

Richard Bimmer *Systems Engineer*

bimmerra@gmail.com • github.com/richardb122 • richardbimmer.com • linkedin.com/in/richardbimmer

Richard is a Backend and Server Software Engineer with 5 years of professional experience, primarily in financial messaging and distributed systems. He is passionate about open-source development, security, and fault-tolerant architectures.

Skills

Java, Linux/RHEL Commandline, Git — *Very Exeperienced*

MySQL/Postgres, Docker, HTML/CSS, Python, PHP — *Experienced*

React & NextJS, C/C++, Kafka, OpenShift — *Familiar*

Education

James Madison University,

Computer Science ☑

2016 – 2020 | Harrisonburg, VA

Professional Experience

Backend and Systems Engineer, SWIFT (*Global Financial Messaging Network for Secure International Payments*) ☑

2020 – present | Manassas, VA

- Implemented and tested a high-performance Kafka producer in containerized instances (using Kafka and Docker) written in Java, capable of processing thousands of transactions per second at peak with fast and strong scalability and resilience in production.
- Led the modernization of a legacy internal web application, migrating to a React frontend and a Python backend that resolved long-standing technical debt, improved performance, and enhanced the user experience. Ultimately, this resulted in over 80% less support tickets for our team and our internal users were much happier.
- Served as the lead developer in modernizing and qualifying a Java-based message non-repudiation and signature verification system, collaborating with multiple developers to drive implementation, define development priorities, and shape testing strategies.
- Mentored interns during two summer programs, providing technical guidance and career development advice.
- Assisted in evaluating and interviewing candidates for both intern and full-time roles helping identify strong candidates who aligned with team needs and company culture.
- Enhanced and maintained an internal test automation tool, improving efficiency in running nightly regression tests across hundreds of scenarios, reducing manual intervention and accelerating release cycles.

Freelance Software Developer

2015 – 2020 | Remote

- Developed custom plugins and websites for clients primarily working in Java, PHP and MySQL and managing the full the project from design to deployment.

Projects

Pilot Training Simulation – Subscription & Billing System,

pilotapproach.com ☑

2021

- Designed and implemented a complete subscription and billing system for a flight simulation training application in collaboration with a colleague.
- Integrated Stripe for secure and efficient online payment processing, ensuring seamless transactions for users.

Awards

2nd Century STEM Scholarship

(2016-2020), James Madison University

President's List,

James Madison University ☑

2017

Simulation Programming Award 2nd Place State - Virginia, FBLA

2016