STEVEN SHAW
Principal Software Engineer/Architect

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Java · Scala · Kotlin · Haskell · Rust · TypeScript · AWS · GCP

I design and build distributed systems that are scalable, resilient, high-performing, and maintainable.

As a Principal Software Engineer / Architect, I stay hands-on with code while guiding architecture for mission-critical platforms. My focus is on correctness, resilience, and developer happiness — enabling teams to ship continuously with confidence.

What I bring:

- Systems expertise: JVM (Java, Scala, Kotlin), Haskell, Rust, TypeScript for full-stack delivery
- Architecture + delivery: cloud-native, microservices, messaging, observability, CI/CD, automation
- Reliability focus: shifting left with lightweight formal methods, automated testing, infrastructure as code, and reproducible environments
- Proven impact: large-scale platforms in telecommunications, finance, and enterprise
- Team culture: nice guy and trusted mentor, raising engineering standards without ego

I thrive in collaborative environments where engineers tackle hard problems — and architecture is driven by working code, not just diagrams.

Key Technologies:

- Cloud Platforms: AWS, GCP
- Infrastructure & Orchestration: Kubernetes, AWS ECS, Serverless, Terraform, Pulumi, Helm, Nix
- Messaging & Streaming: RabbitMQ, SNS/SQS, Kafka, ActiveMQ; AMQP/Qpid (contributor); Event-Driven Systems
- APIs & Middleware: REST, gRPC, GraphQL, legacy systems (BEA Tuxedo, CORBA)
- Application Performance Monitoring & Observability: Datadog, New Relic, Prometheus, Grafana, OpenTelemetry
- CI/CD & Automation: GitHub Actions, Buildkite, CircleCI, GitLab, Jenkins; Automated Testing, Observability, Database Migrations, Rolling Upgrades
- Programming Languages: Java, Scala, Kotlin, Haskell, Rust, TypeScript
- Programming Paradigms: Object-Oriented, Functional Programming
- Scripting: Python, Ruby, Bash, PowerShell

Domains

Startups, Finance, Travel, Telecommunications, Enterprise

Cloud Platforms

Google Cloud

Building, deploying, and operating applications on Kubernetes with GKE and Compute Engine

Amazon Web Services

Event-driven architectures with microservices built on Lambda, ECS, SQS, SNS, RDS, Postgres, and DynamoDB

Tech Stacks

Backend/Data/Messaging

Postgres, MySQL, Redis, RabbitMQ, DynamoDB, Oracle RDBMS, Sybase, SQL Server

Java

Spring, Hibernate, Java SE, Java EE, Jakarta EE, EJB, JPA, Servlets, JSF, JSP, JUnit, Apache Camel, Liquibase, IntelliJ

Scala

Scalaz, Slick, Play

Haskell

Yesod, Persistent, Servant, Hspec, Tasty

CI/CD

GitHub, Bitbucket, CircleCI, GitLab, Jenkins

Infrastructure as Code

Terraform, Pulumi, Helm, Nix

Frontend

TypeScript, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Ember.js, Angular, jQuery

Professional Experience

Principal Software Engineer/Architect

TLC SRC · 2003 – Present

Working with a variety of clients including Tweag, Betterteam, FlightCentre, Suncorp, TNS, Experian, JP Morgan Chase, T-Mobile UK, Optus, and Transcore. Working across the software development lifecycle, from coding and testing, to deployment and site reliability.

Skills: Cloud, microservices, Kubernetes, REST APIs, messaging, DevOps, functional programming, Java, Scala, Haskell, TypeScript, Go, C#, .NET, Python, Terraform, Nix.

Principal Software Engineer

Ephox (now Tiny) · 2013 – 2014 · tiny.cloud

Building rich-text editors for the web.

Skills: Java, Scala, JavaScript, TypeScript, functional programming, microservices, REST APIs, DevOps, and Postgres.

Senior Technical Software Developer

ADC (now CSG International) · 1999 – 2003 · csgi.com

Highly customisable billing and customer relationship management solutions for the mobile telecommunications industry.

Skills: C, C++, Java, BEA Tuxedo, BEA WebLogic, and Oracle RDBMS.

Senior Analyst Programmer

Dialog (now NCS) · 1993 – 1998 · ncs.co

Analyst Programmer

CITEC · 1990 – 1992 · citec.com.au

Education

Master of Information Technology

Queensland University of Technology
GPA 6.0 of 7.0

Bachelor of Applied Science (Computing)

Queensland University of Technology
GPA 5.2 of 7.0

Professional Development

Kotlin for Java Developers

JetBrains, Coursera • Jul, 2023

Engineering Chapter in Technical Leadership

Folklore Ventures • May, 2023

Type-level programming with GHC

Andres Löh, Well Typed • Oct, 2019

Scalable Microservices with Kubernetes

Kelsey Hightower, Google • Feb, 2017

Real-time Stream Processing with Rx

Erik Meijer & Brian Beckman • Dec, 2012

Functional Programming Principles in Scala

Martin Odersky, EPFL • Nov, 2012

Advanced Scala

Miles Sabin, Chuusai • Oct, 2012

Compilers

Alex Aiken, Stanford • Jun, 2012

Introduction to Scala

Workingmouse • Sep, 2008