

Keith Steward, Ph.D.

VP Data & AI Engineering | Enterprise Platforms, GenAI & Global Teams

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[LinkedIn](#) | [IntelligentDataWorks.ai](#) | [IDW LinkedIn](#)

PROFILE

Data and AI engineering executive with 25+ years building enterprise platforms, products, and high-performing technical organizations from strategy through production. Combines global team leadership, platform architecture, data engineering, GenAI, RAG, agents, MLOps/LLMOps, governance, observability, security, and executive partnership. Led organizations as large as 25, advised 200+ enterprises, built data platforms across 11 business divisions, and currently leads 11 engineers operating 70+ AI automations across more than 20 workflows with 99.9% availability.

SELECTED CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Built and led distributed engineering organizations as large as 25 people, including managers and team leads, with accountability for hiring, mentoring, budgets, roadmaps, architecture, delivery standards, operations, and executive communication.
- Architected enterprise data and AI platforms spanning data lakes, ETL/ELT, APIs, analytics, LLMs, RAG, agents, vector databases, MLOps/LLMOps, evaluation, observability, governance, and cloud operations.
- Delivered TriMark's first enterprise data lake across 11 acquired businesses, consolidating 3 TB of ERP data and reducing cross-enterprise reporting from roughly two months to one day.
- Built the AssistX core and first 80% of its initial application hands-on, then led 11 engineers around 70+ production automations across more than 20 workflows with 99.9% availability.
- Advised more than 200 enterprises on AI/ML, data platforms, cloud architecture, and adoption; built AWS technical communities totaling 180+ specialists and created 170+ enablement assets.
- Established Responsible AI, evaluation, LLM-as-judge, guardrails, observability, auditability, security, model routing, cost controls, CI/CD, release, and incident-response practices.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Technical Co-Founder & CEO | Intelligent DataWorks | Boston, MA | Aug 2023 to Present

Lead data and AI platform strategy, engineering, architecture, governance, product delivery, and production operations.

- Recruited and led 11 engineers selected from more than 400 applicants; established onboarding, architecture training, Agile sprints, mentoring, code review, delivery priorities, and production standards.
- Built the AssistX core and first 80% of its initial application hands-on using Python, FastAPI, LLMs, agents, RAG, PostgreSQL/PGVector, APIs, Docker, AWS, and CDK.
- Delivered 70+ automations across more than 20 workflows, accelerating selected work by up to 50x while sustaining 99.9% availability.
- Established AI evaluation, LLM-as-judge, guardrails, observability, auditability, model routing, cost controls, security, CI/CD, release, and incident-response practices.
- Own a \$900,000 budget, staffing, product and technical roadmaps, architecture, releases, cloud operations, and executive decisions across the venture.
- Initiated strategic acquisition discussions regarding IDW's AI platform as part of a planned transition to a senior AI/engineering leadership role.

Sr. Director of Engineering | SuccessKPI | Remote | Jun 2022 to Aug 2023

Built and led engineering for a new AI-powered workforce-management platform within a cloud-native enterprise SaaS company.

- Recruited and mentored eight engineers and one manager, with responsibility for performance reviews, compensation decisions, delivery standards, staffing, architecture, and roadmap execution.
- Directed a distributed Agile organization through production launch for four large customers, including the U.S. Departments of State and Education.
- Designed forecasting, machine-learning, optimization, and scheduling capabilities integrated with Amazon Connect, Genesys, and Talkdesk.

Sr. Director, Data Analytics & Operations | TriMark USA | Mansfield, MA | Aug 2021 to May 2022

Built the cloud data organization and operating model supporting enterprise analytics across a \$1B+ company and 11 divisions.

- Upskilled an initial four-person analytics team and expanded it into a seven-member AWS engineering organization with additional contractors.
- Aligned executives around more than 50 use cases and delivered the first enterprise data lake within ten months, reducing reporting from roughly two months to one day.

- Owned staffing, performance reviews, architecture, delivery planning, risk, change management, executive reporting, and cross-functional priorities.

Engineering Lead, Cloud Data Privacy & AI Governance | MassMutual | Boston, MA | Nov 2020 to Aug 2021

Led architecture and engineering across privacy, governance, Responsible AI, data, and cloud initiatives in a regulated enterprise.

- Guided five initiatives spanning policy automation, model transparency, bias, drift, monitoring, human oversight, auditability, data governance, and governance APIs.
- Partnered with Enterprise Architecture and SRE on AWS, security, IAM, CI/CD, event-driven, container, and infrastructure-as-code standards.
- Delivered a cloud-native privacy platform within eight months that automated approximately 90% of a formerly manual workflow.

VP of AI/ML | NorthBay Solutions | Boston, MA | Jan 2019 to Nov 2020 | (Role ended in company-wide COVID layoff).

Recruited from AWS by the CEO to build an enterprise AI/ML consulting practice and reusable cloud delivery capabilities.

- Led an 18-person distributed engineering team delivering the Data Lake Accelerator while remaining hands-on in initial product architecture and implementation.
- Advised enterprise clients on AI, ML, data, platform strategy, architecture, and production delivery across concurrent consulting engagements.
- Combined executive advisory, staffing, reusable standards, cloud architectures, and production systems for enterprise customers.

Sr. Specialist Solutions Architect, AI/ML & Big Data | Amazon Web Services | Boston, MA | May 2015 to Dec 2018

Helped establish and scale AWS AI/ML and data specialist capability while advising enterprise customers on production adoption.

- Advised more than 200 enterprises across North America on AI/ML, data platforms, architecture, governance, cloud adoption, and business outcomes.
- Founded and led technical communities totaling 180+ specialists, created 170+ enablement assets, and established standards and reusable client practices.
- Delivered 36 invited presentations, trained 180+ architects, and earned AWS ML Elite Gold and Platinum recognition.

EARLIER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- Led a 25-person engineering organization, including managers, through development and commercial launch of CambridgeSoft's Biological Notebook.
- Led cloud and device-software engineering for an FDA-cleared connected product, including an AWS/Cassandra production platform.

EDUCATION & RECOGNITION

Ph.D., Molecular Biology / Microbiology & Immunology, University of Western Ontario. AWS ML Elite Gold and Platinum; AWS re:Invent Rockstar; named inventor on multiple patents.

TECHNOLOGIES

data and AI strategy • engineering leadership • global teams • organizational design • data platforms • data lakes • data engineering • ETL/ELT • data governance • data quality • analytics • machine learning • Generative AI • LLMs • RAG • AI agents • MLOps • LLMOps • AI evaluation • observability • AI governance • Responsible AI • security • cost controls • Python • SQL • Spark • PySpark • AWS • SageMaker • Amazon Bedrock • S3 • Glue • Redshift • Kafka • PostgreSQL • PGVector • Docker • Kubernetes • AWS CDK • CI/CD • APIs • microservices • vendor management • executive communication