

Ronnie Taylor

Senior Staff Engineer

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Summary

Results-oriented Software Engineer with a strong foundation in backend software development, payment systems, payment gateways, leadership, systems infrastructure, and a track record of building robust and scalable applications. Experienced in team mentorship, systems architecture, and collaboration with DevOps teams. Eager to contribute to a challenging and innovative environment as a Senior Staff Engineer, Engineering Team Lead, or Engineering Manager.

Skills

Product development, payment systems, payment gateways, Fintech, leadership, mentoring, Github Copilot, AWS, EC2, ECS, S3, RDS, ElastiCache, Athena, Cloudwatch, Azure, DevOps, Ruby on Rails, test driven development, SQL, Microsoft SQL Server, Javascript, React, Ractive, Python, Docker, CI/CD, CircleCI, Github Actions, OAuth2, Vault and Consul.

Experience

Veracross | United States | Remote

Leveraged extensive experience in software development and scalable application development to contribute to the design, development, and maintenance of Veracross's core platforms. Designed and built various customer-facing and backend features across application stacks, contributing to enhanced user experience and functionality.

Senior Staff Engineer – March 2024 – June 2025

As the tech lead for the Platform Team, I coordinated with engineers across Australia, South America, the United States and Europe to deliver high-quality, scalable infrastructure. By mentoring teammates and integrating AI tools such as GitHub Copilot and local large language models, I accelerated development velocity and improved code reliability, directly supporting the company's product roadmap and reducing time-to-market. I partnered with third-party penetration-testing vendors to audit, document and remediate application vulnerabilities, strengthening platform security, enhancing customer trust, and lowering incident risk. I also guided the migration of our CI/CD pipeline from CircleCI to GitHub Actions, cutting build times by 45% and increasing deployment confidence. Additionally, I organized company-wide Lightning Talk sessions that broadened technical knowledge across teams, promoting a learning culture that boosts employee retention and drives future growth.

Staff Product Engineer – March 2020 – March 2024

I led key platform initiatives that drove measurable business value. I extended our OAuth2 system to support various external authentication providers. I engineered a granular access-management system that cut employee onboarding and offboarding time by half, accelerating workforce agility. By adding internationalization to our core applications, I enabled the company to serve global internal customers without separate codebases, reducing support overhead. I collaborated with DevOps to modernize our AWS infrastructure, which improved scalability and reliability, lowering downtime costs. Additionally, I standardized Docker images for MSSQL databases, allowing developers to spin up local environments instantly and reducing environment-related defects. Throughout the period I mentored junior engineers, encouraging ongoing learning and skill growth that sustained product quality and innovation.

Web Services Manager – March 2018– January 2020

As Web Services Manager (March 2018– January 2020) I led a high-performing team that delivered mission-critical APIs, payment processing, and other internal services. By instituting test-driven development I increased automated test coverage from near 0% to roughly 85%, dramatically reducing regressions and improving release confidence. I also spearheaded the organization's first CI/CD pipeline on CircleCI, cutting deployment times by 70% and enabling faster, more reliable releases. Through hands-on mentorship of junior engineers I built a skilled talent pipeline that maintained 99.99% uptime and sustained long-term product quality.

Senior Software Engineer – April 2016 – March 2018

I partnered with senior colleagues to upgrade and extend a tuition and incidentals payment platform that processes over a billion dollars annually. The enhancements I contributed to increased system availability to 99.998% and tightened security controls, protecting customer data and compliance requirements. Working closely with DevOps, I implemented robust monitoring and support processes that reduced downtime incidents by 40% and enabled faster incident response.

AppZero | Lead Software Developer | May 2012 – March 2016 | United States & Canada | Remote

I led the development of a web service that enabled AppZero's proprietary app-virtualization tool to move Windows applications across data centers, using Ruby, Sinatra, Rails, PostgreSQL and AWS. By partnering with executive leadership, sales, and product engineering, I translated strategic goals into functional requirements and guided the team to deliver a robust solution that accelerated customer migrations, reduced downtime, and increased customer satisfaction. I also helped shape the overall architecture of the Zapp platform, ensuring that it met stringent scalability, reliability, and security standards and positioned the company for rapid growth in the cloud-migration market.

Ronnie Taylor Consulting | Web Developer | January 2007 – May 2012 | Hybrid Remote

I ran a web-development consultancy serving clients across the United States and Canada, building and deploying custom sites with HTML, CSS, JavaScript, PHP, MySQL and PostgreSQL. By handling the full project cycle—from concept and design collaboration to deployment and maintenance—I cut time-to-market, increased user engagement and boosted conversion rates. A responsive e-commerce platform I delivered for a retailer grew online sales by 20% in the first quarter. I also implemented SEO best practices and CMS solutions (Drupal, WordPress, Codelgniter) to give clients control over content and high visibility.

Interactive Media Manager – The Herald (McClatchy Newspapers, Rock Hill, SC)

April 2007 – April 2008 (1 year 1 month)

Managed the IT and Interactive Media departments, overseeing project management, product development, web programming, annual budgeting, and coordination between local corporate offices.

Education

Winthrop University – Business Administration and Management, General (1995–2002)