Tom Whipple

10506 Weller Dr., Austin TX 78750
mail@tomwhipple.com • 612-220-1465

Summary

Seasoned software engineer and manager with 10 years experience in management and 20 years in engineering with a proven record of delivering and scaling products.

Professional Experience

Software Engineer, Meso: 2022 - 2023

Built a crypto payment on-ramp backend using Go. Integrated with 3rd party payment, risk and notification vendors.

Sr. Engineering Manager, PayPal - San Jose, CA and Austin, TX: 2012 – 2020

- Responsible for all non-credit card transactions on PayPal's Braintree system. This includes PayPal and Venmo, but also local payment methods common elsewhere in the world, such as iDeal, Klarna, GiroPay and many more. (Braintree was acquired in 2013 and was a major player in providing internet payment processing, often to "unicorn" startups. Uber, AirBnB, Wish, and many more use Braintree as their primary payment processor. As such, security and availability were always of paramount concern for every change.)
- Led the technical effort to integrate PayPal's merchant product line and Braintree's offering as transaction volume from a few million to more than $2B/month.
- Collaborated across organizations to drive for quality at the institutional level by rigorously monitoring APIs and to bring visibility to common problems. Led an initiative to accept more financial risk by approving transactions that would have otherwise failed with an error, thus increasing merchant satisfaction.
- Grew a team of 4-5 engineers into a larger organization consisting of three teams with a total of 20 people spread across three main locations with several remote contributors, before remote work was as well accepted as it is today.
- As engineering manager, contributed to day to day team productivity with code contributions in Ruby, creating error reports in SQL, assisting with production deployment, and taking on-call responsibilities.

Principle Software Engineer, card.io - San Francisco, CA: 2011 – 2012

card.io was the first mobile computer vision solution to allow credit card entry by simply holding up your card in front of the phone's camera and was acquired by PayPal in 2012. The SDK was released as an open source project in 2014 and continues to be used to this day by major companies.
- technical lead for the Android SDK
- fraud control lead
- Contributor to computer vision backend and iOS SDK.

Founder, Smartovation Technologies - Ventura, CA: 2009 – 2011

Founded and ran a contract software development company focused on iOS development. Client brands included Sprinkles Cupcakes, Emirates Airlines, and numerous less well known companies in the Los Angeles area.

Computer Engineer, Naval Air Systems Command - Point Mugu, CA: 2007 – 2009

- Developed Hardware in the Loop (HiL) test capability for an ultra-wideband digital RF receiver.
- Lead Technical administrator for two SBIR technology development grants involving digital ultra-wideband RF receivers.
- Developed a maximum likelihood algorithm for classifying radar signals.
- Wrote real-time control software for custom built RF signal generation hardware for a HiL environment, including using a logic analyzer to debug a VxWorks device driver.

Tom Whipple
Professional Experience, continued.

Graduate Technical Intern, Intel - Hillsboro, OR: Summer 2006

Designed and created an open source application test suite for the 1.0 release of Linux utility xdg-utils. As part of the freedesktop.org Portland project, the xdg-utils are designed to provide a set of controls to providers of Linux software that work regardless of distribution or desktop environment.

Software Engineer, Nistevo - Eden Prairie, MN: 2000 – 2003

- Developed a new XML based test framework for QA.
- Undertook a variety of build automation tasks in support of product integration.
- Served as lead report developer for a Brio/Hyperion SQR reporting package and web portal.
- Administered an enterprise integration package during the critical go-live period. Created automated monitoring and recovery tools.

System and Network Administrator, Znet Telecom - Minnesota: 1997 – 2000

Lead network & system administrator for a growing rural internet provider.
- Coordinated & supported installation of high speed connections delivered by telecom carriers.
- Maintained servers and network equipment required for an ISP: web, mail, ftp, authentication, etc.
- Consulted to customers.
- Built a web interface for customer service team to manage users.

Education

University of Minnesota: Master of Science – Computer Science, 2007

Studies included: Computer Vision, Machine Learning, Robotics

---

University of Minnesota: Bachelor of Science – Mathematics, 2005

Studies included: Statistics, Graph Theory, Mathematical Logic, Linear Programming
Member of 2005 solar vehicle project, worked on RTOS to control the car, led race strategy.

Patents

- US9858405: Systems and methods for authenticating a user based on a computing deviceSystems and methods for authenticating a user based on a computing device
  Issued Jan 2, 2018
- US20220156750: Conditional Transaction Pre-Approval
  Pending. Filed Jan 31, 2022

Programming Languages & Frameworks

C/C++/Objective-C, Go, Java, Python, Ruby/Rails, Objective-C, SQL, OpenCV, Linux, IP networking