

# Steven Lawton

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## Steven Lawton - Technical Profile

Senior Software Developer with over 20 years' experience delivering robust, scalable backend systems across fintech, retail, Web3, and publishing. Known for pragmatic problem-solving, deep technical breadth, and consistent delivery in complex environments.

### Core Strengths

- Backend-focused: **GoLang, Java, Node.js, and Scala**
- Cloud-native architecture: **AWS, GCP, Kubernetes, and Terraform**
- Event-driven systems: **Kafka, RabbitMQ, and gRPC**
- CI/CD and platform automation with **GitHub Actions, Docker, and Helm**
- Secure API design: **OpenAPI, GraphQL, OAuth2/OIDC, GRPC**
- Observability: **Prometheus, NewRelic Grafana, Datadog**

### Project Highlights

- Integrations (Sainsbury's)**: Automated API onboarding with **GitHub Actions** and **TypeScript**, integrated **OpenAPI/AsyncAPI** into **SwaggerHub**, and designed internal PaaS services for request state and authorisation
- SmartShop (Sainsbury's)**: Migrated PHP to Go microservices, optimised memory usage, and integrated with external teams using **gRPC** and **GraphQL**
- Groceries Online (Sainsbury's)**: Led platform migration to Kubernetes, overhauled secrets management, and improved delivery with SSR and microservices
- Baanx (Fintech)**: Re-architected core web/crypto infrastructure with Go, ECS, and Keycloak for identity management under compliance constraints
- Barbourne Brook**: Delivered an event-driven data pipeline in Go, replacing a fragile PHP app, enabling new high-value customers
- RS Components**: Delivered PCI-compliant internal payment system and supported eCommerce modernisation using Spring Boot and Docker

### Technology Stack

- Languages**: Go, Java, Node.js/TypeScript, Scala, PHP, Python, Solidity
- Cloud & Infra**: AWS (ECS, EKS, Lambda), Terraform, Helm, Docker, Nomad
- Messaging**: Kafka, RabbitMQ, gRPC, GraphQL, REST
- Databases**: PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, DynamoDB, Redis, InfluxDB
- Observability**: Prometheus, Grafana, Datadog, Kibana
- CI/CD**: GitHub Actions, GitLab CI, custom internal tooling
- Security**: OAuth2, OIDC, Keycloak, Vault, secrets automation

### Ways of Working

- Experienced with **remote-first teams**, cross-functional collaboration, and stakeholder engagement.
- Advocate of **TDD, pair programming**, and clean developer experience (DevEx)
- Trusted to lead **platform rebuilds**, technical migrations, and **internal tooling** delivery