

Joseph Rounds

Founder & Principal Engineer — Lighthouse Consulting

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Software engineering leader with 25+ years architecting, building, and owning production systems end-to-end — from Fortune 10 healthcare platforms to venture-backed startups where I served as founding or lead architect. Deep, hands-on expertise in AWS-native backend architecture, event-driven systems, and full-stack development with Node.js/TypeScript, complemented by strong experience across Python/Django, Java/Spring Boot, and C#/.NET. Consistently the primary technical owner on complex applications — responsible for architecture, API design, database design, performance, testing, and production support — while also leading and mentoring engineering teams.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Backend & Cloud Architecture — AWS (Lambda, API Gateway, RDS, EC2, IAM, CloudWatch), Node.js/TypeScript, event-driven & serverless design, Terraform, Docker, Kubernetes, CI/CD

Engineering Leadership — Team building, mentorship, Agile/Scrum, technical roadmapping, project management

Full-Stack Development — API design, database design & optimization, React/React Native, Python/Django, Java/Spring Boot, C#/.NET

Quality & Production Support — Code review standards, automated testing, monitoring & observability, incident response, security remediation

LIGHTHOUSE CONSULTING — INDEPENDENT ENGINEERING PRACTICE

Founder & Principal Engineer

2003 – Present

Independent architecture, full-stack development, and technical ownership for startups, enterprises, and government clients, run alongside full-time roles.

E-Commerce & Retail Systems

- Independently designed and built a website for an equipment leasing company that scaled to \$200 million in yearly sales.
- Integrated multiple e-commerce platforms — Volusion, BigCommerce, WooCommerce, UltraCart, Shopify, and ApparelMagic — with a drop shipper's shipping software through custom web services.
- Built and launched Ambianik.com, a local deal site, for 20 West Media Inc. using ASP.NET, C#, and jQuery.
- Established an e-commerce site for a dried food company on Magento and built a stock-sync integration between an online scrub retailer and its supplier.
- Migrated and maintained a WordPress platform for a large press company.

Healthcare & Data Systems

- Optimized a medical client's database reporting pipeline (PHP, MySQL, and Microsoft SQL Server) by configuring a linked SQL Server connection to eliminate slow cross-database queries, cutting report generation time from 2 days to under an hour.

Financial & Government Systems

- Served as contractor to architect and build the backend financial software for the Nigerian Consulate.
- Developed the backend for a casino player's portal using REST web services and C#.
- Diagnosed and resolved production bugs for a small online financial company's classic ASP platform.

Enterprise Consulting

- Secured and delivered a consulting engagement with a major law firm to design and manage their corporate website, providing ongoing technical support for a client base generating \$200k–\$300k in annual revenue.

WORK EXPERIENCE

BlockSkye — USA (Remote)

2025 – Present

Lead Engineer, Atlas Team

- Serve as the primary backend architect for the Atlas team's services, driving design decisions on data flow, service boundaries, and third-party integration patterns.
- Lead development of cloud-native logistics and travel platform services using Node.js, PHP, and AWS technologies.
- Design event-driven architectures leveraging AWS Lambda, asynchronous messaging, and serverless patterns to handle high-volume, time-sensitive logistics and travel workflows with improved scalability and resilience.

- Build and maintain RESTful APIs and backend microservices supporting high-volume transaction processing and third-party integrations across the travel and logistics ecosystem.
- Develop and optimize CI/CD pipelines using modern DevOps practices, enabling automated testing, deployment, and infrastructure validation.
- Architect and deploy solutions on AWS, utilizing services including Lambda, API Gateway, S3, CloudWatch, IAM, and RDS.
- Collaborate with product, engineering, and operations teams to deliver secure, highly available enterprise applications.
- Drive system modernization initiatives, improving performance, observability, and operational efficiency across distributed services.
- Establish engineering standards for code quality, security, testing, and release management.

Highspring — USA (Remote)

2025 – 2026

Technical consultant placed with enterprise clients through Highspring, an IT staffing and consulting firm; engagements below.

Senior DevOps Engineer, Stifel Financial

- Audited Azure and AWS environments using Wiz to identify security vulnerabilities across cloud infrastructure and application dependencies.
- Worked directly with the client's engineering team to prioritize and remediate identified security issues.
- Researched and upgraded third-party libraries across Node.js, Java, .NET Core, and Python/Django services to close known vulnerabilities and reduce security debt.

Lead Engineer, Intact

- Delivered new feature development for a production API endpoint using Java, Spring Boot, Microsoft SQL, and NHibernate.
- Diagnosed and resolved existing defects in the API, working from production logs and reported incidents.
- Led a team of 5 developers across backend and frontend, mentoring junior engineers on code quality and testing practices.

Lead Full Stack Engineer, Kawasaki

- Designed and implemented a financing application portal end-to-end, from API design through UI, using React, TypeScript, Node.js, and Elasticsearch.
- Developed and deployed backend APIs in C#/.NET Core via AWS pipelines, with integrated automated testing to catch regressions before release.
- Worked closely with QA and the client to triage bugs and translate new requirements into technical scope.

Voicelove — Boston, MA (Remote Startup)

Architect / Lead Engineer (Direct Hire)

2024 – 2025

- Directed end-to-end technical architecture for a HIPAA-compliant hospital, patient, and family communication platform, from system design through production deployment and ongoing support.
- Architected a service-oriented Node.js/TypeScript backend with Sequelize/MySQL, designing the data model and API layer to meet HIPAA requirements for access control, audit logging, and encryption of PHI in transit and at rest.
- Designed and implemented the platform's core RESTful APIs, establishing conventions for authentication, versioning, and error handling that were adopted across backend, mobile, and admin teams.
- Built an AI-driven pipeline to transform Figma designs into React Native screens, accelerating mobile releases by 30%.
- Directed a 10-person engineering team across backend, mobile, and web; established code review and testing standards that improved release quality and reduced regressions.
- Established and maintained the AWS production environment (SNS, SES, SMS, RDS, EC2, IAM, CloudWatch, CodePipeline, CodeDeploy) and Terraform-based infrastructure-as-code, including monitoring and incident response for production issues.
- Built an admin portal with React and TypeScript for app management; administered mobile deployment through Samsung Knox and evaluated hardware for hospital use.
- Acted as interim project manager and primary technical point of contact to the CEO, translating business priorities into engineering roadmaps.

Lead Software Engineer, Contractor

2023 – 2024

- Served as technical architect for Voicelove prior to converting to the direct-hire leadership role above; established the initial backend architecture in Node.js and MySQL.
- Led a team of 10 engineers across backend, mobile, and web during the platform's early build-out; set timelines and feature scope to keep delivery on track.
- Provisioned the initial AWS environment (SNS, SES, SMS, RDS, EC2, IAM, IAM Identity Center, CloudWatch, CodeDeploy).
- Performed cross-team code reviews and mentored junior developers; served as the primary technical contact for the client, including the CEO.

Aliro Quantum — Brighton, MA (Remote Startup)

2022 – 2023

Senior Backend Engineer

- Architected the backend for the company's core platform, designing the Python/Django service layer and its API contracts together with the front-end team.
- Designed and built a user management system covering authentication, authorization, and account lifecycle, improving both security and user experience.
- Instituted user authentication and access-control patterns to protect sensitive data.
- Containerized the application with Docker to standardize deployment and eliminate environment-specific bugs across dev, staging, and production.

Molar — New York, NY (Remote Startup)

2022

Senior Software Engineer (Founding Engineer)

- Joined as the sole backend engineer to build a healthcare and benefits integration platform from the ground up, owning all architecture and technical decisions as founding technical lead.
- Designed the system architecture and data pipelines using Python/Django and Docker, including services to ingest and normalize Medispan drug reference data and historical Medicare claims data.
- Made core architectural decisions around data modeling, service boundaries, and deployment strategy, balancing near-term delivery against long-term maintainability for a pre-revenue startup.
- Drove system performance and reliability as the sole engineer, handling everything from schema design to production troubleshooting.

Doctor On Demand — San Francisco, CA (Remote Startup)

2020 – 2021

Senior Python Engineer, Tech Lead

- Led backend feature delivery on a Django/Postgres telehealth platform and integrated the SureScripts API for e-prescribing and prescription automation.
- Diagnosed and resolved race conditions in asynchronous Celery task processing, improving the reliability of background jobs on the platform.
- Led bug triage and resolution in the Django backend, working directly from production issue reports.
- Wrote data-import services to load Medispan drug reference data into the platform's database.

IntelyCare — Quincy, MA (Startup)

2019 – 2020

Senior Backend Engineer, Tech Lead

- Architected the backend for a healthcare staffing SaaS platform built on Python/Django, Golang, and MySQL, serving as technical lead for the team.
- Designed and shipped a COVID-19 training feature in under two weeks at the onset of the pandemic, prioritizing scope and architecture decisions under significant time pressure.
- Managed a team of 4 developers and 3 interns; served as interim Scrum Master, running daily standups and sprint planning.
- Instituted full-stack code review standards and partnered with QA to drive down production defects and improve release quality.
- Collaborated with the team to architect and launch the platform's cloud infrastructure, taking it from local development to a production-ready cloud deployment.

AirCycler — Marshfield, MA (Startup)

2018 – 2019

Senior Software Engineer

- Wrote firmware for ESP32-based fan controllers using C/C++ with the ESP-IDF library and AWS IoT.
- Developed a backend app using Node.js and MongoDB; built an iPhone app using Swift.
- Built a Raspberry Pi-based RFID reader for beach access stickers using Python, PHP, and MySQL.
- Orchestrated the release to AWS to ensure long-term sustainability of the software solution.

Foley Hoag — Boston, MA

2017 – 2018

Senior Application Developer

- Coached the team on completing a customer portal using Angular, .NET, and MongoDB.
- Wrote internal data feeds using .NET Core, C#, SQL, SSIS, Entity Framework, and Python.
- Created an email subscription program using Node.js, SQL, Bootstrap, C#, and .NET.
- Established a new intranet using .NET Nuke, C#, ASP.NET, and SharePoint; directed SVN release and code base management.

Jenzabar — Boston, MA (Remote)

2015 – 2017

Senior Software Engineer

- Improved student retention software using C#, WCF, SQL, NHibernate, jQuery, and JavaScript.
- Coached a team of 6 on agile principles and mentored junior developers.
- Managed SVN release and code base maintenance.

McKesson — Waltham, MA

2014 – 2015

Software Engineer

- Streamlined patient care management SOA using MVC, C#, WCF, SSRS, and JavaScript for this Fortune 10 healthcare company.
- Developed software to coordinate government PQRS reporting using MVC, WCF, SQL, Java, SSIS, SSRS, and Entity Framework.

JJILL — Quincy, MA

2013 – 2014

Senior Web Developer

- Coached and mentored junior developers; wrote new features into an existing e-commerce site using JavaScript, ASP.NET, and VB.NET.
- Reverse-engineered existing middleware applications and added new functionality using C# and VB.NET.
- Collaborated with outside vendors to optimize site performance; integrated the company website with PayPal for payment processing.

Organogenesis — Canton, MA

2012 – 2013

Systems Programmer

- Wrote iPad applications via Xcode and Objective-C to manage inventory and sales using C# and AX.
- Implemented new features in a B2B ordering e-commerce site using VB.NET and MVC.
- Documented reports from Microsoft CRM and Microsoft AX using SSRS; implemented data synchronization.

Agero, Inc. (formerly Cross Country Automotive) — Medford, MA

2011 – 2012

Software Engineer

- Built applications to manage ETL operations via C# SOAP services and Oracle; implemented Opalis policies to handle data loads.
- Troubleshoot bugs in existing reporting applications written in C#, SQR, and C.
- Built billing software integrated with PayPal payments and reporting software in C#; designed and deployed applications to the Azure cloud.

SmartCo Services, LLC — Taunton, MA

2011 – 2012

Software Engineer / Contractor (Full/Part-time)

- Developed applications to coordinate ETL operations using C# REST and SOAP services running in the Azure cloud.
- Built a multi-tier communication application to retrieve data from DMS systems; optimized SQL queries and stored procedures.
- Composed reports using Microsoft Reporting Services.

LifePlans, Inc. — Waltham, MA

2010 – 2011

Application Developer

- Designed applications to resolve bugs in and coordinate ETL operations using C#, Visual Basic 6, ASP, ASP.NET, and SQL.
- Composed ad-hoc reports via SQL; provided technical support to customers on in-house applications.

Isobar (formerly Molecular) — Watertown, MA

2008 – 2010

Application Administrator

- Conceptualized a revamp strategy for corporate intranet applications using C#, Visual Basic, ASP, ASP.NET, SOAP, JavaScript, SQL, and SharePoint.
- Revised the corporate website for a multi-million-dollar e-commerce firm; established a corporate bug-tracking system.
- Administered Microsoft SQL databases and Linux servers.

Hyperion Catalysis — Cambridge, MA

2005 – 2008

Help Desk Coordinator

- Instituted the Help Desk coordinator position to support 60+ users; coordinated the Nortel phone system.
- Organized the corporate website using JavaScript and HTML; created and distributed sales and inventory Crystal Reports.
- Designed a database to track all IT assets using Visual Basic and Access; recommended and installed network hardware and software.

Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (MCPHS) — Boston, MA

2004 – 2005

Help Desk Technician

- Established departmental technology by configuring, installing, and selecting hardware and software.
- Reduced customer complaints by 60% through timely resolution of pocket PC and laptop issues across a 500+ user environment.
- Independently supported Macintosh computers and Palm-based devices for 50 clients; managed Active Directory for 1,500 faculty, staff, and students.

- Researched, recommended, and installed 4 multi-user wireless kiosks on Linux for 700+ student users.

Francis IT — Boston, MA

2004

Computer Analyst

- Assisted housing authorities with multi-site environments, coordinating installation, troubleshooting, and services for new clients.
- Synthesized network data effectively.

Intelinet — Boston, MA

2003 – 2004

Technician & Mac Guru

- Established a tech support process for Macintosh and Linux OS; provided onsite network support for homes and businesses.
- Resolved virus-infected laptops and troubleshot wired and wireless networks.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Computer Science

University of Massachusetts Boston — Boston, MA

Associate Degree, Computer Science

New Hampshire Community Technical College — Nashua, NH

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

Microsoft Office Specialist — 2007

Certificate in Fiber Optics, New Hampshire Community Technical College — 2004

Eagle Scout Award, Boy Scouts of America — 1998

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

English (Native), German (A2), Spanish (A1)

TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE

Languages & Frameworks — Python/Django, Java/Spring Boot, C#/.NET, Node.js, TypeScript, React/React Native, Golang, Swift, Angular, ASP.NET, Visual Basic, C, C++, Objective-C

Cloud & DevOps — AWS, Azure, Terraform, Docker, Kubernetes, CI/CD, Git

Databases & Data — SQL, PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, SSIS, NHibernate, Sequelize, JSON

APIs & Integration — SOAP & REST Web Services, Elasticsearch, WordPress, Microsoft CRM, Microsoft AX

Platforms & Tools — Xcode, iOS/iPad/iPhone, Crystal Reports, Microsoft Reporting Services, Windows Server, Linux, Mac OS X