John Schaeffer

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Experience

SPIRL   *Remote*

Software Engineer   2024-2025

Developed and maintained SPIRL's workload identity solution as a member of engineering team. Worked directly with customers and partners to roll out SPIRL product on customer infrastructure with a focus on Istio service mesh integration. Scaled customer telemetry pipeline to handle over 6,000 events per second. Designed and implemented time-series data visualization APIs and services to measure customer product adoption. Improved observability posture by developing service catalog and implementing network traffic logging from AWS-hosted components.

Equinix   *Remote*

Senior Principal Engineer   2023-2024

Led team of 5 engineers developing IAM platform for all Equinix digital products with a focus on open standards and reliability, achieving >99.999% uptime in production. Developed and oversaw rollout of workload identity strategy for internal Kubernetes application platform. Launched initiative to migrate internal network traffic from Cloudflare to Equinix backbone, resulting in a >90% reduction in Cloudflare usage. Promoted security best practices through working groups with VPs and BISOs, workshops, and peer engagement. Championed best practices in incident management across Equinix by leading incident response and retrospectives.

Principal Engineer   2021-2023

Led team of 12 engineers in maintenance and development of Equinix Metal's bare metal hosting control plane API and IAM services. Architected user identity standards for all Equinix products and directed migration of over 60,000 users from Metal services to an organization-wide OIDC provider. Facilitated adoption of distributed tracing using OpenTelemetry through workshops and peer engagement.

Talend   **Philadelphia**, PA

Senior Software Engineer   2020-2021

Developed, maintained, and monitored the central control plane and IAM services for Stitch, a Talend ETL product. Mentored junior engineers and maintained IAM platform alongside a globally distributed team. Developed Kubernetes cluster hardening strategies, mitigated vulnerabilities, and managed bug bounty reports as security liaison for Stitch team.

Linode (now Akamai Cloud Compute)   **Philadelphia**, PA

Senior Software Engineer   2018-2020

Led development of system architecture for managed database offering and pre-production environments for managed Kubernetes offering. Maintained user authentication service, implementing features such as brute force mitigation and CAPTCHA support. Participated in security working group with duties including bug bounty report response, vulnerability mitigation, and developer education. Mentored multiple junior engineers into project leadership roles.

Grand Round Table   **Philadelphia**, PA

Co-Founder and CTO   2011-2018

Responsible for development of the company's core technologies. Designed and oversaw development and deployment of Clinical Assistant, the company's flagship HIPAA-compliant pre-visit planning product. Designed and implemented data analysis pipeline to determine efficacy of product in improving clinician performance and adherence to quality standards.

Open source

IAM runtime - https://github.com/metal-toolbox/iam-runtime   2024

gRPC-based application runtime for IAM functionality, including authentication and authorization.

identity-api - https://github.com/infratographer/identity-api   2024

OAuth 2.0 token exchange server to allow workloads and humans from many identity sources to obtain credentials.

Education

Worcester Polytechnic Institute   **Worcester, MA**

BS, Computer Science   2012

Skills

Technologies: Go, Python, Bash, SQL, Rust, Kubernetes, TLS, TCP, PKI, iSCSI, Linux, workload identity, distributed systems

Standards: SPIFFE, X.509, JWT, OIDC, OAuth 2.0, SOC 2, HIPAA