Brian Gaines

Software Engineering Manager | Modern Web and Mobile Platforms| Engineering Leadership
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SKILLS

Technical Skills:

- Frontend & Mobile Development: React, React Native, Next.js, JavaScript, TypeScript, Flutter, HTML5, CSS3, Responsive Design
- APIs & Integration: REST API, GraphQL, Third-Party API Integration, WebSockets, SignalR
- AI & Machine Learning: Prompt Engineering, AI-Assisted Development, LLM Integration, ChatGPT, Claude AI, Google Gemini
- State Management & Testing: Redux, MobX, Jest, Cypress, Unit Testing, Integration Testing
- Backend Development: Node.js, Express.js, ASP.NET, .NET, SQL, SQL Server, Oracle, SQLite
- DevOps & CI/CD: Git, GitHub, GitLab, GitHub Actions, Travis CI, App Center, Automated Testing, Build Automation
- Mobile App Distribution: App Store Connect, Apple Developer Portal, Google Play Console, Release Management
- Cloud & Infrastructure: Microsoft Azure (Foundational Knowledge)

Leadership & Management:

- Engineering Management: Team Leadership, Cross-Functional Collaboration, Performance Management, Talent Development
- Agile & Scrum: Sprint Planning, Backlog Management, Agile Methodologies, Stakeholder Management
- Communication: Technical Documentation, Client Relations, Executive Reporting, Mentorship, Code Review
- Strategic Planning: Roadmap Development, Resource Allocation, Process Optimization, Architectural Decision-Making

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Engineering Manager with 20+ years of experience leading distributed teams and delivering scalable full-stack applications and mobile solutions for enterprise clients. Proven track record in mobile commerce, real-time systems, and white-label platform development. Hands-on experience with React, React Native, ASP.NET, JavaScript/Typescript, modern frontend architectures, CI/CD automation, agile team management, and cross-functional collaboration. Skilled in driving technical excellence through mentorship, code quality standards, and strategic process improvements in collaborative, product-driven environments. Experienced in managing complete software development lifecycles from architecture and implementation to production deployment and stakeholder communication.

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineering Manager, Branding Brand, June 2022 – May 2025

- Led globally distributed engineering teams of up to 8 direct reports, delivering mobile commerce applications for major retail brands including Boot Barn, Country Road, Mimco, Witchery, and CVS Health by implementing agile development practices, establishing code review standards, and fostering cross-functional collaboration with product and design teams.
- Architected and deployed a scalable white-label mobile platform that reduced time-to-market for three co-branded applications by maintaining a unified React Native codebase with shared components, enabling rapid feature deployment and consistent user experiences across multiple retail brands.
- Improved team velocity and code quality by implementing strategic process optimizations including automated testing workflows, standardized development practices, and enhanced CI/CD pipelines, resulting in increased deployment frequency and reduced production incidents.
- Managed stakeholder relationships and client communications by translating technical requirements into business value, conducting regular status updates, and aligning engineering roadmaps with client objectives to ensure on-time project delivery and client satisfaction.

- Established code quality standards and security best practices through comprehensive code review processes, secure development guidelines, and continuous technical oversight across multiple repositories, ensuring maintainable and secure application architecture.
- Drove team development and retention by providing hands-on mentorship, conducting performance reviews, identifying growth opportunities, and implementing career development plans that enhanced technical skills and promoted engineering excellence.
- Coordinated mobile app release management and CI/CD workflows by overseeing build processes, managing App Store Connect and Google Play Console submissions, and automating distribution pipelines to accelerate cross-platform deployment cycles.
- Conducted hands-on exploration of AI-assisted development using Claude, Google Gemini, and AI coding agents to build full-stack applications, evaluating AI's strategic value for accelerating development workflows and informing future process optimization.

Senior Software Engineer, National Powersport Auctions, Feb 2019 – June 2022

- Modernized legacy carrier mobile application by designing and developing an offline-first React Native solution using JavaScript, MobX, and SQLite with .NET Core API integration, enabling real-time vehicle tracking, secure communications, and optimized scheduling capabilities that provided comprehensive vehicle status visibility for operational teams.
- Built five production-grade real-time auction applications comprising a complete Simulcast Software suite with mobile bidding capabilities using React, MobX, and JavaScript integrated with SignalR WebSockets and .NET Core APIs, achieving sub-500ms response times and processing over $50M in monthly sales transactions.
- Developed Digital Ad Pack feature using ASP.NET, jQuery, AngularJS, and SQL Server that enabled dealers to purchase and download vehicle marketing media on the same day as acquisition, reducing inventory marketing turnaround time from two weeks to same-day availability.
- Implemented dealer checkout and payment processing workflows within account management and internal auction systems using ASP.NET, jQuery, and SQL stored procedures, streamlining post-auction vehicle procurement for both dealer clients and internal operations staff.

Senior Applications Developer & Team Lead, National Futures Association, 2003 – Aug 2017

- Redesigned enterprise dashboard application from the ground up using jQuery, JavaScript, AJAX, ASP.NET, and Oracle, delivering a comprehensive financial requirements portal that enabled member firms to view and manage regulatory obligations while mentoring development team members on system architecture and maintenance.
- Led architecture and development of Phase 1 web application migration from legacy MS Access system to modern platform using ASP.NET, jQuery, AJAX, Oracle, and Bootstrap, creating administrative interfaces, search functionality, and compliance checklists that improved regulatory monitoring efficiency for financial auditors.
- Pioneered database-driven statement generator framework for EasyFile application that enabled rapid development and deployment of regulatory reporting tools in response to industry rule changes, establishing reusable architecture patterns adopted across twelve subsequent applications throughout the organization.
- Managed IT project delivery as Technical Project Manager by leading design sessions, creating project timelines, allocating resources, and producing technical documentation while coordinating framework upgrades, authentication implementations, and QA testing cycles.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Geology, 1995
Illinois State University, Normal, IL