



Șerban Petrescu

SVP of Software Engineering | Cloud Architect

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Professional Summary

Builder and technical leader serving as SVP of Software Engineering at Trilogy, leading an independent department of 30-40 people. Products span education (Alpha School's AI tutoring platform enabling thousands of students to achieve 99th percentile results), recruiting (Crossover platform processing hundreds of thousands of monthly visitors), and sales (Trilogy Sales Platform managing thousands of semi-automated contract renewals across 200+ products, hundreds of millions in ARR).

Player-coach approach: combine strategic leadership with hands-on execution as product manager, architect, and full-stack engineer. Known for building both technical systems and high-performing teams. Prior experience: 6+ years as Lead Software Engineer at msg systems, recognized as SAP Developer Hero.

Key Achievements

- Shipped TimeBack (Alpha School's AI tutoring platform) from concept to production as product manager, architect, and full-stack engineer, enabling thousands of students to achieve 99th percentile test results.
- Extended Crossover hiring platform processing hundreds of thousands of monthly visitors and tens of thousands of applications, implementing AI-powered screening and assessment grading.
- Led strategic AI adoption across organization during 2024, achieving productivity gains while industry-wide metrics declined.
- Reduced cloud infrastructure costs by 50% and outages by 5x for \$20M ARR SaaS product (Playbooks).

Work Experience

SVP of Software Engineering @ Trilogy (New Products)

Feb 2023 - Present

Built independent department from 6 to 30-40 people while scaling from 3 to 11 concurrent products, achieving 3x productivity improvement. Started as VP leading backend engineering team, promoted to SVP with expanded scope including design, product, and operations, managing \$6M/year budget with full autonomy over team structure and processes.

Spearheaded AI adoption strategy during 2024, achieving productivity gains while industry-wide metrics declined. Built internal automation and productivity infrastructure (CI/CD pipelines, JIRA automations, dashboards). Shipped multiple greenfield products from concept to production as hands-on product manager, architect, and full-stack engineer, including TimeBack (Alpha School's AI tutoring platform enabling 99th percentile learning outcomes) and enhanced Trilogy Sales Platform (managing thousands of automated contract renewals across 200+ products).

VP of Software Engineering @ Trilogy (Central Engineering)

Aug 2021 - Feb 2023

Led team of 4 to 10-15 engineers (grown through internal transfers) operating and extending two acquired SaaS products: InsideSales Playbooks (\$20M/year ARR sales engagement platform) and ResponseTek. Focus on operational excellence and large-scale modernization of existing products.

Reduced outages by 5x and cut cloud infrastructure costs in half. Led major modernization: telephony system migration from self-hosted to serverless (Twilio), cleared defect backlog, implemented new features while maintaining production stability.

Additional Roles

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|---|----------------------------|
| Software Engineering Consultant @ msg-systems (Part-time, 1-2 hours/week) | <i>Jun 2020 - Present</i> |
| Cloud Solutions Architect @ DevFactory | <i>Jun 2020 - Jul 2021</i> |
| Teaching Assistant @ T.U. Cluj-Napoca | <i>Feb 2019 - Jun 2019</i> |
| Co-Founder @ KickIT | <i>Sep 2018 - Jun 2020</i> |
| Lead Software Engineer @ msg-systems | <i>Apr 2014 - Jun 2020</i> |

Skills

Technical Leadership

Architecture, Code Review, Technical Decision-Making, Team Mentoring, Process Design

Management

Hiring, Performance Reviews, Budget Management, Strategic Planning, Stakeholder Management

Technologies

TypeScript, Java, NodeJS, React, Spring Boot, Unity, AWS (Lambda, AppSync, DynamoDB, RDS), GraphQL, Salesforce

Specializations

Cloud-Native Architectures, AI/ML Integration, Serverless, DevOps, Cost Optimization

Certifications

AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Professional *Jan 2021*

Amazon Web Services

AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate *Jan 2020*

Amazon Web Services

Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (C1) *May 2011*

University of Cambridge

Education

Babes-Bolyai University *Oct 2017 - Jun 2019*

Master's degree in Software Engineering at the faculty of Mathematics and Informatics (dissertation pending).

Technical University of Cluj-Napoca *Sep 2012 - Jun 2016*

Bachelor's degree in Computer Science at the faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology.