**RAY NICHOLUS**

Waukesha, Wisconsin • 608-669-7772 • main.gate3382@raynicholus.com • [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ray-nicholus-09a395280/)

summary - SENIOR MANAGER of SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

6 years of engineering management experience, serving in senior level management roles with oversight of teams of up to 15 engineers through large-scale, multi-year projects for companies across the IT, cybersecurity, digital asset management, and broadcasting spaces.

Brings over 15 years of combined software development experience, marked by achievements such as overseeing the redevelopment of numerous business-critical frontend applications, managing software engineering, QA, and DevOps organizations, and career-developing staff to management level positions.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Bigleaf Networks

**Senior Manager of Software Engineering & Scrum Master** March 2022 – Present

*Heads engineering strategy and oversees projects at a software development company providing software defined WAN services; provides top-down and hands-on leadership to a team of 15 engineers and QA engineers in an Agile/Scrum environment.*

*Web Interface Project Redevelopment*

* Currently overseeing the redevelopment of a critical yet outdated customer-facing web interface anticipated to drive customer retention and facilitate onboarding.
* Leads architectural decisions in partnership with stakeholders across leadership, product, sales, and marketing teams.
* Adopted React and TypeScript for UI development, AWS for hosting, and Python for backend development.
* Established the project’s QA framework, consisting of:
  + An initial QA automation suite (test cases, automation tools, CI/CD integration),
  + CI workflows including version control, automated testing, and deployment,
  + Standard operating procedures for the QA engineering team, and
  + End-to-end testing in Playwright and TypeScript.

*Other leadership and technical milestones*

* Defined the DevOps strategy and served as a technical lead, driving the adoption of best practices in CI/CD, infrastructure management, and leading technical decision-making.
* Scaled engineering and QA teams, defined roles, and interviewed, hired, and onboarded staff and contactors.
* Led strategic, high-level technical discussions and decision-making during a period of significant leadership turnover.

Cofense

**Director of Software Engineering & Scrum Master** April 2018 – March 2022

*Presided over the redevelopment of 2 legacy frontend systems as well as 3 new customer-facing phishing mitigation and user awareness web apps using frontend tech like React and TypeScript and backend tech like Ruby on Rails, Java, and Spring.*

* Managed and coached 8 direct reports in an Agile/Scrum environment and oversaw the work of support staff and contractors.
* Lead engineer on code development, reviews, QA automation, infrastructure design, security risk management in addition to developing and maintaining shared component and design libraries.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

**Director of Software Engineering & Scrum Master (Continued)** April 2018 – March 2022

* Oversaw DevOps activities, managing the company’s cloud presence and application hosting and designing a scalable system for rapid infrastructure deployment.
* Promoted from Manager to Senior Manager and then Director in the span of 4 years.

Files.com

**Lead Frontend Engineer** April 2017 – April 2018

*Recruited as the company’s only frontend developer and solely handled the rebuild of an aging customer-facing UI for a SaaS file automation and integration platform; managed the company’s GitHub organization and oversaw code repositories/version control.*

Widen Enterprises

**Senior Software Engineer** January 2011 – April 2017

*Developed front and backend systems at a company that helps enterprise customers manage and distribute their assets.*

* Transformed the company’s flagship Digital Asset Management (DAM) system into a React-based platform with a focus on a more modern, user-friendly UI that continues to be a primary tool for enterprise customers to this day.
* Co-created and managed an open-source library (Fine Uploader), running it independently for several years before integrating it back into Widen's portfolio of products.
* Authored a 217-page web development playbook, ‘Beyond jQuery’, published in 2017.
* Shared expertise at dozens of public speaking events including web development meetups and local high schools across the midwest.

Avid Technology Inc.

**Senior Software Engineer** April 2006 – January 2011

*Developed software that controlled video routers at customer broadcast studios such as NBC Universal, CBC, and CBS.*

* Visited studios across North America to access routing hardware and facilitate the product development and delivery.
* Creating and used emulators for testing protocols in the absence of access to actual broadcast equipment.
* Developed a web app used by journalists for producing and submitting broadcast segments.

TrafficCast Inc.

**Lead Developer** December 2004 – April 2006

*Tasked with building the company’s infrastructure from the bottom up as a new hire and recent college, which aimed to provide real-time incidence and construction GPS data to sites like Yahoo and Google.*

areas of expertise

**Languages and Frameworks**: TypeScript, React, Vue.js, Python, Java, Ruby, Rails.

**Cloud Technologies**: AWS, Azure, Docker, Jenkins, GitHub Actions.

**Project Management**: Agile/Scrum, Jira, Confluence.

**Industry Expertise**: Frontend and Backend Development, DevOps, API Development.