

Mike Roberts

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Software Engineering & Architecture

Software Design & Development | People Leadership | Product Architecture & Strategy

I am a technology leader with over two decades of experience building and scaling cloud platforms, leading high-performing engineering teams, and driving strategic software initiatives. I have a strong track record of architecting scalable, secure, and resilient cloud solutions, with expertise in AWS, distributed systems, and data streaming. Passionate about innovation and execution, I excel at fostering cross-functional collaboration, mentoring talent, and driving operational excellence. I thrive in fast-paced environments, transforming complex systems into efficient, high-impact solutions that align technology with business goals.

LEADERSHIP & TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

Leadership: System Design, Architecture, Strategic Planning, Communication, Scrum, Agile Methodology, People Management, Mentoring, Hiring, Performance Management, Process Definition, Cross-functional Collaboration

Cloud: AWS, Dynamo, EC2, ECS / Fargate, EKS, ELB, Kinesis, Lambda, RDS, S3, SNS / SQS, Terraform

Backend: Kotlin, Scala, Java, Ruby, Python, GraphQL, MySQL, Postgres, Redis, Kafka, Maven, Gradle

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CarGurus — Cambridge, MA (April 2021 - present)

Senior Manager of Algorithmic Traffic Acquisition

- **Leadership**

- Managed the recommendation and content teams within ATA.
- Interviewed all department full-time, contractor, co-op, and intern candidates.
- Built feature roadmaps in coordination with product managers in other parts of CarGurus.
- Proposed and implemented a cross-company "user stitching service" to bring together formerly siloed data sources, enabling improved personalization algorithms across CarGurus' properties.

- **Technical**

- Architected the standard Kotlin platform and framework used by ATA.
- Designed and managed CI/CD system, reducing feature lead time from several days to 15 minutes.
- Developed custom auto-scaling algorithms to leverage AWS reservations into \$100k monthly savings.
- Redesigned the recommendation engine's AWS infrastructure to guarantee a 50ms SLA.
- Spearheaded architectural patterns implementation, enhancing system scalability and maintainability, resulting in 60% improved performance on the recommendation engine.

- **Partnership Management**

- Managed ATA's partner relationships with external advertisers.
- Reduced partner onboarding from 6+ months to 30 days.
- Managed the procurement process for software vendors.

- **Business Impact**

- Grew recommendations to account for 25% of CarGurus' overall revenue.
- Maintained paid channels revenue share at 40% while reducing costs and increasing overall lead value through increased advertising efficiency.

Indigo Agriculture — Charlestown, MA (June 2019 - April 2021)

Principal Engineer (Manager and Architect), Enterprise Services

- Managed Indigo's back office settlements team: 3 engineers.
- Developed the first high-availability, 24/7 uptime services at Indigo, instituting off-hours coverage plans and runbooks.
- Designed and implemented Indigo's enterprise service bus, enabling asynchronous connections between dozens of microservices.
- Architected Indigo's core event-sourcing system, enabling fault tolerant transactions on the grain trading marketplace.

Salsify — Boston, MA (December 2016 - June 2019)

Principal Engineer (Manager), Platform Services

- Developed a new asynchronous job system to handle 10s of millions of jobs daily, fairly and quickly across Salsify's SaaS customer base.
- Built Salsify's GraphQL framework and converted the first 4 microservices from REST APIs to GraphQL.
- Productionized Salsify's asynchronous, microservice event bus on Kafka, enabling replay tolerant event sourcing at a millions of daily events scale.

Leaf Holdings — Cambridge, MA (November 2013 - May 2015)

Software Engineering Manager (Director), Platform

- Led the Android and platform teams: 3 managers and 18 engineers.
- Developed Leaf's pre-funding proof-of-concept into a production system serving 1000s of SaaS restaurant customers.
- Hired dozens of local and remote engineers.
- Designed and implemented a novel, Paxos-based distributed, eventually consistent data-store co-homed on Android tablets and AWS.

Smarter Travel Media — Charlestown, MA (April 2009 - April 2013)

Software Engineering Manager (Director), Platform

- Built Tingo.com, a new, ground-up online travel agency, managing 12 engineers.
- Ensured quality by implementing continuous integration and test-driven development processes, leading to 99.9 %+ uptime.
- Worked closely with customer support and product management teams to ensure the perfect vacation for 10s of thousands of customers.
- Designed the scalable Tingo microservice platform and components to power other TripAdvisor sites' infrastructure.
- Ran STM's architectural review board, vetting technology decisions across all of STM's departments.

EDUCATION

Worcester Polytechnic Institute — Worcester, MA (1997 - 2002)

Bachelor of Science, Computer Science

- **Major Qualifying Project:** Testing clustered Apache web server performance
- **Interactive Qualifying Project:** Shakespeare on display

Bachelor of Science, Theatre

- **Major Qualifying Project:** Virtual reality engine investigation

FAQ

Shell? zsh

Vim or Emacs Vim

Kanban or Scrum? Kanban, but every team is different

Star Trek or Star Wars? Star Trek

Kirk or Picard? Janeway