Rich Hong

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Summary

Pragmatic software engineer with 14+ years of industry experience building products for consumers, enterprises, and developers. Interested in working with a diverse team that communicates clearly and intentionally. Strive to untangling messy real-world problems and value progress over perfection.

Experience

Dropbox
Senior Software Engineer
Remote (New York, NY)
March 2021 — October 2024

- Led a tiger team to improve performance on the main web surface, resulting in significant page load performance improvements
- Led the modernization of JavaScript bundling tooling, reducing bundle sizes by 33% and script count by 15% https://dropbox.tech/frontend/how-we-reduced-the-size-of-our-javascript-bundles-by-33-percent
- Identified numerous performance opportunities throughout the web stack and worked directly with teams across the company to address
- Helped raised the performance maturity level, including increasing awareness of web performance across engineering and product
- Overhauled web performance metrics client library to reduce impact on page load performance and addressed many long-standing issues
- Quickly delivered and rolled out a reliable anomaly detection alerting company-wide to improve the overall product quality posture

Confide
Co-founder & Chief Technology Officer
New York, NY
January 2014 — December 2020

- Acquired by IAC in December 2020
- Developed multiple ideas from the ground up into successful products for consumers, enterprises, and developers
- These revenue generating products combined to support a profitable business ($1 million ARR)
- Established the overall technical vision and led all aspects of technology development
- Confide (20k+ paid subscribers; 200+ countries)   getconfide.com
  - Confidential messenger with encrypted, ephemeral, and screenshot-proof messages
  - Developed mobile apps for iOS (Objective-C) and Android (Java) and desktop app for macOS and Windows (Electron)
  - Propelled company into profitability with Confide Plus, consumer in-app purchase subscriptions for premium features
  - Launched an enterprise edition as Confide Pro including a web management dashboard, distribution lists, and company directory
  - Architected, built and maintained technical infrastructure (Go, MySQL, Redis, Amazon Web Services)
- ScreenShieldKit (60+ paid licensees; 20+ countries)   screenshieldkit.com
  - Invented patented screenshot protection technology that is the only solution of its kind on iOS
  - Commercialized the screenshot protection technology into a developer SDK for iOS
  - Over 60 paying customers, from independent developers to multinational development companies, across 20+ different countries
  - Developed automated build pipeline for creating unique evaluation builds for each prospective customer
  - Developed integrations and documentations for both native iOS apps as well as React Native, Flutter, and Xamarin

Yext
Technical Lead / Full Stack Software Engineer
New York, NY
June 2010 — December 2013

- Led a rotating technical operations team of ~5 engineers from across the entire engineering organization
- Led infrastructure projects that identified major bottlenecks and significantly improved performances of several internal services
- Launched the flagship product, Yext PowerListings, and built many of its major components in Java and Play Framework
- Designed and built a direct marketing engine in Python and Django that was instrumental in kick-starting PowerListings

Skills

Web	Web Performance, JavaScript Bundling, TypeScript, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, React
Mobile	iOS (Swift and Objective-C), Android (Java)
Backend	Python, Go, Java, SQL, Build Tools (Bazel)

Education

Carnegie Mellon University
Pittsburgh, PA
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science | Minor: Robotics | Dean's List
May 2010