PAUL GUNDER

PRINCIPAL SOFTWARE ARCHITECT

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Principal Software Architect and hands-on technical leader with 30+ years of experience designing, modernizing, and supporting business-critical enterprise platforms across travel, telecommunications, healthcare, and high-volume transaction-processing environments. Deep experience leading legacy-to-modern platform transformation, distributed and event-driven architecture, mainframe offload and migration initiatives, cloud-native modernization, complex systems integration, and production-critical engineering.

Quickly understanding complex domains and existing system landscapes, defining practical target-state architectures and migration strategies, and translating business and technical requirements into scalable, resilient, and supportable solutions. Combines architecture leadership with implementation experience across Java and C++, Kubernetes, messaging, relational databases, DevOps automation, observability, and high-volume distributed systems.

Lead architecture reviews, resolve difficult technical and production problems, guide engineering teams, evaluate architectural tradeoffs, and deliver modernization initiatives while protecting the stability of revenue-critical operations.

TECHNICAL PROFILE

Architecture & Modernization: Enterprise architecture, solution architecture, distributed systems, legacy-to-modern transformation, mainframe offload and migration, service decomposition, cloud-native architecture, event-driven architecture, system integration, target-state architecture, migration strategy, high availability, scalability, resiliency, performance, reliability

Technical Leadership: Technical strategy, architecture leadership, architecture and design reviews, technical roadmaps, solution evaluation, proof-of-concept development, implementation planning, engineering standards, mentoring, cross-functional collaboration, technical escalation, production readiness, modernization planning

Languages & Frameworks: Java, Spring Boot, Spring Framework, C++, C, SQL, PL/SQL, JavaScript, C#, Python, REST APIs, SOAP, Servlets, JSP

Cloud & Platform: Google Cloud Platform (GCP), Google Kubernetes Engine (GKE), Kubernetes, Docker, Linux, WSL2, containerized development and deployment, distributed application platforms

Messaging & Integration: IBM MQ, JMS, Google Pub/Sub, REST APIs, SOAP, CORBA, ACE/TAO, asynchronous messaging, event-driven integration, legacy and distributed system integration

Data & Persistence: Oracle, MariaDB, MySQL, PostgreSQL, SQL Server, DB2, relational data modeling, high-volume transactional processing, SQL/PLSQL optimization, data migration and performance optimization

Delivery, DevOps & Observability: GitHub Actions, Jenkins, Maven, Ansible, Git, CI/CD, automated deployment, Prometheus, Grafana, centralized logging, alerting, health monitoring, production diagnostics, performance analysis

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

SABRE CORPORATION

Southlake, Texas / Remote

Principal II Software Architect — Jul 2024-Jul 2026

Principal Software Engineer — Apr 2021-Jun 2024

Team Lead — Aug 2011-Apr 2021

Senior Software Developer — Apr 2010-Aug 2011

Progressively promoted through four roles during 16 years with Sabre, ultimately serving as a senior technical architect responsible for enterprise modernization, solution architecture, technical leadership, and the evolution of revenue-critical airline technology platforms.

- Provided technical architecture leadership for Sabre Tech Modernization initiatives, helping transition long-standing mainframe capabilities to modern distributed and cloud-ready architectures while maintaining compatibility with complex existing systems and business workflows.
- Led and participated in architecture and modernization efforts for Currency and Daylight-Saving Time mainframe offload and migration initiatives, working closely with an external consulting team to define target-state architectures, service boundaries, data flows, integration patterns, migration strategies, and implementation approaches for transitioning legacy processing to maintainable open-systems solutions.
- Worked across complex airline pricing and travel technology domains to understand existing system behavior, dependencies, messaging formats, data models, operational requirements, and downstream consumers before defining modernization approaches designed to minimize migration and production risk.
- Translated complex business and technical requirements into architecture designs, implementation strategies, technical roadmaps, proofs of concept, and engineering guidance, collaborating with product owners, domain experts, architects, development teams and operations.
- Designed and evolved high-volume enterprise systems supporting airline pricing and travel-industry workflows where availability, transactional integrity, scalability, resiliency, and predictable performance were critical.
- Led architecture and implementation across Java, C++, distributed services, asynchronous messaging, relational databases, and cloud-native platforms, while remaining deeply involved in design reviews, code reviews, troubleshooting, performance analysis, and critical implementation decisions.
- Defined service decomposition and integration strategies for modernizing tightly coupled and long-lived applications into maintainable service-based architectures, introducing reusable patterns, engineering standards, interface contracts, and modernization practices.

- Designed cloud-native services using Docker, Kubernetes, GCP, and GKE, including deployment architecture, configuration, security, scalability, operational monitoring, and integration with Google Pub/Sub.
- Architected event-driven and asynchronous integrations using IBM MQ, JMS, Google Pub/Sub, and proprietary messaging frameworks, supporting reliable communication across distributed and legacy platforms.
- Evaluated architectural tradeoffs involving performance, scalability, concurrency, resiliency, data consistency, implementation language, operational complexity, and migration risk, helping teams select pragmatic solutions appropriate for high-volume production environments.
- Designed and optimized Oracle database architectures, SQL/PLSQL processing, historical data structures, and high-volume transactional datasets, including solutions supporting complex pricing and currency-related processing.
- Established production observability using Prometheus, Grafana, centralized logging, health indicators, alerts, and operational dashboards, improving visibility into system behavior and accelerating diagnosis of production issues.
- Modernized engineering and delivery practices using Maven, Jenkins, GitHub Actions, Git, Ansible, automated testing, CI/CD pipelines, and container-based development and deployment workflows.
- Served as a senior technical escalation point for complex architecture, production, performance, concurrency, integration, messaging, database, and infrastructure issues that had resisted earlier resolution.
- Led architecture reviews, design sessions, proofs of concept, implementation planning, release readiness, production troubleshooting, and technical decision-making while mentoring engineers and providing technical direction across development teams.
- Balanced aggressive modernization objectives with the operational realities of large-scale, revenue-critical systems, developing migration approaches that allowed legacy and modern platforms to coexist safely throughout multi-phase transformation programs.

Technology: Java, Spring Boot, C++, Maven, Kubernetes, Docker, GKE, GCP, Google Pub/Sub, IBM MQ, JMS, Oracle, REST APIs, GitHub Actions, Jenkins, Prometheus, Grafana, Linux, Git, AI Engineering Tooling (GitHub Copilot, Claude, Gemini, NotebookLM)

VERIZON BUSINESS
Richardson, Texas

Senior Software Engineer / Technology Consultant
Aug 2005-Apr 2010

Provided senior engineering and architecture leadership for business-critical telecommunications platforms, modernizing legacy technologies, reducing proprietary dependencies, and improving maintainability, deployment, and operational support across complex production environments.

- Architected and executed the migration of a major distributed CORBA platform from commercial Orbix middleware to open-source ACE/TAO, eliminating millions of dollars in recurring licensing and support costs while preserving critical system functionality and integration behavior.
- Evaluated legacy architecture, middleware dependencies, interfaces, and operational requirements to define practical modernization strategies that reduced vendor lock-in without introducing unacceptable production risk.
- Removed proprietary Rogue Wave dependencies and modernized legacy messaging integrations using standards-based web services, simplifying the technology stack and reducing long-term maintenance and licensing costs.
- Designed reusable development, deployment, installation, configuration, and environment-management tooling that standardized processes across development, test, and production environments and improved operational consistency.
- Enhanced and supported systems spanning C++, Java, Unix, Oracle, C#, ASP.NET, CORBA, distributed services, and web-service technologies, frequently working across application, middleware, database, and infrastructure boundaries.
- Served as a senior technical resource for architecture decisions, complex troubleshooting, migration planning, implementation, release support, and production stabilization.
- Worked with engineering, operations, infrastructure, and business stakeholders to deliver modernization initiatives while maintaining continuity for critical telecommunications services.

EARLIER ENGINEERING AND TECHNICAL LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

CAREMARK
Richardson, Texas

Senior Software Engineer, Consultant
Mar 2004-Aug 2005

Enhanced and supported a business-critical, HIPAA-compliant specialty prescription fulfillment platform, developing reusable C++ frameworks, automated regression testing, and production-support capabilities across SunOS and DB2 environments. Improved maintainability and reliability while working within strict healthcare data, availability, and operational requirements.

VERIZON
Irving, Texas

Senior Developer / Project Lead, Consultant
Dec 2002-Mar 2004

Led the architecture and redesign of a Microsoft/Verizon high-volume service-reconciliation platform, increasing processing capacity from approximately 20,000 to more than 1 million transactions per day.

- Directed technical design and implementation for a substantial scalability transformation involving application processing, data management, integration, performance, and operational considerations.
- Led engineering activities across the project and helped establish a solution capable of supporting dramatically higher production workloads.
- Delivered the redesigned platform through external process and security audits, demonstrating both technical scalability and production readiness.

MCI WORLDCOM
Richardson, Texas

Senior Software Engineer, Consultant
Sep 1998-Dec 2002

One of two primary engineers responsible for the architecture and development of a high-volume C++ telecommunications mediation platform processing more than 300 million call-detail records per day.

- Designed and developed reusable platform frameworks for network communications, asynchronous messaging, database access, multithreading, logging, monitoring, configuration, and event processing.

- Helped establish the core technical architecture supporting extremely high-throughput, continuously operating telecommunications workloads.
- Diagnosed complex performance, concurrency, integration, data-processing, and production issues across a distributed Unix-based environment.
- Created reusable infrastructure and engineering patterns that supported multiple components and reduced duplication across the platform.

GTE / VERIZON

Grapevine, Texas

Senior Software Engineer, Consultant Mar 1998-Sep 1998

Designed and implemented C/C++ and Oracle data-processing and ETL applications supporting a telecommunications product catalog.

- Improved processing efficiency by approximately 100%, significantly reducing batch-processing time.
- Automated recurring data-quality identification and correction activities that had previously required manual intervention.
- Worked across application logic, database processing, data transformation, and operational workflows to improve system reliability and maintainability.

GATEWAY TECHNOLOGIES

Carrollton, Texas

Senior Software Engineer Feb 1995-Mar 1998

Designed and developed telecommunications systems supporting customer service, billing, validation, call-detail processing, and management information reporting.

- Designed application and database solutions across multiple business functions and telecommunications workflows.
- Migrated legacy database applications to Sybase SQL Anywhere, improving maintainability and reducing daily processing time by approximately 50%.
- Developed data-processing, billing, validation, reporting, and integration solutions across C/C++ and relational database environments.
- Participated in architecture, implementation, troubleshooting, deployment, and ongoing production support.

AMIGOS BIBLIOGRAPHIC COUNCIL

Dallas, Texas

Technical Support Specialist / Project Team Lead Mar 1990-Aug 1991; Mar 1993-Jan 1995

Led technical projects involving large-scale library data conversion, automation, and customer implementations.

- Led project activities involving data conversion, technical troubleshooting, implementation planning, and customer delivery.
- Designed and developed a C++ automation utility that generated approximately $120,000 in annual recurring savings by replacing labor-intensive manual processing.
- Developed early experience in technical leadership, data transformation, automation, customer-facing problem solving, and production delivery.