Richard B. Winslow

I am a software generalist, deeply experienced in all layers at Internet scale.

Experience

ZipRecruiter — Software Architect
APR 2016 - SEP 2020

ZipRecruiter is an advertising network vying for supremacy in the recruitment market. As a contributor on the Search team, I helped maintain and improve the components and data that fed into the site's job search, salary prediction and budget tracking features (mostly Python), and played a central role in replacing the team's homegrown DevOps automation suite, piece by piece, to align with the organization's multi-year migration into Kubernetes.

As an architect at-large, I led two major design projects, involving many teams, to replace the company's fractured and inaccurate data streams for recording impressions and clicks, devising unified systems and schemata that vastly improved the company's capability to measure and test its business. These projects, like much of the work on the Search team, were heavily influenced by the large scale and velocity of the data. I also provided advice and leadership on several other cross-team projects, including integration APIs with programmatic buying platforms, numerous DevOps topics and technical documentation.

Wizely Finance — Principal Software Architect
JAN 2015 - MAR 2016

Wizely was an early-stage financial technology company that was running a marketplace for credit consultation services when I joined, and that switched gears to creating a white-label solution for small and regional banks and credit unions to offer debt consolidation lending through an easy, responsive [mobile Web app](). I wrote major portions of all the layers of this Django/AngularJS application, and all of its Jenkins-based CI/CD pipeline.

During the earlier, marketplace stage of the company, I also took on a product management role for a short time, conducting exercises such as personas, user journeys and collaborative design to try to nail down product direction.

Zynx Health — Director, Platform Engineering
DEC 2010 - JAN 2015

Zynx is a clinical decision support company, with SaaS solutions helping critical care providers update to the latest evidence-based practices. I started off as architectural lead on a project bolting a workflow feature onto the flagship product, AuthorSpace, using C#/ASP.NET MVC at the back end and ExtJS in front, then led a new team that was assembled to develop a product line around the company's novel AI for matching clinical orders in raw PDFs against a database of best practices. As this product went to market, I was promoted first to Manager and then Director of Platform Engineering, while continuing my daily hands-on implementation work throughout.

Knowledge Analyzer was the company's first cloud-hosted service, its first app running on Linux, its first use of NoSQL, and its first fully automated continuous deployment pipeline (which, in combination with test-driven development and Selenium feature acceptance tests, enabled us to catch bugs otherwise bound for production on a daily basis). We delivered a stable product on budget and exceeded delivery expectations by many weeks.

During this time, I also co-led multiple "boot camps" for interns from a variety of academic institutions, including UCLA and Harvey Mudd College, among others. We designed these programs for maximum hands-on educational value, a win/win that produced three valuable hires for the company. I also produced a two-hour Webinar on RESTful services for the DevExpress YouTube channel that is still, after nine years, the fifth-most-popular video there.

Stamps.com — Software Architect
SEP 1998 - DEC 2010

Stamps.com is a service that enables its customers to print postage directly on envelopes, shipping labels and blank stamps. I was the architect of the client application, which was a native "thick" client (think iTunes) written mostly in C++. I led design, mentored developers and wrote major components in the areas of print layout, user interface, address correction (see PATENTS, below), contact database integration and automation interfaces.

CyberMedia — Senior Software Architect
JUL 1997 - JUL 1998

CyberMedia was a consumer software firm making a suite of utilities for Windows back when apps were sold in shrink-wrapped boxes. I was the architect of their flagship product, First Aid, responsible for 80% of the company's $80M+ per year revenues. After rewriting the product's configuration management strategy, I led the design of a major evolution intended to facilitate dynamic delivery of new diagnostic and remedial features. Before this project could reach fruition, however, the company was liquidated in a hostile takeover.

Recent Skill Highlights

Languages:	Python, Go, JavaScript, Java, Groovy, C#, C++
Data:	DynamoDB, Kafka, MySQL/Aurora (among other SQLs), MarkLogic
Platforms & Tools:	AWS (many services), Kubernetes, Prometheus

Patents

Address matching system and method – Inventor
US ## 7236970, 7743043, 7882094, 8103647 & 8392391

I created a postal address matching service that could correct and update, in-place, differently structured contact data that have been mapped into and back out of the post office's schema (which is harder than it sounds).

Online value bearing item printing – Co-inventor
US # 7149726

This was the central patent describing Stamps.com's approach to storing postage value (akin to cash) online.

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