



Thomas Zipner

Full-stack Software Engineer



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Hi, my name is Thomas and I am a passionate **full-stack software engineer** and **solutions architect** with **15+ years of experience** in frontend & backend development. I enjoy building **Web Apps & designing systems** using **AWS cloud** technologies. I have been working as **Head of IT** at **ajando GmbH** for the last years (as of 2021 the **technology branch of Alex & Gross GmbH**), creating **digital marketing & sales solutions** for companies like SAP, Canon, E.ON & innogy.

Key skills & technologies

Languages

JavaScript (ES6+), Python, PHP, HTML, (S)CSS

Frontend

- Development of Single Page Apps & Progressive Web Apps
- React.js & the eco-system
- Jest, Cypress
- Sass, PostCSS, Styled Components, Bootstrap, Tailwind CSS, Bulma
- Wordpress Custom Theming
- Wordpress Plugin Development
- Figma, Sketch, Photoshop

Backend

- API Development (GraphQL, REST)
- Node.js, Apollo Server, Express.js
- Hasura (GraphQL/ PostgreSQL)
- Flask, Flask RESTful, SQLAlchemy, Marshmallow
- MySQL/ MariaDB, PostgreSQL, DynamoDB, MongoDB
- nginx
- Serverless Stacks (AWS Lambda, Step Functions, Amplify, Fargate)

CMS/ Web-Frameworks

Wordpress (PHP), Django (Python), Ghost (JS)

Tools

git, webpack

Cloud & Infrastructure

- 5 years of experience in designing scalable, resilient & cost effective web services on AWS
- Hands on experience with EC2, ECS, Lambda, ELB/ALB, VPC, RDS, DynamoDB, S3, CloudFront, IAM, SQS, SNS, Amazon MQ, Cloud Watch, Amplify, Cognito, ElastiCache, Route 53
- CI/CD Tools: CodePipeline, CodeBuild, CodeDeploy, Serverless Framework, Terraform, Ansible
- Docker

Special Knowledge

- Challenges of broadband internet providers & fibre optic expansion (address data, availability checks, multiple infrastructures etc.) especially in rural areas
- Connecting Offline & Online Marketing Channels (digital & tele-sales/ mailing/ print), Marketing automation, Content Marketing, Account based Marketing
- Music industry, bands, musicians, instruments, music production



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Work history

Freelance Software Engineer

@self employed

Jan 2021 - present

Head of IT

@ajando GmbH

Mar 2016 - Oct 2020

- Leading the development team (Resource planning, standups, mentoring, code reviews, recruiting, company culture)
- Development of interdepartmental processes with other department heads
- Gathering requirements for internal or customer applications & designing software solutions
- Product design & development of ajando marketing products (tracking, marketing automation, lead scoring)
- ajando academy eLearning & onboarding platform for new employees

Lead Developer

@ajando GmbH

Jun 2014 - Mar 2016

- Creating tools, processes and standards to increase the development speed of marketing websites based on node.js/webpack & Docker
- Moving to AWS cloud to scale up and automate website deployments

Web Development Freelancer

@ajando GmbH

Feb 2013 - Jun 2014

- Development of Digital Sales / Content Marketing Websites (Wordpress)
- Integration of external marketing automation solutions (Hubspot, freshsales, freshworks)

Multimedia Freelancer

@self-employed

Aug 2006 - Feb 2013

- Wordpress websites
- interactive Flash animations & Flash Single Page Apps
- Multimedia allrounder (Photoshop, Video editing, Audio editing)

When I am not in front of a computer I ...

- am probably playing guitar in a band called **The Intersphere**
- might be enjoying a surf trip
- could be out for a run or hike and do something that feels like the opposite of sitting
- experiment with spicy recipes



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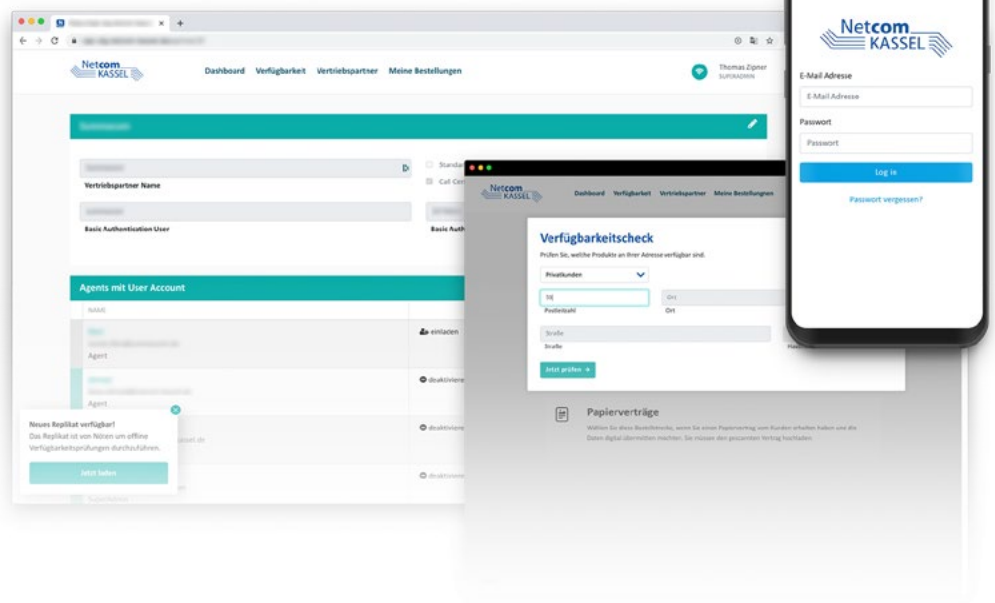
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Example Projects



Distribution partner app

Progressive WebApp for distribution partners of fibre internet for B2C & B2B customers.

Key features: address availability check, multiple order processes (call-center, on-site orders with iPad, capturing paper-contracts), offline availability (rural areas with shaky mobile internet connection were a key target group), user role based permission model

The interesting challenge was to get the availability check with ~100.000 addresses to work offline, which we solved using a JavaScript worker with an indexedDB instance to create a fallback API for offline usage. The local copy was updated in the background if its hash differed from its online counterpart.

Frontend: React PWA on AWS Amplify, Apollo Client, Offline functionality with service worker, indexedDB & localStorage

Backend: Apollo Server GraphQL API on AWS Lambda, PostgreSQL on AWS RDS, Prisma ORM, E-Mail Service (Lambda/ SES), PDF generation Service (Lambda), JWT Authentication, CloudWatch Events for cron jobs

Deployment: Serverless Framework (Serverless Offline Plugin), CodePipeline

My role: Solutions architect, DevOps engineer, Environment Setup & help with frontend, Environment Setup & help with backend



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Order error ticket system

Our customer had the challenge that orders of broadband internet connections would regularly throw errors when imported into their CRM, because of inconsistent or ambiguous address data. The process of correcting these orders was extremely time consuming and error-prone, causing huge delays for customer orders.

We developed a ticket system that collected import-errors from CRM email reports and created a ticket for each faulty order, so a human could research and correct the order in seconds. The order would then be reexported and be resolved or throw a new error if it was still not correct.

Frontend: React, Redux, Material UI

Backend: REST-API, Flask, SQLAlchemy, Marshmallow, MySQL, AWS Lambda, CloudFront, S3, SES, Route 53, CloudWatch Events for cron jobs

Deployment: CodePipeline, Serverless Framework, Zappa

My role: Solutions architect, frontend, backend