Ashton Kemerling

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MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

DISNEY | Engineering Manager
2020 - Current | Remote

Key Deliverables
- Saved $36m per year with replacement of legacy pause/resume datastore.
- Cut Hulu Cloud DVR cost by 75% in one quarter without downtime.
- Lead for cross-platform unlimited DVR release, resulting in 50% increase in daily DVR usage.
- First team to deliver production features for the new, unified Disney Streaming technical architecture.
- Replaced all self-hosted infrastructure with cloud native alternatives a year ahead of schedule.
- First incident free Super Bowl for the DVR in Hulu history.

People Management
- Increased head count by 40% in a tight labor market by identifying and interviewing candidates faster than competitors.
- Trained three individual contributors to transition to the management track.
- Mentored three software engineers into senior level positions on the IC track.

Cross Team Impact
- Technical lead for the Unlimited DVR project, coordinating between six technical teams, design, and product.
- Managed QA efforts for the Dancing With The Stars and Hulu on Disney+ releases.
- Founded cross-team best practices committee, reducing duplicated code in new services by 40%.

EDMUNDS.COM | Engineering Manager
2017 - 2019 | Santa Monica, CA

Key Deliverables
- Planned and executed the migration of a dozen lead forms to a single one based on React.
- Reduced P99 API latency from 4s to 250ms, reducing dropped leads by 15%.
- Drove over $5m a year in revue by rapidly delivering on specific OEM requests for ad campaigns.
- First lead form in Edmunds history to survive a region failure.
- Developed a unified lead form for nine pages with different product owners.
- Reduced lead form iteration time by 90% with internal self-help tooling for product owners.
- Designed a system for protecting customer data in close collaboration with Data Analytics.

People Management
- Redesigned and unified the hiring process for all backend engineers.
- Led the hiring committee as the sole non-executive engineering member to completely redesign the hiring process.
- Recreated the engineering career ladder for clarity and growth opportunities.

ENGINEERING EXPERIENCE

DRW TRADING | Senior Software Engineer
2015 - 2017 | Chicago, IL

- Part of the team that maintained the company's trade & position store and the trading instrument reference application.
- Completed rewrite of the process to import financial futures for better performance and reliability.
- Wrote an application analyzing bond interest, providing better accuracy than a Bloomberg terminal.
- Maintained system uptime during the record breaking trading days of Brexit and the 2016 election.
- Wrote services to automate end of day back end processes, saving dozens of hours of labor per week.
- Improved internal devops tools, adding features to save hours of work per sprint.
- Administered over 100 dedicated servers and VMs using a mixture of open source and proprietary observability tools.

PIVOTAL LABS | Software Engineer
2013 - 2015 | Denver, CO

Full stack engineer for one of Pivotal Lab's only B2C offerings, Pivotal Tracker.

- Implemented generative testing to find reliable reproduction steps for both long running bugs, and new bug reports.
- Diagnosed and resolved a memory leak in Chrome, reducing memory usage by an order of magnitude.
- Finished years long migration from Rails 2 to Rails 3, including porting documentation critical rspec patches.
- Completed years long rewrite of the SPA front end, including cleaning up the git history.
- Introduced React to Pivotal Tracker, to replace increasingly hard to support backbone.js code base.

NARRATIVE SCIENCE | Software Engineer
2012 - 2013 | Chicago, IL

- Sole engineer for company's only public facing product, Quill for Google Analytics.
- Wrote and monitored ELT & ETL pipelines for high value customers.
- Spearheaded effort to migrate to immutable infrastructure for better reliability and reduced cost.

ONSHORE DEVELOPMENT | Intern & Junior Software Engineer
2011 - 2012 | Chicago, IL

- Particated in rewrite of the core allocator to reduce processing time from minutes to seconds.
- Replaced custom Perl deployment scripts with open-source Chef, reducing deployment time by 60%.
- Created localization library to translate the application for international customers for the first time.

SKILLS

LEADERSHIP

Technical
Agile • Roadmap creation • Cloud native architecture • Requirements refinement

People
Mentorship • Performance Management • Hiring

Processes
Retrospectives • Incident Management • On Call

TECHNICAL

Programming Languages
Java • Python • Javascript • Rust

Tools
Kubernetes • Helm • Spinnaker • AWS

Databases
PostgreSQL • DynamoDB • Redis • ScyllaDB

EDUCATION

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO | BS in Computer Science
2012 | Chicago, IL

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO | BS in Mathematics
2012 | Chicago, IL