

Jason Karuza (he/him)

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SKILLS

Languages: Python, PHP, SQL/NoSQL, Flutter/Dart, Javascript, HTML, CSS, C/C++/C#, Java, .NET, UML

Tools and Platforms: JetBrains/VS Code/Android Studio, Vim, Git, Linux, Windows, Django, Flask

Other Software: AWS/GCP/Azure, K8s/ECS, CircleCI, Firebase, Apache, Terraform, Wordpress, Office tools

EXPERIENCE

ENGINEERING MANAGER - Paystand/Teampay, Scotts Valley (Remote) 08/24 - Present

- Lead a team of eight engineers to build microservices for syncing accounting data with ERP APIs
- Develop a streamlined process to make documentation easier to find and maintain with fewer tools
- Create and track KPIs for project work, CS requests, tech debt, and customer onboarding

SENIOR MANAGER, PRODUCT ENGINEERING – Afresh, San Francisco (Remote) 07/22 – 05/24

- Manage a Swift/Typescript/GraphQL team responsible for in-store Ordering, ETL pipeline between Snowflake and PostgreSQL utilizing dbt, and system performance as part of ML-driven grocery chain platform that prevented 44M pounds of food waste, 24M kg of CO2 emissions, 886M gallons of water waste while earning \$12M in 2023 revenue
- Partner with product, business, data science, and QA to drive projects focused on reduced order time and greater financial impact for thousands of in-store users across major customer grocery chains

ENGINEERING MANAGER/INTERIM VP OF ENGINEERING - Teampay, NYC (Remote) 11/20 – 07/22

- Facilitate \$25M series B fundraising for distributed spend management platform built on AWS, CircleCI, Python/Django, PostgreSQL, and React that processes real-time financial transactions at scale
- Build team of 15+ distributed full-stack, DevOps, and data science engineers, and managers
- Develop practices/processes/tools to improve system performance and visibility, increase velocity, reduce risk, and ensure compliance with financial regulations and security requirements

PRINCIPAL SOFTWARE ENGINEER – Hourly.app, Palo Alto (Remote) 10/19 – 10/20

- Develop low-latency Python/Flask APIs and manage infrastructure for mobile-first, small business payroll, time-tracking, tax, and insurance platform using Jenkins, REDIS, MySQL, SQS in 15-person pre-seed startup
- Grow distributed engineering team, define practices/processes, and scale customer base

DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING – McGraw-Hill Education, Santa Monica, CA 08/14 – 10/19

- Interview, hire, and train engineers and managers, growing a single team of <10 ICs to four Scrum teams with 20+ distributed engineers supporting 11M global users with \$1.72B revenue in 2017
- Lead migration to AWS and re-architecture of platform into microservices
- Migrate to Docker, AWS EC2 to ECS, then to Kubernetes with Terraform/Helm
- Define software development lifecycle (SDLC) utilizing Gitflow, JIRA, and agile Scrum

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER – Engrade LLC, Santa Monica, CA 03/12 – 07/14

- Part of early core team that led to acquisition by McGraw-Hill for \$50M after growing to 4.5M users
- Define and implement development, hiring, documentation, and training processes. Mentor developers and lead LAMP stack projects on hosted servers. Recruit and structure internship program.

SYSTEMS ENGINEER III – Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems, El Segundo, CA 03/09 – 03/12

- Systems Engineering/Integration and Test (SEIT) lead for Unmanned Combat Air System's (UCAS) Autonomous Aerial Refueling (AAR) Surrogate Demonstration program
- Multi-Contractor Contractual Account Manager (CAM) for Air Force AAR program with Boeing and Lockheed Martin software teams. System Architecture and Software Design lead

SOFTWARE ENGINEER III – Northrop Grumman Space Technology, Redondo Beach, CA 10/07 – 02/09

- Create .NET, JavaScript, VB, and SQL Server web tools. Write spacecraft command tests with Labview and Java

SOFTWARE ENGINEER II – Northrop Grumman Mission Systems, Carson, CA 2/06 – 9/07

- Design and develop C++ MFC, QT, Java GUI Applications (interface with nativecode). Utilize UML and Rational Rose

EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

- Master of Science, Computer Science December 2005 GPA: 3.771, Magna Cum Laude
- Bachelor of Science, Computer Science June 2004 GPA: 3.656 Overall / 3.707 Major, Cum Laude

CERTIFICATIONS

- Leadership and Management, University of Southern California, June 2011
- Systems Engineering, California Institute of Technology, June 2010

PERSONAL PROJECTS

- Develop websites (SunsetsInc, LaColon, InfraredSauna, etc.), "shopping list via SMS" service
- Flutter mobile apps (ivearrived.app), SmartThings/SleepNumber integration, wine collection management site

FUN FACTS

- Taught community college extension courses on better computer use, social networks, and MS Office
- Drumline instructor for four SoCal HS drumlines between 2003 and 2012; Founding drummer of touring rock band
- Authored computing book, Obsessable.com gadget blogger, Yelp Black Elite and UCLA Alumni Mentor