

Randall Leeds

Full-stack software architect building solutions for a complex society.

Employment History

The New York Times (Sep. 2022 — Jun. 2025)

As a Staff Software Engineer, I worked across organizational boundaries between product engineering, information security, and corporate infrastructure to speed up strategic transitions for business-critical publishing applications.

TypeScript (Next, Express), Java (Spring), Go, Open Policy Agent, Hydra, MySQL, Elasticsearch, ActiveMQ, Amazon Web Services, Google Cloud Platform, Kubernetes, Istio, Docker, Terraform, Vault

- Architected identity solutions to integrate systems across sub-brands and turn news publishing applications into a company-wide publishing platform
- Replaced on-premise network appliances with cloud-native application gateways to migrate the publishing platform to the company's new cloud platform
- Configured identity federations to move workload migrations across clouds
- Provided critical feedback and partnership to platform engineering teams on developer experience and platform features
- Championed monorepo adoption to improve collaboration across teams

The New York Times (Jan. 2020 — Sep. 2022)

As a Senior Software Engineer, I enabled new products to ship more quickly by working to polish and extend the core collaborative text editing application for news publishing.

TypeScript (React, ProseMirror, Express), Google Cloud Platform, Kubernetes, Docker, Terraform

- Established safer integration patterns for React and ProseMirror, releasing an open source library that became the basis for text editing development at the company
- Re-architected asynchronous task management to minimize production incidents and improve their recovery time
- Developed an idiomatic REST API for integrations from other applications
- Modernized build, deployment, packaging, linting, and typing

Remix (Apr. 2017 — Dec. 2019)

As an individual contributor and as a founding member of an organization-wide front-end engineering working group, I accelerated development and deployment of web-based geospatial applications for city transportation planners.

TypeScript (React), Python (Cython, Celery, Flask), Ruby (Rails), PostgreSQL, Redis, Amazon Web Services, Docker, Terraform

- Developed abstractions to enable rapid migration of an application from Leaflet to Mapbox GL
- Developed organizational capacity to begin continuous deployment of microservices
- Transitioned a major project out of active development and prepared it for long term maintenance

Medal (Jan. 2016 — Dec. 2016)

As the first full-time engineering hire, I recruited a team of engineers to develop solutions for medical records management in clinical and research settings.

Python (Django), C#, Amazon Web Services, Docker, Terraform, Vault

- Developed infrastructure-as-code supporting deployment under strict compliance requirements
- Established interviewing and onboarding processes for new engineers

Hypothes.is (Dec. 2011 — Sep. 2015)

I worked as technical lead of a not-for-profit initiative to develop open source annotation services supporting digital research, publishing and pedagogy.

Python (Pyramid), JavaScript (AngularJS), Elasticsearch, PostgreSQL, Amazon Web Services, Docker, Ansible, Terraform

- Contributed to standards for digital annotation as a member of the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) Web Annotations Working Group
- Developed modern, open-source JavaScript applications, libraries and browser extensions

Meebo (Sep. 2009 — Dec. 2011)

Python (Gevent, Twisted), C, Erlang, CouchDB, Cassandra, Redis, Graphite, Nginx, Puppet

- Introduced co-routine techniques for reducing memory use and time-to-ship for microservices
- Contributed to Apache CouchDB, becoming an active project maintainer

Technical Honors and Experience

Programming Languages and Tools

Python: 15 years of professional experience developing web applications.

Infrastructure: 12 years of experience with infrastructure as code and a range of popular tools, platforms, and standards.

JavaScript: 12 years of experience developing web applications. I follow language proposals and Web Platform standards development. I have experience with a range of popular frameworks and tools.

I am comfortable working in C, C++, C#, Java, Python, Ruby, Go, and Erlang.

Open Source Maintenance

I have been a committer to the Apache CouchDB database, a maintainer of the Unicorn WSGI server, and a founding engineering of Hypothes.is, along with more diffuse and informal contributions to numerous projects.

**White House
Champions
of Change**

I co-developed a prototype application for communities to build a directory of social services organizations obtaining an invitation to an Open Data round-table with administration officials and other honorees.

Education

2005-2009

BSc, Computer Science; Brown University (Providence, RI)

Other skills

- Human Languages:
 - English (first language)
 - Spanish (intermediate reading/writing)
- Scrum leadership training

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