

GIWA MUHAMMAD

Senior Full-Stack Engineer · SaaS, Marketplaces & Payments Infrastructure

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Senior full-stack engineer with 5+ years building production SaaS, marketplaces, and the payments infrastructure underneath them — most of it owned solo from database schema to live deployment. Specialized in payments and multi-tenant platforms: escrow ledgers and split-payment flows (Stripe Connect, Paystack), subdomain-per-tenant architectures, event-driven microservices, and realtime systems, all shipped on real CI/CD pipelines.

Comfortable across Next.js / React on the front end and Node.js / TypeScript (with Go where it fits) on the back end, with a track record of full system ownership: architecture, data modeling, API performance, caching strategy, asynchronous processing, and production deployment.

CORE SKILLS

Languages: TypeScript, JavaScript, Go

Frontend: Next.js, React, Redux Toolkit, Vue.js, Tailwind CSS

Backend: Node.js, Express, TypeORM, REST APIs, Microservices

Payments: Stripe, Stripe Connect, Paystack, escrow & split-payment logic

Data: PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, Redis

Realtime & Async: Socket.io, BullMQ, RabbitMQ, Webhooks

Infrastructure: Docker, CI/CD (GitHub Actions), Cloudflare Workers, Nginx, Linux

Security: JWT Authentication, tenant-scoped RBAC

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founder & CTO | SmartEdu

2026 – Present

- Lead product and engineering for a multi-tenant school-management SaaS platform serving schools across Africa.
- Architected a subdomain-per-tenant backend (Node.js, TypeORM, PostgreSQL) with Redis and BullMQ handling report generation, fee reminders, and payment reconciliation.
- Structured the frontend as a Turborepo of three Next.js applications sharing a component and design-token library.
- Integrated Paystack for fee collection, including installment plans and a platform-level revenue share on every transaction.
- Own the go-to-market materials and school onboarding process alongside the technical roadmap.

Full-Stack Engineer | Nexlen Systems

Aug 2024 – Present · Remote

- Build and maintain production web applications for a UK-based company, working remotely across the frontend and the Node.js API layer.
- Migrated a legacy Laravel Blade architecture into a structured Vue.js frontend and integrated it with backend APIs, cutting redundant calls and improving performance.
- Contribute to system-level refactoring and data-flow optimization across the stack.

Lead Engineer (Contract) | FairChild Institute

Oct 2025 – Jul 2026 · Remote

- Led engineering on an institutional learning-management platform — a TypeScript monorepo with four React/Vite portals (student, instructor, admin, support) on a shared Node.js/TypeORM API.
- Architected the Node.js + TypeORM + PostgreSQL API with Redis and BullMQ background jobs, Socket.io realtime, and Stripe payments; added SCORM course support and Puppeteer-generated PDFs.
- Hardened the platform (2FA/TOTP, rate limiting, Helmet, input sanitization) and shipped across dev/staging/prod with Docker, Nginx, GitHub Actions CI/CD, and Prometheus/Grafana/Loki monitoring.

Senior Full-Stack Engineer, Architecture Lead | Raffles Energies

Jun 2024 – Apr 2025

- Led end-to-end architecture and backend development supporting web and mobile platforms.
- Architected and implemented the Node.js backend serving multiple client applications, with a relational schema and indexing strategy designed from inception.
- Built the API layer serving both web and mobile clients under sustained production traffic.
- Implemented Redis caching and query optimization that measurably reduced response latency.
- Designed asynchronous job processing and workflow-automation pipelines.

- Implemented JWT-based authentication and tenant-aware RBAC access control; containerized services and managed production deployment through structured, low-risk release cycles.

CTO (Contract) | Tegy Inc

Mar 2024 – Jul 2024 · Remote

- Contract CTO for a San Francisco freight-logistics startup; built the founding platform end to end on React and Node.js/Express with MySQL.
- Delivered a real-time load board (brokers post freight; carriers and dispatchers bid), in-app broker-to-dispatcher messaging, and route tracking from pickup to delivery.
- Wrapped it in a subscription access model with transparent, upfront freight pricing.

Backend Engineer | Centre for Innovation & Entrepreneurship

Nov 2023 – Apr 2024

- Scaled a Laravel-based LMS platform supporting multi-center operations for a government organization.
- Redesigned the relational schema to support expanded roles and institutional structure.
- Improved backend modularity and long-term maintainability, contributing to architectural-evolution discussions.

SELECTED PROJECTS

StackMSP — Multi-Tenant Microservice SaaS Platform *Node.js, Go, PostgreSQL, Redis, RabbitMQ, Docker*

- Designed a distributed system of isolated microservices, each with its own independent PostgreSQL database and clean service boundaries.
- Implemented event-driven communication over RabbitMQ and a Redis caching layer to reduce API latency under load.
- Enforced a tenant-scoped RBAC model and secure JWT authentication at every service boundary; architected for horizontal scaling and fault isolation.

VerraEarth — Vetted Multi-Vendor Marketplace (ongoing contract) *Next.js, Redux Toolkit, Node.js, TypeORM, PostgreSQL, Stripe Connect*

- Built customer, vendor, and admin portals against a Node.js and TypeORM API.
- Implemented Stripe Connect split payments — platform fee, per-vendor transfers, and a delayed escrow-release service — with a vendor application and review queue gating storefronts.
- Added realtime messaging, a disputes flow, and support tickets between customers and vendors.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Software Engineering | Nile University of Nigeria, Abuja