

David John Lopena.

Software Engineer | AI Engineer · Full-Stack Web & Mobile

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SUMMARY

Software engineer and AI engineer with 12 years shipping web, mobile and AI products end to end for companies in the US, UK and Asia. 20+ apps in production, 50K+ active mobile users, and AI features (streaming LLM chat, RAG, voice, agents) running for paying customers. Has led and mentored engineering teams at three companies while staying hands-on across React, React Native, Node.js, Python and AWS.

SKILLS

Languages: TypeScript, JavaScript, Python, Dart

Frontend & mobile: React, Next.js, React Native, Expo, Flutter, Tailwind CSS, shadcn/ui, Redux, MobX

Backend & cloud: Node.js, GraphQL, NestJS, FastAPI, Django, AWS (Lambda, SAM, API Gateway, DynamoDB, Cognito, S3, Amplify), GCP, Firebase, PostgreSQL, Redis, MongoDB

AI: Claude, OpenAI, AWS Bedrock, RAG pipelines, agents and tool use, MCP, evals, ElevenLabs (TTS/STT)

Product & delivery: Stripe, RevenueCat, Meta Pixel, feature flags, CI/CD, Detox, Maestro, Playwright

EXPERIENCE

Senior Fullstack Engineer · Paiv (formerly GoGamify)

Jan 2023 – Present

Remote, US

- Built an AI intake agent for roofing insurance claims that turns inspection photos into a damage assessment and a draft claim, across iOS, Android and web.
- Shipped real-time AI chat on Claude and OpenAI (streaming, RAG, context-aware agentic responses) using Python Lambda functions on AWS SAM.
- Integrated ElevenLabs speech-to-text and text-to-speech into field workflows, cutting manual data entry by 60%.
- Built self-serve onboarding with Stripe billing, OTP auth, Meta Pixel and SMS automation, lifting signup conversion by 35%.
- Led the V2 web redesign, migrating 20+ screens from Material UI to shadcn/ui and Tailwind CSS; Core Web Vitals improved 45% and bundle size fell 35%.
- Cut load times 40% across key workflows through caching, code splitting and GraphQL query optimization.
- Led the Philippine engineering team through 2 major platform releases and mentored 4+ developers through code review and pairing.
- Built internal tooling for feature flags, billing and subscription management, and multi-org configuration.

Front-End Lead · Valari Solutions

Jun 2021 – Dec 2022

Minnesota, US

- Led front-end architecture and delivery for 5+ web and mobile products from concept to production: DroneAdair (drone operations with computer-vision defect detection), UltiStay (rental marketplace), KilterRewards (gamified rewards with Strava) and rTurn (Flutter with a hardware scanner API).
- Bootstrapped DroneAdair from zero: project setup, architecture and full front-end delivery.
- Built CI/CD pipelines and deployment automation that cut the release cycle from 2 weeks to 2 days.
- Mentored 4 developers on React and code quality; built backend services in NestJS, Django and FastAPI on Firebase and GCP.

Fullstack Engineer • RNF Digital / B2BStore

Jun 2018 – Jun 2021

Leamington Spa, UK

- Built and maintained 8 production web and mobile apps for UK wholesale clients including Bestway, AF Blakemore and Sugro, used by thousands of independent retailers.
- Shipped 4 mobile apps to the App Store and Google Play, including Bridgestone AG Tyres, supporting 50K+ active users.
- Established the Redux and MobX state-management patterns adopted across the company (TypeScript, React, React Native, GraphQL, Apollo, Node.js).

Senior Fullstack Engineer / Front-End Lead • Scoutedby

May 2017 – May 2018

Remote

- Led the school, student, admin and quiz management platforms, owning task planning, code review and delivery.
- Migrated the legacy MeteorJS platform to React, Node.js and GraphQL, making the app 3x faster and feature development 10x faster.
- Mentored junior developers and 2 interns.

Web Application Developer • Veuta

Mar 2016 – Dec 2016

Remote

- Built every front-end feature of an automated social messaging platform, including sentiment analysis and engagement workflows.

Full-Stack Developer • Freelance

Mar 2014 – Mar 2016

Remote

- Fleet management platform (Mesh Motion), responsive ad sites (MobileAds), team collaboration platform (Cynder) and client prototypes.

EDUCATION

College undergraduate studies. Self-taught software engineer; 12 years of production experience.