

Matthew M. Scilipoti - Agile Software Developer

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Summary

Software Engineer with 10+ years experience in full-life cycle development, for web and desktop. Passionate about mentoring developers and delivering scalable, accessible solutions in Agile environments. Experienced with Ruby on Rails, web & desktop application architecture, DevSecOps, and developer training. Navy Veteran.

Core Skills

- Ruby, Ruby on Rails, REST, DevSecOps, JavaScript, Docker, PostgreSQL, Architecture, Accessibility, CSS, HTML, Legacy migration, .NET
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Work Experience

Senior Software Engineer — Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI)

2016-07 - 2025-11

Rails developer and DevSecOps (Rails, PHP, Docker) for 20 apps, for Office of Public Outreach.

- Focused on viewspace.org project — replaced a failing OTS digital-signage and playlist platform for museums and libraries, with focus on accessibility.
- Utilized Github Copilot AI as secondary programmer (before Agents were generally available).
- Reduced deployment from multi-month rollout periods to immediate web deploys.
- Reduced bandwidth cost to near zero with massive increase in reliability, by converting real-time streaming to all venues to local video playlist playback agent with IndexedDB-based video caching.
- Increased production reliability and repeatability, by migrating deployments from Capistrano to GitLab CI/CD, containerized services with Docker, and introduced VS Code devcontainers to make builds reproducible and speed developer onboarding.
- Implemented programmatic Vimeo tooling (uploads, metadata, environment scoping).
- Added monitoring, watchdogs, and recovery logic in playback clients to detect and recover from stalled playlists; rolled out synthetic checks to alert operations and reduce mean time to detect issues.

Senior Instructor and Instructional Coach — General Assembly

2014-09 - 2016-07

Co-instructor and coach for the Web Development Immersive (WDI) course. Delivered curriculum, mentored instructors, and prepared students for developer roles.

- Co-delivered an intensive full-stack curriculum covering HTML/CSS, JavaScript, Ruby on Rails, Angular, and Express.
- Onboarded and coached instructor teams, providing lesson reviews, feedback, and teaching best practices to improve student outcomes.
- Mentored students through capstone projects and supported career readiness activities that helped graduates land developer positions.

Senior Developer — LearnZillion

2012-08 - 2014-09

Senior developer on a multi-tenant Ruby on Rails platform for teacher professional development.

- Built multi-tenant features using PostgreSQL and Elasticsearch to power full-text search and content personalization.
- Implemented background processing with Resque and improved reliability of asynchronous workflows.
- Automated server provisioning using Chef and drove the team's adoption of Continuous Delivery practices.
- Evaluated and piloted containerization (Docker) as a path toward reproducible deployments.

Senior Agile Developer (contract) — Federal Reserve Board of Governors

2012-01 - 2012-08

Contract work for the Board's eDiscovery and Legal units to improve FOIA processing and eDiscovery workflows.

- Extracted and indexed millions of emails across Lotus Notes stores to enable high-speed search and review.
- Implemented search-driven pipelines (Sphinx-based) and prediction models to reduce manual review and redaction time.
- Improved processing reliability for encrypted attachments and heterogeneous data sources, reducing time-to-deliver for FOIA requests.

Senior Agile Developer — Groupsite.com

2011-01 - 2012-01

Worked on legacy and migrated Rails applications and supported hosting and operations.

Senior Agile Developer — SmartLogic Solutions

2010-06 - 2011-01

Led a 4-person web application project and improved QA and architecture decisions.

- Led a cross-functional team to deliver a Rails-based web application from inception to production.
- Established acceptance testing with Cucumber, improving regression coverage and release confidence.
- Shaped UX and architectural trade-offs to improve performance and maintainability.

Senior Agile Developer — Traffipax, Inc.

2008-12 - 2010-03

Main Rails developer for traffic management and safety applications.

- Replaced a legacy Java system with a Rails-based solution, reducing turnaround from multiple weeks to 1 day for critical workflows.
- Automated server provisioning and deployment to speed releases and reduce errors.
- Implemented monitoring and log-based alerts to support field technicians and improve system reliability.

Senior Agile Developer — Medical Decision Logic (MDLogix)

2008-05 - 2008-12

Worked on clinical trial and patient management applications, modernizing legacy Rails apps and mentoring teams on Rails best practices.

- Modernized legacy Rails applications, improving maintainability and performance for clinical-trial workflows.
- Mentored engineering teams on Rails conventions, TDD, and agile practices to increase development velocity and code quality.
- Tackled technical debt and simplified deployment procedures to shorten release cycles.

Senior Developer — Mind Over Machines, Inc.

2000-06 - 2000-11

Clients ranged from legal service providers to small manufacturing concerns. Visual Basic desktop development: client server and n-tier architecture. Provided DBA support for MS SQL and MS Access. One project involved replication of databases across the Internet.

Agile Software Craftsman — Possiamo Consulting LLC

2000 - 2016-07

Owner and independent consultant providing custom software and training. Work includes e-learning, bioinformatics, knowledge management, rules-based engines, insurance processing, inspection validation, and distributed document management and workflow. We create web applications (Rails & ASP).

Senior Developer/Analyst — Ajilon

1994-07 - 2000-06

Supported industries including insurance, telecommunications, and retail. Visual Basic desktop development (client server and n-tier). Supported DBAs for MS SQL and MS Access. Migrated a large telecommunications firm from 16-bit to 32-bit applications.

Naval Nuclear Reactor Operator - United States Navy