

Paul Watts

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Full-Stack Software Engineer - Startup Enthusiast

I build software that connects with users. As a full-stack engineer with 10+ years across startups and enterprise, I've founded companies, led engineering teams, and shipped products that solved real problems -- from a transit app that strangers hugged me for creating, to financial platforms processing millions of daily data points, to becoming the team's Kubernetes expert in three months to lead a critical platform migration. My technical foundation spans Python, TypeScript, AWS, and Kubernetes, but what drives me is creating products people want to use, backed by solid architecture, clean code, and TDD practices.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Full-Stack Software Development
- DevOps Culture and Infrastructure
- Writing, Communication and Empathy
- Team Leadership & Development
- Agile Project Management
- API and Database Design
- Cross-Functional Management
- Systems Design & Architecture
- Debugging and Code Quality

LANGUAGES: Python | TypeScript | JavaScript

FRAMEWORKS: Django | FastAPI | React | VueJS | Pandas

CLOUD & INFRASTRUCTURE: AWS | Kubernetes | PostgreSQL | GitOps

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Architected an Android application (OneBusAway), with DAU in tens of thousands**, work that earned strangers' hugs and recognition as a Mobile App of the Year finalist.
- **Founded a fintech startup** that led to its acquisition by a Fortune 500 company within two years.
- **Constructed a Python backend using FastAPI and GraphQL to scrape thousands of web pages** and enable nightly pricing analysis for millions of price points in Python/Pandas.
- **Developed and launched full-stack applications** in the legal and finance space in startup environments "from zero to one."

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Co-Founder | [Advis Network](#), Olympia, WA | Jan 2022 – Present

- Architected and built a modern DevOps process for multiple daily production releases on GitLab and AWS/EKS.
- Designed and implemented a TypeScript/Vue.js/Vite-powered SPA frontend for financial professionals.
- Developed data scraping and ingestion pipeline for creating research and analytics for unit trusts and buffered ETFs.

Lead Product Engineer | [Nasdaq](#), New York, NY | Oct 2019 – Oct 2021

- Continued in a product engineering role after the acquisition of UIT Investing.
- Reduced deployment cycles from quarterly to bi-weekly by guiding the transition from waterfall to agile framework as a scrum master.
- Initiated monitoring process improvements that eased product status tracking and optimized data flow for stakeholder meetings.
- Became the team expert in Kubernetes in three months to supervise the migration of the UIT Investing platform from ECS.
- Planned, designed, and performed initial coding for project moving an existing on-premise application to AWS.
- Fulfilled company resource needs by interviewing potential candidates and onboarding 3 software engineers and 2 Jr. analysts.
- Engaged with the ¡Adelante Nasdaq! Latino employee group to promote an inclusive workplace environment.

CTO, Co-Founder | [UIT Investing \(Acquired by Nasdaq\)](#), Olympia, WA | Apr 2017 – Oct 2019

- Engineered a micro-service architecture for a data pipeline that processes millions of financial data points daily.
- Designed and implemented a backend and frontend SPA for comparative analysis of unit investment trusts.
- Collaborated with the CEO on product and business development initiatives to identify market opportunities and align product strategies with business goals.

CTO | [TurboPatent Corporation](#), Seattle, WA | Dec 2013 – Aug 2016

- Led hiring and expanded the dev team from 3 to 14 members, with a more diverse background than the company at large.
- Developed the team's coding, linting and TDD standards to ensure the highest quality output.
- Acted as CSO, building the company's security framework, secure coding guidelines, and OWASP compliance education.

EDUCATION

Major in Computer Science & Mathematics: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL

HONORS & AWARDS

Finalist, Mobile App of the Year | Issued by **GeekWire** Presents the **Seattle 2.0 Startup Awards**

Second Place, Android Division, Best Transportation App Ever! | Issued by **148Apps**

PUBLICATION: Don't Stop Believin': Karaoke and the Entrepreneur

LANGUAGES: English (Fluent) | Spanish (Basic)