Lead Python Developer – Mission-Critical Systems

Acme Global Corporation · Fortune 500 Enterprise

Location: Hybrid – New York, NY (3 days onsite) · Department: Technology & Engineering

> We are looking for an experienced Python engineer to take ownership of a mission-critical platform that is behind schedule, stabilize it, and lead it to successful delivery and long-term reliability.

About the Role

Acme Global is seeking a **Lead Python Developer** to take over a high-visibility, mission-critical project used across multiple business units worldwide. The project is currently **behind schedule** and requires a seasoned engineer who can quickly understand a complex codebase, correct architectural issues, reduce technical debt, and drive the team toward production readiness.

You will be the technical lead for this platform: owning the design, implementation, and stabilization of services, guiding best practices, and collaborating closely with product, infrastructure, and business stakeholders.

Key Responsibilities

- Take full technical ownership of an existing mission-critical Python-based platform and its roadmap.
- Assess the current state of the project, identify risks, and create a realistic recovery and delivery plan.
- Refactor and improve existing code for reliability, performance, testability, and maintainability.
- Design and implement scalable, secure backend services and data processing pipelines in Python.
- Establish and enforce coding standards, code review practices, and development workflows (branching, CI/CD, releases).
- Collaborate with architects, DevOps, QA, product managers, and business stakeholders to align technical work with business priorities.
- Mentor other engineers, providing technical guidance, pair programming, and knowledge sharing.
- Define and track key operational metrics (latency, error rates, throughput, availability) for the platform.

- Ensure robust testing (unit, integration, regression) and participate in root-cause analysis of incidents.
- Contribute to technical documentation, runbooks, and onboarding materials for the platform.

Required Qualifications

- **8+ years of professional software engineering experience**, with a strong focus on backend development.
- **6+ years of hands-on Python development** in production environments.
- Proven experience working on **large-scale, business-critical systems** with high reliability requirements.
- Strong knowledge of Python frameworks such as **Django, Flask, or FastAPI**.
- Solid understanding of **RESTful API design** and service-oriented or microservices architectures.
- Experience with relational databases (e.g., **PostgreSQL, MySQL**) and writing performant SQL.
- Familiarity with message queues/streaming (e.g., **RabbitMQ, Kafka, AWS SQS**) for asynchronous processing.
- Hands-on experience with **Linux** environments and containerization (e.g., **Docker**).
- Experience working with **CI/CD** pipelines and modern version control workflows (Git, trunk-based or GitFlow).
- Strong focus on **code quality**: testing, refactoring, and designing for maintainability.
- Ability to analyze and improve performance, debug complex production issues, and work with logs/metrics.
- Excellent communication skills and the ability to work with both technical and non-technical stakeholders.
- Bachelor's degree in Computer Science, Engineering, or equivalent practical experience.

Preferred Qualifications

- **Team lead or technical lead experience** (formal or informal) is a strong plus.
- Experience leading or rescuing **projects that were behind schedule** or under heavy time pressure.
- Background with cloud platforms such as **AWS, Azure, or GCP** (e.g., EC2, ECS/EKS, Lambda, RDS).
- Experience with observability tooling (e.g., **Prometheus, Grafana, ELK/EFK, Datadog, New Relic**).
- Knowledge of security best practices: secrets management, authN/authZ, OWASP considerations.
- Familiarity with distributed systems concepts (caching, idempotency, retries, eventual consistency).

- Experience collaborating within large organizations or matrixed teams.

What We Offer

- Competitive salary and annual performance bonus.

- Comprehensive health, dental, and vision coverage.

- 401(k) with company match and equity/long-term incentive opportunities.

- Flexible hybrid work model with support for remote collaboration.

- Generous PTO, paid holidays, and parental leave.

- Budget for training, conferences, and professional development.

- Opportunity to own a high-impact, visible platform that is critical to the company's success.

How to Apply

Please submit your resume and (optionally) links to your GitHub/Bitbucket or examples of relevant work. In a brief cover letter or email, describe a time you:

- Took ownership of a complex or struggling project, and

- Improved its reliability, delivery timeline, or overall quality.

Email: careers@acmeglobal.example
Subject: **Lead Python Developer – Mission-Critical Systems**

Apply via Email