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Staff / Principal Frontend Engineer

Summary

Software engineer with 20+ years of commercial experience and nearly 30 years of programming experience, building and modernizing complex products across cybersecurity, fintech, SaaS, insurance, ad tech, and scheduling platforms. Strong focus on React, TypeScript, UI architecture, design systems, frontend platform modernization, and cross-functional technical leadership. Proven track record in remote contract environments driving frontend standards, accelerating developer workflows, mentoring engineers and designers, and delivering business-critical systems in collaboration with product, UX, and backend teams. Open to remote B2B contract roles, available within 30 days.

Core Skills

Frontend: React, TypeScript, Next.js, Angular, Material UI, Kendo UI, Redux Toolkit, Lexical, Chart.js

Architecture & Platform: UI Architecture, Design Systems, Frontend Platform Modernization, OpenAPI Client Generation, Component Standardization, Design Tokens, Performance Tuning, Large-Scale Migrations

Backend Collaboration: Node.js, Nest.js, Java, Spring Boot, API Contracts, Cross-Team Integration

Data & Search: PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, Cassandra, Solr, Elasticsearch

Quality & Delivery: CI/CD, Jest, Docker, Git, Code Reviews, Mentoring, Team Leadership, Cross-Functional Collaboration

Selected Highlights

- Led UI modernization across multiple products for a US-based cyber threat intelligence company, raising engineering standards, standardizing frontend architecture, and improving cross-team consistency.
- Defined and enforced frontend coding conventions, formalized code review practices, and helped establish a company-wide design system spanning colors, borders, tokens, and reusable components.
- Worked directly with UX/design to standardize Figma artifacts, component design patterns, and design tokens, mentoring designers and helping operationalize scalable design system practices.
- Partnered closely with backend engineers to define standardized OpenAPI exports and generate mature client-side APIs, reducing frontend integration ambiguity and improving reliability.
- Introduced a new frontend architecture and modern tooling that significantly simplified development workflows and reduced compile times from roughly 15 seconds to under 3 seconds.
- Delivered web product functionality for fintech, insurance, scheduling, ad-tech, and ERP/SaaS platforms in remote contractor roles over multiple years.

Experience

Senior Software Engineer (Contract) - Japan-based Investment Bank

Oct 2024 - Present

- Maintain and enhance 4 connected applications supporting a multi-asset trader platform covering cash, derivatives, and government bonds.
- Deliver new functionality, optimize existing workflows, improve queries, and refine architecture across a regulated capital-markets environment.
- Work across frontend and backend concerns while improving performance, maintainability, and integration quality.
- **Stack:** Java, Spring Boot, TypeScript/JavaScript, Angular, Material UI, Kendo UI.

Team Lead (Contract) - US-based Cyber Threat Intelligence Company (Remote)

Feb 2023 - Oct 2024

- Led a 4-engineer UI squad across multiple applications in partnership with UX/design and backend teams, while influencing and guiding roughly 15 engineers across frontend, design, and adjacent technical workflows.
- Defined and enforced frontend coding standards, introduced systematic code reviews, and improved maintainability and consistency across the frontend codebase.
- Established a clearer frontend architecture that simplified development workflows and cut compile times from roughly 15 seconds to under 3 seconds.
- Upgraded frontend tooling to Vite to improve build speed and developer experience.
- Helped define and operationalize a company-wide design system spanning visual foundations, design tokens, reusable components, and standardized Figma practices across a mid-sized cybersecurity product organization.
- Worked directly with designers through recurring deep-dive sessions to standardize component APIs, design tokens, and scalable design workflows.
- Mentored both frontend engineers and UX/design team members on standardization, implementation quality, and maintainable workflows.
- Partnered closely with backend engineers to standardize OpenAPI exports and enable robust generated client-side APIs, reducing integration friction and improving API consistency.
- Introduced Redux Toolkit and OpenAPI client generation to reduce API integration issues and strengthen frontend state and data access patterns.
- **Stack:** TypeScript, React, Material UI, Redux Toolkit, Vite, Lexical, Lucene, Chart.js, OpenAI, Virtuoso.

Senior Frontend Engineer (Contract) - Goldie / Appointmentfix

Mar 2022 - Dec 2022

- Built the web version of a scheduling platform from scratch, extending a product previously available only on iOS and Android.
- Worked closely with backend engineers to help shape a more standardized API that could support web and future non-mobile clients more effectively.
- Delivered appointment booking, calendar integration, and email/SMS notification flows.
- Collaborated with stakeholders to improve usability through iterative UX refinements.
- **Stack:** TypeScript, React, Next.js, Material UI.

Senior Software Engineer (Contract) - European Insurance Aggregator (Remote)

Mar 2021 - Mar 2022

- Built and maintained the core booking engine used to compare and purchase insurance policies across providers.
- Contributed features, fixes, and ongoing platform improvements in a microservices environment.
- Role was primarily backend-oriented while still contributing within product delivery workflows.
- **Stack:** TypeScript, Nest.js, Microservices, SAGA, Jest.

Senior Software Engineer / Team Lead (Contract) - Creatopy (Remote)

Oct 2020 - Mar 2021

- Assembled and led a team of 5 engineers to upgrade parts of the technology stack and revamp the ad design automation platform.
- Delivered sustained improvements in quality, maintainability, and performance.
- **Stack:** TypeScript/JavaScript, React, Node.js.

Software Architect / Team Lead (Contract) - US-based Company (Remote)

Nov 2019 - Oct 2020

- Defined the architecture and led the technical implementation of a greenfield ERP/SaaS platform built for large-scale public-sector infrastructure workflows.
- Built the platform end-to-end, including real-time map-driven progress tracking, production reporting, invoicing, and field-operations workflows.
- Designed and implemented a geospatial planning tool that ingested urban-planning PDFs, aligned them onto OpenStreetMap / ArcGIS views, and enabled managers to plan, estimate, and track infrastructure work directly on the map.
- Implemented PDF work-order ingestion, geo-location workflows, and automation features supporting project build-out and operational tracking.
- **Stack:** TypeScript/JavaScript, LoopBack 4, Node.js, MongoDB, React, PDF-lib, Canvas, Adobe PDF Tools, D3.js, exceljs, GridFS, Puppeteer.

Earlier Experience

- **Software Architect / Team Lead - Dr. C.A.R.M.E.N. (2018 - 2019):** Led work on a pharma effects analysis and recommendations platform.
- **Software Architect / Team Lead - [e-spres-oh] (2014 - 2018):** Led development of a multi-industry booking analytics and indexing system.
- **Senior Software Engineer - BTCXchange (2013 - 2014):** Built the frontend for Romania's first Bitcoin / altcoin exchange platform.
- Additional earlier experience includes Lateral Inc., Neobyte Solutions, and Interobiz.

Education & Development

- Machine Learning - Andrew Ng (Stanford, online).
- Ongoing self-directed learning across AI, data-heavy systems, and modern web platforms.

Languages

Romanian (native), English (fluent).