Robbie Mackay

Software Developer & Engineering Leader

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A thoughtful technical leader with over 10 years of experience building successful web applications, with a focus on nonprofits and companies that make the world a better place. I thrive in a passionate collaborative team, driven by users' needs and with freedom to make things better.

Experience

Veho – Senior Staff Software Engineer

2024 - Present. Remote
Veho is a consumer focussed delivery startup

- Led warehouse automation work, in collaboration with external vendors and internal operations partners
- Guided supply chain systems towards more defined workflows, enabling more flexibility as Veho's operations evolve
- Led work on warehouse quality monitoring and process management to reduce errors and improve delivery efficiency
- Mentored other engineers within supply chain engineering, and helped to them to find growth opportunities

Typescript, Serverless, DynamoDB, React, GraphQL, CDK, AWS.

Veho – Staff Software Engineer

2022 - 2024. Remote

- Driving engineering wide technical direction towards de-coupled event-driven services, to enable faster iteration and greater stability
- Migrated Veho's client facing order API out of a failing monolith to a multi-region serverless replacement, without downtime or interruption to clients
- Moved engineering towards trunk based deployments on all new services
- Guided teams towards setting up actionable on-call alerts, reducing noise while improving response times
- Designed a north star architecture for Veho's supply chain systems to align teams and reduce churn on individual system designs
- Worked with product and business stakeholders to meet data privacy requirements, allowing Veho to work with larger more established clients
- Built tooling to accelerate engineering teams shipping new features and services
- Contributed to open source tools to enable faster internal development

Typescript, Serverless, DynamoDB, React, GraphQL, CDK, AWS.

Veho – Senior Software Engineer

2021 - 2022. Remote

- Led migration of customer data from a legacy monolith to enable launching a consumer mobile app with > 90k monthly active users, handling > 70% of reroutes (previously entirely manual support)
- Implemented auth and SSO for internal applications using Amazon Cognito
- Designed and built Veho's first warehouse automation backend

Typescript, Serverless, DynamoDB, React, GraphQL.

Private Chef Club – Lead Developer

2019 - 2021. Remote
Private Chef Club is a food delivery startup, serving homestyle meals for families.

- Architected and built the initial SMS and web apps, resulting in > 30% conversion rates from sign up to first order and 60% customer retention at 3 months.
- Automated delivery and support tasks to reduce manual errors and preparation time.
- Built GraphQL/React app to launch local food-maker marketplace.
- Implemented a minimal continuous delivery pipeline for fast, high quality releases, with increased visibility.
- Managed software development team to ensure quality code and on-time delivery.

Python, PostgreSQL, Javascript, React, GraphQL, Svelte, Redis, Celery, Heroku.

Ushahidi – CTO & Lead Developer

2015 - 2018. Remote
Ushahidi is an open-source crowdsourcing platform to collect, manage, visualize, and respond to data from marginalized people or people in crisis situations.

- Led a distributed team of 10 developers spread over 6 countries.
- Progressively improved architecture and migrated from a legacy framework to a modern replacement. Resulting in faster, more stable development, and reduced infrastructure costs.
- Built a multi-tenant dashboard in React for large enterprise clients.
- Designed and built initial Laravel API and Angular UI for TenFour - an emergency check-in tool for teams.
- Moved the dev team to a collaborative agile dev process. Resulting in more predictable releases, and closer integration with product and design.

PHP, Laravel, Kohana, Javascript, React, AngularJS, Python, MySQL, RabbitMQ, Ansible, Terraform.

Ushahidi – Senior Developer

2012 - 2015. Remote
I joined Ushahidi in 2012 to lead development of client projects. In 2014 I led development of a new iteration of Ushahidi software.

- Led development of Ushahidi's open-source crowdsourcing tool.
- Launched SaaS edition of Ushahidi based on our open-source product.
- Technical contact and lead developer on client projects.
- Working within and improving an existing legacy code base over time.
- Deployed, managed and monitored infrastructure for client projects.
- Leading response and mitigation of security issues.

PHP, Laravel, Kohana, Javascript, AngularJS, Python, MySQL, RabbitMQ, Ansible.

Torchbox – Drupal Web Developer

2010 - 2011. Oxford, UK
Torchbox is a digital agency building websites and application for people trying to make the world a better place.

- Developed complex Drupal based sites for charities and nonprofits.
- Scaling and optimising complex Drupal sites through a combination of static caching (with varnish and nginx) and improved app level caching.
- Building tools for fast, standardised development and deployment.

PHP, Drupal, Javascript, Python, MySQL, Sass, HTML, CSS.

Greenpeace New Zealand – Web Developer

2009 - 2010. Auckland, NZ
Joined Greenpeace NZ in 2009 as their first full time developer, initially focussed on supporting a large online campaign around climate change.

- Developed multiple web applications and websites.
- Managing websites and social media feeds during high traffic live events.
- Deployed and optimized online fundraising tools for increased donations.
- Security testing and fixes on legacy web apps.

PHP, Drupal, Silverstripe, Javascript, HTML, CSS, MySQL, PostgreSQL.

Freelance – Web Developer

2002 - 2009
Worked as a freelance web developer part time while studying and then full time for a year. Developed a range of websites and applications for small businesses.

PHP, Silverstripe, Javascript, HTML + CSS.

Education

University of Auckland – Bachelor of Engineering (Computer Systems)

Graduated 2009