Steve Castledine

IT Consultant, Solution Architect, Software, Data, Cloud Engineer

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Personal Statement

An experienced Consultant with a background in solution/integration architecture and software, cloud, data engineering.

My experience and skills mean I can perform many roles from Solution Architect, Technical Lead, Software Engineering in multiple languages, Data Engineering, Cloud Engineering with experience across multiple industries including Financial Services, Retail, Warehousing/Supply Chain and Government.

My current technical focus areas are around the Microsoft Azure cloud ecosystem, Informatica for ETL and Databricks for data processing.

I like to plan, communicate, keep things simple and just get it done, and get it done right. I also learn and adapt quickly and have great experience in adopting new technologies and techniques to suit the customers environment and way of working.

Key Skills

Solution Consulting/architecture, System / Data Integration, Technical Lead, Software Development (Python, JavaScript, Java), Linux, Cloud (AWS/Azure/IBM), Data platforms (Azure, Databricks, Informatica).

Other Technical Skills

Linux, Python, JavaScript, Java, Shell, Groovy, SQL, Eclipse, Git, Cloud, JSON, REST, Hadoop, Databricks, Databases – experience of MySQL,PostGreSQL, SQLite, NoSQL, DB2, Oracle, SQL Server, IBM XPages (JSF), LotusScript, HTML, CSS, Dojo, Accessibility, Agile, IBM Notes, IBM Domino, IBM WebSphere, IBM MDM, IBM BPM, IBM StoredIQ, IBM StoredIQ For Legal, Informatica ETL EDC DEI, Knowledge using Jenkins, Chef, CI/CD pipelines, Docker, AWS, Azure (storage/compute/networking/vaults/functions/logic apps/data factory)

Current Role

Senior Consultant for Informatica (Big Data and Emerging Technologies) since January 2020.

An in the field services consultant for big data solution delivery, lead technical advisory, integration and data/software engineering skills for large organisations deploying and integrating Informatica products and solutions on cloud.

Main focus of my role is delivering consulting for Data Engineering and Data Cataloging platforms and integrating with AWS and Azure clouds (mainly Azure) and Databricks.

Previous Role

Technical Consultant, Solution Architect, IBM Data and AI Services March 2017 until January 2020

Working on data projects using my technical lead skills to design and implement customer integrations and solutions with IBM products (IBM Cloud Big data platform, MDM, Data Discovery with StoredIQ, Legal hold management with StoredIQ for Legal).

Experience Areas

Consulting / Managing / Architect / Advocate

I have spent the past 4/5 years in a 'Services Consultant and Solution Architecture' role at IBM and then Informatica. I'm used to leading technical direction and designing solutions whilst also getting on with the technical work.

I have experience of supervising support and engineering staff both onsite and offshore. Recently this was with a Python and Integration engineering project, prior to that supporting and advocating for a large big data project on the IBM Cloud, and also supervising offshore Java engineers for an MDM project, which included travel to India.

As part of a previous IBM labs role, I was also an Advocate for IBM software products and engineering on them. I frequently visited customers to talk about this, and spoke at a lot of conferences in many different countries, had articles published. I also ran open source projects on behalf of IBM.

Data Engineering

I am used to designing, using, performing ETL/data integration across many different systems. As well as hard coding ETL using Python, I have also installed and used platforms to handle this which includes products from Informatica, IBM, Microsoft, Databricks.

As part of software engineering projects, integration requirements, consultancy etc I have done a lot of work with Databases and SQL. I'm no master DBA but have worked on creating data models, schemas, databases, tables, views, reports on DB2, Oracle, SQL Server, PostgreSQL, SQLite and nosql when required.

For the last year I have spent most of my time working on data platform solutions using a combination of Informatica DEI, Microsoft Azure and Databricks. Therefore I have experience of engineering data platform solutions for data lake, lake house/delta lake purposes using these platforms, with additional linux, python, etl, Azure cloud skills from source through ingestion and on to the processing layers. In addition, I understand and can design the dev/data ops processes around this orchestration.

Software Engineering
I have been a professional software engineer in various languages and on lots of platforms for most of my career. I can (and love to) learn new ones.

I have written code in Java, JavaScript, Python, React, Node.js, Electron, HTML, CSS and more over the years. I am used to Git, code pipelines and writing code for on prem and in the cloud (especially on web servers, web applications and using REST API's).

For the most recent software engineering I spent most of 2019 designing and coding a Python 3 framework on RHEL Linux platform to perform data integration and automation functions across systems at a large Bank.

I was also a full-time software engineer within IBM labs for 11 years. For most of those years I wrote Java, as well as other languages such as JavaScript and other web technologies.

Cloud Engineering
I spent many years working for IBM SmartCloud. This involved writing software for and supporting cloud-based software. So I understand the nature of software delivery in a cloud environment and how you have to engineer this to have 99.9% uptime.

Most of my current experience is with Azure and pretty much understand and have experience of the full stack from networking/security through compute/storage (including adls2), Data Factory, logic apps/functions, key vaults etc and with my software engineering skills I can design or build complete end to end solutions, whatever the requirement.

I have also worked with AWS and understand similar concepts to Azure but not with the same depth.

Data Discovery, Governance and Compliance
At Informatica and previously IBM I consulted, installed and used platforms to perform data analysis within enterprises from meta data discovery, structured and unstructured data discovery, and analysis for GDPR or other forensic requirements. Products include Data Catalog, Data Preparation, StoredIQ, StoredIQ for Legal, MDM.

Employment History

Informatica Big Data Engineer and Emerging Technologies Senior Consultant
UK | Permanent | 02.2020 > Present
- Senior consultant / big data engineer integrating Informatica Software in Customer environments (Data products, Hadoop environments including integration with AWS/Azure/Databricks)

IBM Data and AI Services Technical Solution Architect
UK | Permanent | 03.2017 > 02.2020
- Technical Lead/ Integration Architect StoredIQ For Legal project providing legal hold matter management and integration with a Swiss bank's HR, security and global legal hold systems. Designed/implemented a full integration suite running on Red Hat Linux server with Python 3, shell, Git, Postgresql, sqlite, Jenkins, Autosys, monitoring, backup automation
- Remote development/support team lead
- Customer support advocate/manager of a credit card companies start-up in Dublin. Providing advocacy for company within IBM and developing/managing offshore support network for large cloud-based Hadoop deployment
- Technical consultant designing/deploying StoredIQ GDPR unstructured data search solutions and integrations for Bank's and sporting organisations.
- MDM (Master Domain Management) technical consultant deploying and integrating IBM MDM solutions at Bank's including working with WebSphere, IBM MQ and IBM BPM, integrating using Java custom solutions

IBM Advisory Software Engineer
Littleton | United States | Permanent (mostly remote from the UK) | 04.2006 > 03.2017
- Senior Java and web software engineer (javascript, CSS, HTML) for IBM SmartCloud
- Lead for accessibility/bidi/security of IBM SmartCloud Notes cloud software
- Lead of openntf.org open source project, Conference speaker in US and UK
- Built and delivered social solutions including blogs/wiki's applications
- Developer / customer advocate for IBM application development platform Domino/XPages (java/JSF)
- Engineer for the email/collaboration product IBM (Lotus) Notes / Domino with associated functionality such as calendar, notebook, bookmarks

Associated British Foods/British Sugar
Peterborough | UK | Contract | 08.2003 > 04.2006
- Senior Web, IBM Domino, Lotus Notes Software Engineer

- Designed and built a browser-based factory control system which covers things like Shift management, Engineering Maintenance, Planning, Health and Safety Incidents, Day to Day planning/incident management and stock/ production control information for all of the British Sugar factories across the UK
- Designed and built Competition Compliance Contact Reporting System
- Designed and built a Legal Document Framework Extranet and E-Learning system for the ABF group of companies.

Ramesys/ASDA/Walmart/Tesco/Waitrose | Leicestershire | UK | Contract | 08.2001 > 11.2002
Architect, developer for an online food supply chain system using IBM Domino / Java / JavaScript for Walmart/ASDA/Tesco/Safeway.

Various IT contracts and positions | UK | 05.1996 > 11.2002
Transco, British Gas Plc, HM Treasury, GlaxoSmithkline, Haringey Council, Toyota Financial Services > Web Development, JavaScript

Education: Guthlaxton College, Leicester, UK – 9 GCSE's C+