

PAPUNA GAGNIDZE

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[Personal Website](#) · [GitHub](#) · [LinkedIn](#)

EXPERIENCE

OpenReel (via Toptal)

DevOps Engineer

Dec 2021 - Present

- Achieved **25% overall cost savings** and **75% S3 cost reduction** by analyzing access patterns, implementing **lifecycle policies**, and **auto-scaling** for video transcoders.
- Enhanced database **security and management** using advanced measures through **AWS CDK**, improving data protection and **simplifying migrations**.
- Streamlined AWS resource management and improved **disaster recovery** by migrating the webinar application **infrastructure to IaC**.

QA Engineer

Nov 2020 – Dec 2021

- Automated smoke testing for a real-time remote video creation application using a hybrid **Cypress, Puppeteer**, and **FFmpeg** framework.
- Created load tests using **k6** for critical WebSockets and executed them from k6 cloud load generators.
- Trained team members in **testing methodologies** and **testing principles**.

Toptal

DevOps Engineer

Oct 2020 - Present

QA Engineer

Nov 2019 - Present

QA Screener

Sep 2021 - Dec 2022

- Conducted over **170 Interviews** for Manual and Automation QA engineers.
- Contributed to **developing interview techniques** that enhanced the quality of candidate selection for QA roles.
- Contributed to designing and **implementing technical assessments** for QA candidates, including live coding tasks and technical projects.

GeoSTQB

Co-Founder

Tbilisi, Georgia

Oct 2019 - Present

- Participated in conferences, cooperating with the industry's financial sector and public institutions.
- Administered accreditation of training providers to supply courses that meet the syllabi of ISTQB.
- Certified over **100** IT professionals in Georgia according to ISTQB standards within the first two years.

Casting Networks, LLC (via TulaCo)

QA Engineer

Jul 2019 – Nov 2020

- **Managed a team** of 5 Senior QA Automation Engineers.
- Maintained **UI, API, Load, and Database testing frameworks** for a large-scale application with **3 million users**.
- Implemented optimized tests for validating large datasets up to **4 million records**.

TBC Bank

QA Engineer

Tbilisi, Georgia

Aug 2018 – Jun 2019

- **Managed a team** of 10 QA engineers.
- Created **JMeter** scenarios and scheduled the virtual users to generate a realistic load on the server.
- Developed **UI** and **API** automation scripts using **Selenium WebDriver, Java, JUnit, and SoapUI**.

Product Savvy Consulting

QA Engineer

Tbilisi, Georgia

Jun 2017 – Jul 2018

- **Led a project team** for developing highly available event management software.
- Designed and implemented a scalable system using dockerized microservices on **AWS ECS**.
- Set up **Jenkins** for continuous delivery, including **automated builds, E2E testing**, and multi-environment deployments.

Delta Comm

NOC Engineer

Tbilisi, Georgia

Jun 2016 – Feb 2017

- Worked with field technicians and vendors to resolve **data circuits, voice**, and **data** problems.
- Monitored network performance by using tools such as **Cacti** and **Nagios**.

EDUCATION

Tbilisi State University (TSU)

Studied toward a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics

2015 – 2016

ACTIVITIES

A4Q - Alliance for Qualification

Member of Panel Discussion at A4Q World Congress

Challenging quality engineering practices - [Link](#)

Tbilisi, Georgia

Exact Pro Systems

Speaker at Extent Conference Talks

A possible solution for successful test automation - [Link](#)

Tbilisi, Georgia

DevOps Georgia

Speaker at DevOps Con Tbilisi

Unikernels - Building blocks of future applications - [Link](#)

Tbilisi, Georgia

Exact Pro Systems

Member of Panel Discussion at TMPA Conference

Future of software testing and connecting academia and industry - [Link](#)

Tbilisi, Georgia

PERSONAL PROJECTS

Bolbo

Online multiplayer 2D football game - [Link](#)

Owloops

Test automation and monitoring open-source tools - [Link](#)

Ena

Georgian programming language - [Link](#)

AI Printed Art

Text-to-product AI generator platform - [Link](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Abbies Syed, Director of Quality Engineering, Casting Networks

I have worked with Papuna for about a year. He helped us with a complicated data migration automation involving convoluted business logic embedded into data. He quickly understood the complexities of the project and assisted in refactoring the automation framework to work with the business requirements. He goes above and beyond to understand the business requirements and implements clean automated scripts for those requirements. He has excellent communication skills, both written and verbal.

Ragini Pasupuleti, Senior Software Tester, Switch Four

Papuna is adept at the Test automation process. His passion for software testing, knowledge of Quality Assurance, training others on automation processes, technical expertise in mobile automation tools and DevOps, mentoring co-testers, and work ethics are highly commendable. Working with him has been a great learning experience.

Marco Deleu, DevOps Engineer, OpenReel

Papuna is easily one of the nicest people I had the pleasure to work with. He is talented, engaged, and motivated to get things done. His communication skills and eagerness to build something solid make him the kind of teammate every team should have.

These are public recommendations from my LinkedIn account, slightly edited for grammar.