Alex Stark

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Distinguished Software Engineering leader with passion and experience to deliver positive outcomes. Strategic professional with demonstrated experience setting technical vision and using effective communication and a pragmatic DevOps-based mindset to achieve those goals in the real world. Adept at continuously improving software development team efficiency while delivering top-quality, scalable, maintainable, and secure software that meet consumer and business requirements.

Experience

Rx Savings Solutions - Overland Park, KS

Principal Engineer - Architecture
Jan 2022 - Present

Leadership role in a newly organized architecture group tasked with driving consolidation of patterns, technologies and processes across the product development teams. Focused on delivering iterative value while establishing long-lived shared platforms leveraged to increase the velocity of the entire engineering organization.

- Evaluated current engineering architecture and process to identify the areas most in need of improvement.
- Drove the creation and prioritization of architectures road-map and OKRs.
- Modernized Development and QA environment management to be a self-service and API driven utilizing AWS several server-less services including API Gateway, Lambda, Step Functions, and DynamoDB.
- Designed a shared service platform that will enable the rapid development of services from ideation to long-term maintenance through well defined CI/CD process.
- Established best practices and patterns to be used for future Event-Driven workflows.

Cerner Corporation - Kansas City, MO

May 2006 - Dec 2021

Led multiple teams of engineers in technical, direct engineering management, and product management roles. These teams are responsible for the core platform upon which Cerner Millennium's services and user applications are built. Cerner Millennium is an Electronic Health Record (EHR) used by 500+ Medical Facilities and consists of 1000+ services and 70+ user facing applications.

Lead Platform Management Engineer
May 2019 - Dec 2021

Product Management responsibilities for the service platform and messaging products leveraged by product teams.

- Designed queuing system deployment changes to drive down license costs by $1M+ per year.
- Set vision for the future of the messaging platform. Created plan to introduce event driven patterns into the existing system.
- Provided technical guidance to company-wide 3rd party technology road-mapping process. Ensured consolidation of layered technologies to a consistent, up to date, and supported stack.
- Collaborated with development and operations consumers and business stakeholders to ensure correct prioritization and sequencing of feature delivery.

Associate Principal Software Engineer
Nov 2011 - May 2019

Served as technical lead for 100+ engineer organization. Prototyped future features while driving implementation of in progress projects.

- Provided guidance and technical feasibility analysis for migrating the system in multiple public clouds. Ensured timelines were met by embracing IaaS/IaC concepts in a true DevOps environment.
- Prototyped incorporation of event driven design features into the existing EHR Services platform.
- Proved feasibility for containerization of legacy services for deployment on Kubernetes based central deployment platform.
- Retooled company-wide C/C++ development system enabling modern continuous integration processes.
- Piloted process for 64-bit port of system's C/C++ codebase. Created tooling to enable efficient broad updates with minimal risk to code quality.
- Educated the developer community through tech talks, blogs and training sessions.

Lead Architect Manager
Sept 2009 - Nov 2011

Held direct management and technical leadership position for 2 agile teams responsible for EHR's RPC service platform.

- Enabled use of commodity hardware saving hosting business $100M+ over the successive 10 years by coordinating efforts to port service tier to a Linux runtime.
- Implemented development process improvements to increase developer productivity resulting in a run-rate defect backlog. Allowing the teams to focus on enhancing the architecture and providing value to the business with no additional resources.
- Updated service lifecycle management system to eliminate 10s of 1000s of lines of legacy code no longer in use without introducing any critical defects.
- Worked directly with the production support and clients to ensure prompt issue resolution. Emphasized strong troubleshooting skills, system performance, scalability, and root cause analysis to mitigate the risk of future incidents.

Software Engineer
May 2006 - Sept 2009

Implemented code changes ranging from minor defect fixes to broad architecture changes requiring iterative planning.

- Represented the service platform in company-wide VC++6 to VC++10 and VB to C# tech uplifts.
- Provided production support for clients across the globe over DST events. Drove the design and implementation of eliminating system downtime during Fall DST.

Skills

- **Cloud Platforms:** AWS, GCP, OpenStack
- **IaaS/IaC:** Packer, Terraform
- **Continuous Integration:** Jenkins, Gradle, Maven
- **Continuous Deployment:** Docker, Kubernetes
- **Languages:** C++, Java, C, Python, C#, Shell, SQL
- **SDLC:** Agile, Lean, Scrum, Kanban

Education

Missouri University of Science and Technology — Rolla, MO
B.S. Computer Science (honors) **2002-2006**