

Steve Castledine

Solution Architect and Engineer

+44 (0) 796 796 2659 | stevecastledine@gmail.com
96 Little Glen Road, Leicester, LE2 9TS

Personal Statement

An experienced architect and technology lead with a background in software engineering, currently designing and building data platforms on Azure and Databricks.

My experience and skills enable me to 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.

I currently work at The AA as a Data Solutions Architect concentrating on building out from scratch an Azure Databricks based cloud data analytics platform. Previous to this I was in consulting and engineering at Databricks, Informatica and IBM.

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. I'm very creative, a problem solver, and love to write code.

Key Skills

Solution Consulting/architecture, System / Data Integration, Technical Lead, Software Development (Python, JavaScript, Java, or any of your choice), Linux, Azure Cloud, AWS (but actually getting rusty), Data platforms (Azure, Databricks, Informatica DEI/BDM ETL, EDC, Axon), mentoring.

Other Technical Skills

Linux, Python, JavaScript, Java, Shell, SQL, Eclipse, Git, Cloud, JSON, REST, Databricks, Databases – experience of MySQL, PostgreSQL, SQLite, NoSQL, DB2, Oracle, SQL Server, IBM XPages (JSF), LotusScript, HTML, CSS, Agile, IBM Notes, IBM Domino, IBM WebSphere, IBM MDM, IBM BPM, IBM StoredIQ, IBM StoredIQ For Legal, Informatica ETL EDC DEI, Past experience of using Jenkins and , Chef, CI/CD pipelines, Docker, AWS, Azure

Experience Areas

Consulting / Managing / Architect / Advocate

I have spent the past 5+ years in a 'Services Consultant and Solution Architecture' role at IBM, Informatica and currently The AA. I'm used to leading technical direction, supervising and mentoring, interviewing and designing solutions whilst also getting on with the technical work.

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, and had articles published. I also ran open source projects on behalf of IBM.

Data Engineering

For the past 2 / 3 years I have spent most of my time working on data platform solutions using a combination of Informatica DEI, Microsoft Azure and Databricks. My speciality is my deep understanding of Databricks and my love of writing code, and therefore teaching and creating patterns of development and use on this platform.

I have also studied and taught spark concepts, and can write code on Databricks using pyspark or scala. One for the honesty box though, I love to write code but get rusty through leading rather than doing, however my software engineering head kicks in very quickly once given a code based task to do. I can however still solve problems at least as quickly as a dedicated data engineer!

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, Scala, JavaScript, Python, React, Node.js, Electron, HTML, CSS and more over the years. I am used to Git, code pipelines and writing code 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/ETL 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, 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 in the past and understand similar concepts to Azure but not with the same depth, through rustiness.

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 Catalogue, Data Preparation, StoredIQ, StoredIQ for Legal, MDM.

Employment History

The AA Data Solutions Architect

UK | Permanent | 01.2022 > present

- Architecting and building a Data Analytics Platform using Azure and Databricks
- Creating POC's using latest Databricks features such as Delta Live Tables, Workflows
- Writing code patterns for Engineers to adopt as part of a pattern library for development
- Interviewing, mentoring, technical leadership across platform, engineering, devops functions

Databricks Customer Success Engineering

UK | Permanent | 06.2021 > 01.2022

- Supporting and guiding large customers on all aspects of Databricks/Delta/Data Lakes
- Unfortunately became too 'sales and admin' and wasn't satisfying my technical mindset

Informatica Big Data Engineer and Emerging Technologies Senior Consultant

UK | Permanent | 02.2020 > 06.2021

- Senior consultant / big data engineer integrating Informatica Software in Customer environments (Data products, Hadoop environments including integration with AWS/Azure/Databricks)
- ETL consulting/tech lead - workflows/mappings in DEI/BDM
- Data Lakes (Azure/Databricks Delta)
- EDC metadata cataloguing (with Axon)
- Informatica products platform administration/installation/support

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 company 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+