Jerry D. Boonstra

Data Platform / Data Engineering & Cloud Infrastructure

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SUMMARY

Hands-on platform engineer who builds the internal systems other engineers, analysts, and data scientists depend on, most of it for streaming and entertainment companies. Has run a full data stack end to end: ingestion, an object-storage data lake, a columnar warehouse, scheduled pipelines, search, and the BI layer on top. Built a SaaS platform for data scientists' machine-learning workflows with persistent datasets, experiment lineage, and parallel execution, and shipped an LLM assistant for exploratory analysis over governed data. Former CTO of a 30-person organization; current work is agentic AI systems built end to end.

CORE SKILLS

Data Platform: Columnar data warehouse (Amazon Redshift), object-storage data lake, pipeline orchestration and scheduling (AWS Data Pipeline, Celery, Jenkins Pipelines), batch and streaming ingestion, ETL and ingestion-database lifecycles, Apache Beam on Google Cloud Dataflow, Pub/Sub event pipelines, metadata management, data lineage, governance, retention, cost attribution, BI dashboards

Search & Graph: Elasticsearch, Apache SOLR, inverted indexes and analyzers, PostgreSQL replicated into Elasticsearch, graph algorithms and graph-of-agents orchestration

Cloud & Infrastructure: AWS (S3, Lambda, EC2, ECS/Fargate, RDS PostgreSQL, DynamoDB, Redshift, CloudFront, EventBridge, SQS/SNS, cross-account STS) and GCP (Dataflow, Pub/Sub, GCS, Cloud Functions, App Engine); infrastructure as code with CDK and CloudFormation; CI/CD, containers, observability

AI & Agentic Systems: LLM pipelines, agent orchestration, evaluation and guardrails, schema-constrained generation, natural-language query and analysis assistants

Languages & Leadership: Python, TypeScript, Node.js, Java, Groovy, SQL, Bash; technical lead across teams, mentoring senior engineers, code and design review, build-versus-buy, phased migration

EXPERIENCE

Co-Founder / CTO - ObexMetrics, Inc.

Los Angeles, CA | Nov 2023-Apr 2025

Completed product / active architectural reference

- Built and operated a shared platform for persistent datasets, configurations, experiments, runs, results, lineage, checkpoints, and parallel forecasting workflows. Shared interface and infrastructure responsibility while remaining hands-on in the implementation.
- Built the multi-user EDA assistant using TypeScript and Python services, AWS Lambda, PostgreSQL, DynamoDB, WebSockets, and the OpenAI Assistants API, tying conversations and feedback to governed customer data artifacts.
- Implemented customer-cloud execution through cross-account AWS roles and STS temporary credentials, launching ECS/Fargate workloads inside customer accounts so compute, data boundaries, and cost stayed under customer control.

Co-Founder / CTO - CalmTrader

Los Angeles, CA | May-Dec 2025; Jul 2026-Present

Active private R&D

- Returned after a six-month parenting break to co-lead an agentic investment-research environment built around persistent context, cited evidence, schema-validated policy, deterministic risk constraints, and evaluation.
- Led the original system architecture, wrote most of the code, and performed much of the backtesting. Connected TradingView and Pine Script strategies to simulated and live Tradovate execution with position reconciliation, duplicate-signal protection, account pauses, P&L limits, stops, and exit handling.

Co-Founder / Product & AI Engineer - ResumeFactory.ai

Los Angeles, CA | 2024-Jan 2026

Sunset product

- Owned the product idea, domain model, application architecture, LLM pipeline, technical direction, backend, infrastructure, customer discovery, and operations for a human-in-the-loop resume platform used by hundreds of people.

Co-Founder / Head of Engineering - Vurbl Media

Los Angeles, CA | Jan 2020-Jul 2021

Audio publishing and streaming platform

- Architected the platform and led the team building its content library and delivery systems, writing the large majority of the audio ingestion pipeline hands-on: Python and Flask behind gunicorn, a Celery work queue, PostgreSQL and Redis, containerized on GCP.
- Built the ETL layer that managed ingestion-database lifecycles, with parallelized bulk loading from object storage and per-source metadata transforms into the audio schema. Stood up Apache Beam on Google Cloud Dataflow for media processing, with Pub/Sub event streams and worker autoscaling, and ran PostgreSQL replicated into Elasticsearch for search.
- Used CDN edge processing with fragmented audio for immediate playback at controlled delivery cost, which moved the scaling limit off owned infrastructure.

Chief Technology Officer - Jukin Media

Culver City, CA | Mar 2014-Mar 2018

User-generated media company

- Turned existing product-management workflows into a modern content-management and delivery platform for a global user-generated-content library, making the build-versus-buy decisions and leading implementation.
- Architected the business-intelligence and analytics stack: Amazon Redshift as the columnar warehouse over an S3 data lake, AWS Data Pipeline for scheduled loads, and QuickSight dashboards serving licensing, content, and operations decisions. Built the video-library metadata platform for asset and rights ingestion, storage, and delivery, with Elasticsearch for search across the library.
- Built a 30-person organization spanning engineering, product, QA, and operations. The platform and organization remained in place after my departure and continued with the company through its 2021 acquisition by Trusted Media Brands.

Principal Software Engineer - Frequency Networks, Inc.

Los Angeles, CA | Jul 2011-Mar 2014

Video aggregation and distribution

- Led DevOps implementation and API development for the channel-creation platform and engineered backend systems supporting global content distribution across devices.

Software Architect - Product N

Los Angeles, CA | Jul 2018-Jan 2020

Consulting

- Delivered architecture and software for clients including Talespin and Girlgaze, while advising on product strategy, software-team management, and IT infrastructure.

Senior Technical Manager - AOL

New York, NY | May 2009-Jan 2010

AOL Music and SHOUTcast

- Led software-engineering teams and directed technical strategy and implementation for two high-traffic digital-audio properties.

Senior Engineer / Principal Engineer / Director - CNET

San Francisco, CA | May 1997-May 2008

Eleven-year builder-to-director progression

- Built publishing tools for editorial and production teams, then architected an XML-based content workflow that replaced dozens - sometimes roughly a hundred - sequential UI steps with document editing, one upload, and a validation loop. Teams experienced the new flow as roughly an order of magnitude faster in practice.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Electrical Engineering - University of Alberta