Taylor Birkeland, Software Engineering Leader

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PROFILE

Dynamic Software Engineering Leader with 14 years of experience in developing high-performance applications and optimizing system architecture. Expertise in creating scalable fintech solutions, enhancing operational efficiency, and driving innovation across diverse teams. Proven ability to foster high-performance cultures while ensuring regulatory compliance and customer satisfaction. Skilled in API development and integration, software architecture, and performance optimization, consistently delivering solutions that propel business growth and enhance user experiences. Committed to mentoring teams and implementing best practices that drive continuous improvement and operational excellence.

HISTORY

Software Engineering Leader, TipHaus

Jan 2018 — Oct 2024, Minneapolis, MN

Orchestrated architecture and development of high-performance fintech payment processing platform to enable real-time tip disbursement and seamless financial transactions. Integrated advanced caching mechanisms and asynchronous job processing by designing and optimizing API-driven transaction systems. Formulated and implemented ledgering and reconciliation systems to ensure financial data accuracy, compliance, and audit readiness. Pioneered new product features and updates, including GraphQL-based APIs to enhance developer efficiency and expand platform capabilities.

- Integral part in growing the team from 2 to 10 engineers, fostered high-performance culture, and drove innovation by expanding and cultivating elite engineering team.
- Generated $300K+ in monthly recurring revenue and established strong market presence by propelling business expansion from launch to 3,000+ paying customers.
- Engineered scalable infrastructure, supporting 30x user growth and accommodating 90K+ end-users, enhancing platform stability and transaction efficiency.

Application Engineer, HED

Apr 2017 — Dec 2021, Hartford, WI

Designed and deployed embedded system applications by enabling real-time monitoring and control to enhance industrial automation and efficiency. Trained customers on system functionality and optimized software for improved performance and reliability.

- Reduced system downtime by enhancing firmware deployment pipelines, streamlining automation, and ensuring updates.
- Optimized asset performance by integrating IoT telematics for real-time data tracking and predictive maintenance.
- Improved system reliability and efficiency by developing embedded software for remote monitoring and diagnostics.

Software Developer, IAPP – International Association of Privacy Professionals

Jan 2016 — Dec 2017, Portsmouth, NH

Streamlined transactions and enhanced data synchronization by designing and implementing complex online purchasing systems with Salesforce integration (pub/sub model). Provisioned and configured development servers, while equipping engineering team with robust infrastructure for streamlined deployment and testing. Developed comprehensive analytics dashboard to integrate Salesforce data and enable real-time insights. Architected and maintained multiple repositories to ensure long-term stability and performance with solutions still actively used in production.

- Increased workflow automation and internal operations by building and maintaining internal web applications.
- Established new development processes, while optimizing team efficiency and ensuring scalable, maintainable code.

SKILLS

Leadership

PHP/Laravel

API Development & Integration

Code Review & Quality Assurance

Fintech Payment Processing Systems

Software Architecture & Development

Full-Stack Development

Data Structures & Algorithms

AI Enthusiast

Scalability & Performance Optimization

Database Management

System Design & Architecture

Real-Time Monitoring & Control

Financial Data Integrity & Reconciliation

LINKS

Website

Github

LinkedIn

- Accelerated learning curves and fostered collaborative, high-performance engineering culture by mentoring and onboarding new team members.

Open-Source Developer, The Atom Group

Jan 2015 — Nov 2016, Portsmouth, NH

Developed and enhanced internal web applications to streamline operations and automate workflows. Conducted regular code reviews to ensure adherence to quality standards and improve application performance. Collaborated with cross-functional teams to align software solutions with business goals. Initiated best practices for documentation and testing to foster continuous improvement in development processes.

- Boosted system efficiency and reliability by resolving technical issues promptly.
- Reduced downtime by swiftly addressing and resolving critical software bugs.

Software Developer, Conversica

Jan 2013 — Dec 2015, Bellingham, WA

Engineered Spam/Bounce/Unsubscribe Processor by automating handling of bounced emails, spam reports, and unsubscribe requests. Developed and optimized internal UI systems to streamline workflows and expedite critical internal processes for enhanced operational efficiency. Regenerated Client Notification System infrastructure to ensure reliable and scalable alerts for system actions.

- Designed and implemented scalable Client REST API, while enabling seamless integration for enterprise clients and improving product extensibility and performance.

EDUCATION

Western Washington University, Bachelor of Science in Electrical & Electronics Engineering

Jan 2013, Bellingham, WA

TECHNICAL PROFICIENCIES

Cloud & Infrastructure

AWS, Azure, Cloud Infrastructure, Ubuntu, Linux

Backend Development & Tools

Python/Flask, API Design, API Integration, ETL, Asynchronous Processing, Data Pipelines, GraphQL, Microservices, Node/NPM, Object-Oriented Programming, Fintech, Payment Processing, PHP, Redis, SQLite, CI/CD, MySQL, Docker

Frontend Development

Tailwind, Vite, Node/NPM, Angular, Bootstrap, CSS, JavaScript, React