Steven Bennett

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Seasoned software engineer with expertise in full-stack development, cloud infrastructure, and frontend technologies. Proven ability to drive project success through leadership, coding excellence, and automation. Adept at delivering scalable, accessible, and high-performance applications that enhance user experience and achieve business goals.

Skills and Proficiencies

- Certified ScrumMaster with a focus on maximizing value for stakeholders. Can efficiently lead sprint ceremonies for productive engineering cycles.
- Expertise in HTML, CSS/TailwindCSS, JavaScript/TypeScript, and React for building accessible, responsive, and performant frontend applications and constructing pixel-perfect UI from designs created in prototyping tools like Figma. Extensive experience with Next.js; including Next.js 13 with App Router. Experienced in writing reliable and secure Web services, WebSocket servers, and worker queues built on Node.js. Skilled in implementing typesafe GraphQL APIs for efficient data querying and manipulation.
- Proficient in configuring linting and formatting tools (ESLint, Stylelint, Prettier) for code consistency. Highly proficient in TypeScript to enhance code reliability and reduce errors in production, well-versed in SOLID principles, functional programming, and other design patterns. Experience with Jest, Vitest, Cypress, Playwright, and other testing tools.
- Deep understanding of mono-repository management and tooling like PNPM and Turborepo. Experience using bundling tools like ESBuild and SWC for the optimization of client/server libraries.
- Experience with Docker and Docker Compose, as well as Kubernetes for container orchestration. Proficient in development of pipelines using BitBucket Pipelines, GitHub Actions, Jenkins, and CircleCI. Have reduced deployment times by as much as 80% through pipeline optimization.
- Extensive experience with cloud providers like Amazon Web Services, Google Cloud, and Azure. Proficient in CloudFormation, AWS CDK, and Terraform for infrastructure orchestration and management.
- Linux/Unix OS, Python, shell scripting, and process automation.

Work Experience

General Electric (Vernova)
Senior React Developer

June 2024 – Current

- Responsible for building accessible, responsive, and easily maintained UI components and pages for a SaaS Web application used by power grid operators to view real-time data and run simulations against the power grid.
- Utilized a modern tech stack, including Node.js, Vite, TypeScript, React, TailwindCSS, while following Web application development best practices and principles, such as component composition and SOLID, to build a performant, scalable and elegant frontend application.
- Wrote detailed and effective component unit tests using Vitest, React Testing Library, and jsdom, and functional tests using Playwright.
- Facilitated design validation and developer adoption through comprehensive Storybook documentation.

- Used knowledge of the various cloud providers, such as Azure, Google Cloud, and AWS, to architect a cloud provider agnostic pipeline for deployment of the Web application infrastructure in the customer's own cloud environment.

US Treasury Department
Lead Engineer

December 2023 – June 2024

- Led team of three developers in efforts to create a unified platform in which cloud resources could easily be provisioned via a Web frontend from AWS, Google Cloud, and Oracle Cloud.
- Oversaw scrum ceremonies such as daily standups, backlog refinement, sprint planning and sprint review, as well as collecting metrics to measure team success against project goals and timelines.
- Worked with stakeholders to gather and document requirements, create tickets in Jira, and prioritize the backlog.
- Utilized knowledge of frontend development best practices to help mentor junior developers in best-practices regarding HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and React to create a performant, and easy to use Web application.
- Used experience and knowledge to improve application accessibility, automate repetitive tasks, add quality-of-life improvements for developers such as ESLint/Prettier, and improve code quality through TypeScript and testing tools such as unit testing via Vitest and automated functional testing with Playwright.

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
Senior Engineer

June 2023 – December 2023

- Tasked with the migration and unification of the legacy "School/Class/Student Profile" report applications to a single Next.js 13 application.
- Migrated and refactored existing code following best practices and patterns including SOLID principles, to create highly composable, single-focus components with context providers/consumers, and hooks.
- Gained valuable experience implementing the core features and functionality of Next.js 13 and led initiatives to implement new patterns such as the App Router, Server Components, and Server Actions.
- Utilized broad experience in application/service release pipeline automation to solve issues with long build/release times using various methods like optimization of layers in Docker container definitions, utilizing dependency store caches, the caching of both task orchestration artifacts and their inputs to prevent running pipeline jobs needlessly, and CI job caching in BitBucket.

Jaguar Land Rover
Senior Engineer

November 2022 – June 2023

- Sole engineer embedded in the Design/UX Research organization responsible for building a Web application that enables designers and UI/UX researchers to embed prototypes created in various tools such as Proto.io and Figma, and capture user interactions for analysis.
- Designed and built a highly scalable, full stack Web application, with accompanying backend services, using VS Code Dev Containers for consistent development environments, PNPM for mono-repository workspace tooling, Turborepo for task orchestration, Docker Compose for local development, Vite/React/Tailwind on the frontend, Express/Prisma/GraphQL on the backend, and Kubernetes for container orchestration.

- Utilized deep understanding of foundational Web technologies such as the HTTP protocol, iframes, cookies and nginx reverse proxies, to extend the functionality of the prototyping tools and implement a novel solution that went far and beyond the expectations of the product team.
- Automated the previously manual process of importing, processing, and uploading of prototypes, which eliminated the need for two roles, allowing those team members to focus on more valuable work.
- Used JavaScript/Node.js stack to build new features and functionality as well as fix longstanding bugs and UX issues on the in-dash entertainment system.

NBA   *April 2022 – October 2022*
Senior Engineer

- Worked as backend JavaScript/Node.js engineer on the Data API platform team, responsible for the maintenance and development of the Core Data APIs and serviced used for live in-game data and player stats on NBA.com and televised broadcasts. Implemented a new GraphQL API service to replace an existing REST API service, which reduced the number of requests required to retrieve data and improved the performance of the API by up to 80%.
- Leveraged TypeScript and GraphQL to create a type-safe API client library that was used by the frontend team to consume the API.
- Assisted in creation and launch of NBA League Pass, including the development of services used to stream live game video and statistics.

Nike   *September 2021 – April 2022*
Senior Engineer

- Acted as the sole engineer on team in the innovation organization, responsible for the creation of a Web application used by product teams at Nike to understand and quickly find information about the organizational structure and taxonomy of any team in the company.
- Designed, documented, and built a highly scalable, performant Web application and supporting services using a Node.js, JavaScript/TypeScript, Vite.js, React, and GraphQL application stack running on an AWS ECS (Fargate)/ECR, AWS Lambda functions, AppSync infrastructure defined in and managed by CloudFormation templates.
- Used React and styled-components along with optimized CSS animations to build an elegant and user-friendly frontend application that followed and adhered to usability and accessibility best practices.
- implemented a mono-repository via PNPM workspaces and Turborepo, along with the latest tools and libraries to enable an easy to setup and use development environment and automated CI pipelines to support rapid feature releases.

Nike   *August 2019 – September 2021*
Senior Engineer III

- Frontend engineer using JavaScript/TypeScript and React.js to build Machine Learning-driven chat application on the Twilio platform used by the "Nike Experts on Demand" team to support and engage high-value customers.
- Leveraged "CSS-in-JS" libraries such as *styled-components* to construct responsive, pixel-perfect UI components from *Figma* designs provided by the design team. Used extensive knowledge of CSS to achieve smooth, high-quality UX and animations.
- Worked closely with backend and mobile teams to design solutions, define contracts, and prioritize sprint work.

- Authored unit tests using *Mocha/Chai*, component rendering assertions using *Jest* and *react-testing-library*, and functional tests with Cypress.
- Maintained highly-effective relationships with the Product Owner and larger business organization to refine and prioritize stories in the product backlog, resolve design anomalies or external dependencies, and validate business hypotheses via A/B experiments.

Nike
May 2016 – August 2019

Lead Engineer

- Led a team of three engineers on a project to redesign and migrate the Nike customer support sites off the Oracle CX Customer Portal platform to a single AWS cloud-hosted Web application written in JavaScript and React.
- Collaborated closely with the Product Owner to create and refine stories in the product backlog, ensured tech debt was captured and prioritized, managed inter-team dependencies, and mentored junior engineers.
- Tasked with migrating 48 separate code bases written in PHP, with no source control, or unit testing, and changes had to be manually uploaded to the Web server via WebDAV; to a Node.js project with source control, and Jenkins CI/CD pipelines that ran had stages for running tests, bundling code and deployment to AWS ECS Fargate services.
- Successfully converted and unified Get Help sites into a single Git repository with 70% code coverage, localization, and internationalization built-in, and deployment pipelines that saved hundreds of developer hours.

Oracle
April 2011 – May 2016

Demo Site Architect

- Built consumer-facing customer service and support sites using HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and PHP/CodeIgniter on the Oracle RightNow CX platform, to demonstrate the product's features and functionality to prospective customers.
- I worked in the sales organization, building product sales demo sites according to requirements provided by Solution Consultants.

Training and Certifications

- Certified ScrumMaster (CSM)
- Attended ReactTraining.com React Workshop
- Completed Salesforce Developer Training
- A+ certified