RICK OBURU

FULL-STACK SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Nairobi, Kenya | +254 769 858 009 | rickoburu@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/rickoburu | English (fluent)
Open to relocation to Austria

PROFILE

Full-Stack Engineer with 6 years' experience building production applications. At MDZuri, contributed from the platform's early development through production launch, working across React and Next.js interfaces, NestJS services, REST APIs and PostgreSQL. Also experienced in third-party integrations, background processing, automated testing and supporting applications in Docker and Google Cloud environments.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: TypeScript, JavaScript, Java, Ruby, Python, SQL
Frontend & UI: React, Next.js, Redux, Tailwind CSS, HTML, CSS
Backend & APIs: Node.js, NestJS, Spring Boot, Ruby on Rails; REST APIs, service integrations, authentication, webhooks, retries and back-off
Data & asynchronous processing: PostgreSQL (schema design, indexing, constraints, query optimisation); Redis; BullMQ, Sidekiq
Infrastructure & delivery: Docker, Linux, Google Cloud Platform (GCP), CircleCI, GitHub Actions, Jenkins; production monitoring with Honeybadger
Testing: Jest, RSpec, Capybara; unit and integration testing, TDD/BDD, mocks and test doubles
AI development tools: Claude Code, Cursor, GitHub Copilot; Anthropic Claude API integration

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

MDZURI | Clinical software platform | Jan 2023 – Present
Senior Software Engineer / Team Lead | Full-time | Remote

- Led full-stack development of a clinical platform from its initial build through production launch, delivering provider-facing interfaces, backend services, REST APIs and database architecture as part of a seven-person engineering team.
- Build and maintain provider-facing interfaces in React and Next.js, connecting UI components to PostgreSQL data models and NestJS services.
- Design and maintain PostgreSQL schemas, indexes and constraints; optimise queries; and use Redis for caching and BullMQ background jobs.
- Develop and maintain third-party REST integrations, including authentication, webhook handling, retries, back-off behaviour and failure-path handling.
- Resolved background-job failures caused by third-party API rate limits by distinguishing rate-limit responses from other errors, applying exponential back-off and adding alerts for failed jobs.
- Resolved a duplicate-booking concurrency defect by enforcing appointment uniqueness at database level and handling constraint conflicts in API responses.
- Guide technical delivery through architectural decisions and code reviews, and investigate and resolve incoming technical tickets.
- Write Jest unit and integration tests, and support Docker deployments and CI/CD across staging and production, with Honeybadger monitoring.

Technology: TypeScript, Node.js, NestJS, React, Next.js, PostgreSQL, Redis, BullMQ, Docker, Linux, GCP, CircleCI, GitHub Actions, Jenkins, Honeybadger

LAST MILE | Agricultural marketplace | Aug 2022 – Dec 2022
JavaScript Developer | Contract | Remote

- Joined an existing Java Spring Boot and JavaScript codebase on a five-month contract and built an inventory system designed to keep buyer and seller stock levels consistent as orders were processed concurrently.
- Integrated third-party geolocation and weather services through REST APIs, including fallback behaviour when external services were unavailable.
- Built reporting functionality for product trends, user behaviour and market demand, using PostgreSQL and Redis.

Technology: Java, Spring Boot, JavaScript, PostgreSQL, Redis, CircleCI, jQuery, Sass

CLARITY FOR CHARITIES | Nonprofit reporting platform | Dec 2021 – Jun 2022
Lead React and Ruby on Rails Developer | Contract | Remote

- Led full-stack development on an existing Ruby on Rails and React application, owning feature implementation and delivery throughout the engagement.
- Built reporting features and a white-label configuration layer in Ruby on Rails, enabling partner organisations to customise branding and interface elements.
- Worked with non-technical stakeholders to translate operational requirements into delivered software.

Technology: Ruby on Rails, React, PostgreSQL, Sidekiq, RSpec, JavaScript, jQuery, Sass

MICROVERSE | Jul 2020 – Mar 2021
Student Mentor | Part-time

- Mentored junior web developers through technical support and code reviews, improving code organisation, code quality and overall performance.
- Proposed improvements to code organisation to improve code quality and overall performance.
- Provided advice and tips on maintaining motivation and sustaining progress throughout the programme.

EDUCATION

MAKERERE UNIVERSITY | BSc Computer Science | 2017–2021
MICROVERSE | Software Development | 2019