James Ramsey III

Full-Stack Engineer | Architect | Builder

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Summary

Hands-on engineer and architect who ships production code daily. I build multi-tenant SaaS platforms, full-stack web apps, and the infrastructure that runs them. Deep expertise in React, Fastify, Prisma, PostgreSQL, and modern cloud infrastructure.

25+ Years in Technology | 255K+ Paid Users Served | 75+ Web Properties Shipped | 50+ Active Production Websites

Areas of Expertise

Backend Development

Node.js, Fastify, Hono, Express.js, Python, Prisma ORM, RESTful APIs, SMTP Server Development, Webhook Processing, PDF + Email Generation, Image Processing

Cloud & DevOps

AWS (EC2, S3, RDS, Lambda, CloudFront, SQS), Docker, Ansible Playbooks, GitHub Actions, CI/CD Pipelines, Nginx, Cloudflare

Databases & Storage

PostgreSQL, MySQL, MSSQL, Prisma Migrations, Database Indexing, Historical Integrity Patterns, Multi-Tenant Schemas

Frontend Development

React 19, Next.js, Astro, Vue.js 3, Vite, Tailwind CSS v4, TanStack React Query, Framer Motion, React Router v7, Responsive SPA & SSR Architecture, Component Libraries

Security & Email Authentication

DMARC, SPF, DKIM, BIMI, MTA-STS, JWT, TOTP/2FA, RBAC, HIPAA Compliance, PCI DSS, Rate Limiting, OWASP

Software Architecture

Scalable System Design, Event-Driven Architecture (SQS, SSE), Microservices, Config-Driven Platforms, API Gateway Patterns, Monorepo Strategies

Career History

CTO, Private Wellness & Technology Company (Confidential)

June 2015 – Present (11 years and 3 months)

As Chief Technology Officer at a private US-based wellness and technology holding company, I lead all technology — both as architect and as the hands-on developer who writes the code. The company operates a wellness portfolio of 30+ consumer websites, multiple Ionic / Angular mobile apps, and a modern Node 24 / Fastify platform API, and I personally ship the platform behind it. My automation tooling has driven $750K+ in annual savings, and I led the company-wide migration from on-prem hardware to AWS, modernizing scalability, security, and disaster recovery along the way.

- **Hands-On Architect & Developer:** Personally architect, ship, and operate the company's wellness platform — 30+ websites, multiple mobile apps, and a Node 24 / Fastify API — combining the role of CTO with the role of working engineer who still pushes production code.
- **Automation & Cost Savings:** Led the design and development of automation tools that reduced operational costs by over $750,000 annually, optimizing business processes and improving efficiency.
- **Infrastructure & System Optimization:** Improved the performance, scalability, and security of internal systems and databases, enabling the company to handle increasing volumes of data and traffic without compromising reliability.
- **Technology Leadership & Strategy:** Spearheaded the technological vision and strategy for the company, driving innovation and ensuring that technology investments align with business priorities.
- **IT Operations Management:** Directed IT operations, overseeing the company's infrastructure, cloud services, and software systems to ensure high availability, reliability, and security.
- **Cloud Migration:** Led the successful migration from physical hardware to the AWS Cloud, improving scalability, performance, and disaster recovery capabilities.

- **Cross-Departmental Collaboration:** Worked closely with other departments to ensure that IT solutions were tailored to meet their specific needs, enhancing productivity and delivering value across the organization.
- **Technology Procurement & Vendor Management:** Managed relationships with external technology vendors, negotiating contracts and ensuring that all software and hardware solutions were cost-effective and aligned with company requirements.
- **Team Leadership & Development:** Built and led a high-performing technical team, providing mentorship and fostering a collaborative environment that encouraged innovation and professional growth.
- **Risk Management & Compliance:** Ensured compliance with data protection regulations and industry standards, managing risk through strategic planning and the implementation of robust security protocols.

CTO, FarmFlight Inc.

August 2020 – January 2024 (3 years and 5 months)

As the Chief Technology Officer and a member of the Board of Directors at FarmFlight, I led the technological vision and strategic direction for a company revolutionizing agricultural practices with advanced drone systems and machine learning software. I played a key role in driving technological innovation and R&D, while also managing startup operations, including HR, payroll, and financial oversight, ensuring smooth operations during the company's growth.

- **Product Innovation:** Oversaw the development and deployment of software solutions that optimize farming operations and empower data-driven decision-making for clients.
- **Research & Development:** Led R&D efforts to incorporate cutting-edge technologies, maintaining a competitive edge in the agtech industry.
- **Leadership & Strategy:** Directed a cross-functional team of engineers, data scientists, and IT professionals, fostering a culture of innovation that drives growth and modernizes agricultural operations.
- **Board Participation & Strategic Planning:** Contributed to corporate governance, aligning technological initiatives with business goals, and driving strategy alongside fellow board members.
- **Startup Operations:** Managed HR, payroll, and internal operations, ensuring smooth workflows during FarmFlight's early stages, optimizing team performance, and supporting financial sustainability.
- **Collaborative Initiatives:** Built and nurtured key partnerships with industry leaders, investors, and stakeholders to expand market presence and strengthen technological capabilities.
- **Operational Management:** Ensured the security and robustness of the technology infrastructure, supporting drone operations and data analysis for reliable service delivery.

Senior Director of Technology & Development, ZoyAR Inc.

August 2010 – August 2020 (10 years)

As Senior Director of Technology & Development, I led IT operations and development teams, overseeing large-scale infrastructure with more than 3,000 VPS (Virtual Private Servers) and 150+ physical servers. I managed dedicated hosting, server co-location, and 24/7 operations to ensure continuous uptime, high performance, and scalability for clients worldwide.

- **System Optimization & Security:** Directed the optimization of server configurations and the implementation of enhanced security protocols to ensure a secure and reliable IT environment.
- **Leadership & Strategy:** Led a cross-functional team of IT professionals, engineers, and support staff, ensuring efficient operation of complex infrastructure and technical systems.
- **Infrastructure Management:** Managed the deployment and maintenance of more than 3,000 VPS and 150+ physical servers, overseeing both dedicated hosting and server co-location services.
- **24/7 Operations & Uptime:** Ensured continuous uptime and high-performance operations for global clients, implementing monitoring tools and proactive maintenance strategies.
- **Disaster Recovery & Performance:** Spearheaded disaster recovery initiatives, ensuring business continuity and the stability of mission-critical applications in the event of system outages.
- **Team Management & Training:** Managed and mentored a diverse team of developers, providing training, technical expertise, and performance guidance to ensure optimal team effectiveness.
- **Client Support & Technical Leadership:** Delivered high-level technical support for clients, troubleshooting complex system issues, and ensuring that service-level agreements (SLAs) were consistently met.

Founder / Lead Developer, DJRamware (Acquired by Zoyar Inc. in 2010)

March 1996 – September 2010 (14 years and 6 months)

Founded DJRamware in 1996, positioning the company as a leading provider of professional internet services, including web hosting, server co-location, dedicated servers, internet access, and server management. I successfully developed and expanded a diverse client base, ranging from individual end-users to small businesses and large global enterprises.

- **Product & Service Development:** Developed and provided a diverse range of internet services, including web hosting, server co-location, and managed services, catering to both small and large-scale clients.
- **Technical Leadership:** Led the development and implementation of innovative IT solutions, including server management tools and hosting environments, optimizing performance, reliability, and security.
- **Leadership & Strategy:** Founded and led the company's strategic vision, overseeing all aspects of business development, marketing, and operations to ensure growth and sustainability.
- **Infrastructure Management:** Built and maintained the underlying IT infrastructure, scaling the business from a small operation to supporting large enterprise customers with high-demand server solutions.
- **Client Relationship Management:** Established long-term relationships with clients through exceptional service delivery and technical support, ensuring high customer satisfaction and retention.
- **Acquisition & Growth:** Successfully navigated the company's acquisition by Zoyar Inc. in 2010, maintaining operational excellence and client trust throughout the transition.
- **Team Building & HR:** Managed recruitment, training, and performance of technical staff, fostering a high-performing, client-focused team to meet the evolving demands of the business.
- **Financial Oversight:** Directed budgeting, forecasting, and financial operations, ensuring profitability and resource allocation for sustained growth during DJRamware's expansion.

Director of Site Development, People Media, Inc. (A Match.com Company)

May 2007 – November 2009 (2 years and 6 months)

As Director of Site Development at People Media, Inc. — formed when American Capital acquired Zencon Technologies in 2007 and operated it as People Media — I led web operations across a portfolio of 25+ vertically focused online communities, primarily in the dating industry, including BlackPeopleMeet.com, SeniorPeopleMeet.com, and LoveAndSeek.com, serving more than 255,000 paid subscribers. I continued in the same role through the company's 2009 sale to Match.com, retained as a leader through both transitions.

- **Feature Planning & Code Quality:** Owned feature planning and prioritization and led code reviews to maintain quality across the web properties.
- **Team Leadership & Management:** Managed a team of developers with full hiring, performance, and termination authority, recruiting and developing talent across a distributed team.

- **Operations Leadership:** Served on the operations leadership team, driving site strategy, changes, and priorities across a 25+ site portfolio serving more than 255,000 paid subscribers.
- **Stakeholder Collaboration:** Partnered with executives and business stakeholders to translate business needs into technical direction.
- **Operational Accountability:** Held operational accountability for uptime, incident response, capacity planning, and release decisions in a 24/7 environment.
- **Retained Through Acquisitions:** Retained through two acquisitions — American Capital, then Match.com — as a trusted member of management.

Director of Site Development, Zencon Technologies

February 2002 – May 2007 (5 years and 3 months)

As Director of Site Development at Zencon Technologies, I built and led the web development function and team, establishing the technical foundation behind the company's online platforms. I was hired in 2002 and led site development through Zencon's 2007 acquisition by American Capital, which operated the business as People Media, Inc. — staying on in the same role through the transition.

- **Site Development & Operations:** Owned site development and web operations across the company's online properties.
- **Technical Standards & Code Quality:** Led feature planning, code reviews, and technical standards for the development team.
- **Internal Tooling:** Built and maintained internal tools for site structure, content management, and third-party integrations.
- **Technology Stack:** Worked across ColdFusion, MSSQL, JavaScript, SOAP, online payment integration, and form processing.
- **Team Leadership:** Led and managed a development team, with responsibility for hiring and day-to-day technical leadership.
- **Monitoring & Scalability:** Established monitoring, upgrade, and capacity-planning practices as the business scaled.

Director and Founder - Hideout Networks

October 2012 – December 2022 (10 years and 2 months)

At Hideout Networks, I focused on providing seamless IT operations for professionals such as doctors and lawyers, who need reliable systems but struggle with the cost and complexity of maintaining an in-house IT team. I founded the company to offer comprehensive Managed IT Services designed to minimize downtime and optimize productivity. Through automation and efficient process management, we provided scalable, reliable, and cost-effective IT solutions that helped our clients operate at peak performance.

- **Process Automation:** Focused on automation and process management, ensuring efficient workflows that allowed clients to concentrate on their core business functions.
- **Leadership & Strategy:** Founded and led the company's strategic vision, overseeing business development, marketing, and operations to drive growth and ensure sustainability.
- **Managed IT Services:** Delivered comprehensive managed IT services, including proactive management of systems, networks, and infrastructure to minimize downtime and optimize productivity.
- **Client Relationship Management:** Established long-term client relationships by providing exceptional service delivery and support, ensuring client satisfaction and retention.
- **Industry Expertise:** Worked with various industries including healthcare, law, and finance, tailoring IT solutions to meet their unique needs.
- **Operational Excellence:** Managed day-to-day operations, including strategic oversight of IT infrastructure and technology solutions for clients.
- **Team Leadership:** Led a team of IT professionals, fostering a collaborative environment to deliver best-in-class IT services.
- **Acquisition of Zoyar Inc:** Led the acquisition of Zoyar Inc. in 2020, successfully integrating their technology and operations into Hideout Networks, expanding our service offerings and strengthening our market position.

Board & Advisory Positions

Imlay City Rotary Club

Director of Technology & Communications | 2026 – Present

Elected to the Board of Directors of a community service club chartered in 1937. Leading the club's technology and public communications, including designing, building, and maintaining icrotary.com.

GRO Networking

Board of Directors | Jan 2025 – Present

Serving on the Board of Directors for a professional networking organization. Guiding technology strategy, platform development, and growth initiatives. Driving the digital transformation of chapter operations, membership management, and revenue systems.

FarmFlight Inc.

Board of Directors & CTO | Aug 2020 – Jan 2024

Served as a Board Member and CTO for an agricultural technology startup. Guided technology strategy, R&D direction, and product roadmap. Helped shape company governance, fundraising strategy, and market positioning while leading the engineering team building drone and machine learning solutions.

Tools & Technologies

AI & Machine Learning:

Claude, ChatGPT, GitHub Copilot, Claude Code, TensorFlow, Computer Vision, Prompt Engineering, AI-Assisted Development

APIs & Integrations:

REST, GraphQL, Webhooks, Anthropic SDK / Claude API, Stripe Connect, Authorize.net, Moneris, Cloudinary, Mapbox, Twilio, Vimeo API, SendGrid, Resend, Nodemailer, Firebase Cloud Messaging

CI/CD & Automation:

GitHub Actions, Jenkins, Docker Compose, Turborepo, Gradle, Playwright, Selenium, Cypress, Vitest, ESLint, Prettier, Husky, lint-staged, node-cron

Databases & ORM: PostgreSQL, MySQL, MSSQL, Redis, SQLite, MongoDB, Prisma, Sequelize, DynamoDB

Development Tools:

Git, GitHub, Postman, JetBrains Suite, VS Code, Claude Code, Docker Desktop, Prisma Studio, Chrome DevTools, Figma, npm, pnpm, Sharp, PDFKit, MJML, Handlebars

Languages & Frameworks:

JavaScript, TypeScript, Python, Java, HTML5, CSS3, SQL, Bash, ColdFusion, React 19, Next.js, Astro, Vue.js 3, Node.js, Fastify, Hono, Express.js, Vite, Tailwind CSS v4, TanStack React Query, React Router v7, Framer Motion, Ionic, Capacitor

Monitoring & Observability:

Grafana, Prometheus, CloudWatch, ELK Stack, Sentry, New Relic, UptimeRobot, PM2 Monitoring, Pino, Winston

Security & Compliance:

HIPAA, PCI DSS, DMARC, SPF, DKIM, MTA-STS, BIMI, SSL/TLS, JWT, OAuth 2.0, IAM, RBAC, OWASP, CORS, Helmet.js, Rate Limiting, HashiCorp Vault, TOTP/2FA, bcrypt, Argon2