma in Sound Engineering – Allenby College (2003)
- o Self-taught in Programming, Data Structures, System Design (2011 – Present)

CERTIFICATIONS / TRAINING

- o The Coding Interview Bootcamp: Algorithms + Data Structures – Udemy (2025)
- o Master Redis – From beginner to Advanced (Jan 2023)

- o Node.js Essential Training – LinkedIn (Jan 2023)
- o React.js Essential Training – LinkedIn (Jan 2023)
- o Advanced Javascript – Udemy (2021)
- o Certified ScrumMaster (CSM) – Scrum Alliance (Nov 2018)
- o ITIL Foundation – IT Service Management (Jun 2018)
- o Advanced Relational Database and SQL – Coursera (Jan 2023)
- o Asterisk Pro Installer – Voip Magic (Oct 2016)

SKILLS

Extensive:

- o Languages: PHP, JavaScript
- o Frameworks: Laravel, Vue.js
- o Events / Caching / Testing: Redis, RabbitMQ, PHPUnit
- o Database management: MySQL, PostgreSQL, MariaDB
- o Infrastructure: REST APIs, OAuth2, Docker, AWS, Microservices

Working Knowledge:

- o Languages: Python, Go
- o Frameworks: React, Node.js, Next.js, Symfony, CodeIgniter
- o Monitoring: Grafana, InfluxDB

LANGUAGES

- o English (Native)
- o Afrikaans (Native)
- o German (Basic)
- o Spanish (Learning – My wife is Colombian)

REFERENCES

References available on request.

HOBBIES

I love running long distances as I find the challenge of the disciplined consistency required in training along with the sense of achievement on completion exhilarating! I've run over 60 marathons with my longest distance being 152 km's. I still have a goal of completing a 100-mile race in the future.