

Keith Steward, Ph.D.

AI Platform Architect | Cloud, Data & Intelligent Systems

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PROFILE

Principal architect who designs and delivers complex cloud, data, and AI platforms from strategy through production. Combines deep AWS architecture, distributed systems, APIs, microservices, event-driven services, data lakes, streaming analytics, MLOps, LLM applications, security, governance, and observability with hands-on Python engineering. Built multiple commercial platforms, advised 200+ enterprises, and developed 180+ technical specialists. Brings the judgment to own difficult cross-domain decisions, modernize platforms, mentor experienced engineers, and ship reliable AI-enabled systems at high velocity.

SELECTED QUALIFICATIONS

- **Cross-Domain Architecture:** cloud, data, AI/ML, distributed systems, platform modernization, scalability, reliability, performance, and cost
- **Cloud-Native Engineering:** AWS, Kubernetes, Docker, microservices, serverless, event-driven systems, APIs, infrastructure automation, and CI/CD
- **Data & AI Platforms:** data lakes, streaming, Spark, Kafka, Snowflake, MLOps, SageMaker, MLflow, LLMs, RAG, and agentic systems
- **Technical Influence:** client strategy, architecture standards, governance, security, observability, documentation, mentoring, and executive communication

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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

Architect and build AI product, platform, and cloud capabilities while guiding engineering execution and operations.

- Architected and helped build AssistX, a production AI platform combining Python, FastAPI, PostgreSQL/PGVector, LLMs, RAG, AI agents, APIs, LangChain, LangGraph, workflow orchestration, and AWS services.
- Delivered the first commercial release within eight months, supporting 70+ AI automations across more than 20 workflows and accelerating selected work by up to 50x.
- Recruited and technically led an 11-engineer Agile team while contributing directly to architecture, backend services, cloud infrastructure, orchestration, evaluation, security, and platform operations.
- Established reusable foundations for voice interaction, MCP, multi-agent workflows, controlled prompts, input validation, prompt-injection protection, vector search, human review, and observability.
- Validated the platform with hundreds of user signups at launch and estimated annual customer savings of approximately \$54,000 per organization.
- Initiated strategic acquisition discussions regarding IDW's AI platform as part of a planned transition to a senior AI/engineering leadership role.

Senior Director of Engineering | SuccessKPI | Remote | Jun 2022 to Aug 2023

Directed architecture and engineering for an AI-powered contact-center Workforce Management SaaS product.

- Recruited and led a seven-person distributed team delivering forecasting, optimization, scheduling, analytics, and automated communications on AWS.
- Translated product requirements into architecture, algorithms, APIs, testing, CI/CD, operations, and two-week Agile releases.
- Designed forecasting and linear-programming capabilities that converted contact-center demand and staffing constraints into operational schedules.
- Delivered the first working release within six months for two flagship enterprise customers and expanded the platform to additional large organizations.

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

Owned enterprise data modernization for a \$1B+ organization integrating 11 acquired businesses and heterogeneous ERP systems.

- Prioritized 50+ analytics use cases with Finance, Marketing, Supply Chain, and technology leaders and secured support for an AWS data strategy.
- Upskilled four analysts and grew the team to seven AWS engineers with hiring, mentoring, planning, budget, risk, and delivery accountability.

- Established nightly data ingestion, cataloging, consolidation, normalization, and global querying across 11 geographically distributed ERP environments.
- Delivered the first AWS data lake within seven months and reduced cross-ERP reporting from roughly two months to one day.

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

Led architecture and hands-on implementation across five enterprise Data Privacy and AI Governance initiatives.

- Converted policy and product requirements into secure cloud architecture, APIs, automated infrastructure, testing, CI/CD, and production releases.
- Delivered the first cloud-native privacy-rights platform within eight months, automating approximately 90% of a manual workflow.
- Partnered with Enterprise Architecture and SRE on IAM, serverless patterns, managed services, infrastructure automation, resilience, and cloud operating standards.
- Guided model-governance practices for evaluation, transparency, bias, drift, monitoring, auditability, lifecycle controls, security, and human oversight.

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

Recruited out of AWS by the NorthBay Solutions CEO to establish a new AI/ML practice and reusable production data-and-ML capability.

- Built an AWS Data Lake and ML accelerator hands-on with Python, Django, React, APIs, and AWS, then directed a 24-person remote team toward delivery.
- Delivered an AWS Neptune knowledge graph integrating complex hierarchical enterprise data and expanded reusable cloud and AI architectures for customers.
- Advised enterprise customers on AI strategy, data platforms, knowledge graphs, solution architecture, and production implementation.

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

Advised enterprises and AWS teams on production machine learning, distributed analytics, data platforms, and cloud adoption.

- Advised 200+ enterprises on AI/ML strategy, production architecture, SageMaker, data lakes, distributed systems, security, and scalable adoption.
- Created and led global Big Data and AI/ML communities, developing 180+ specialists through standards, mentoring, workshops, and reusable assets.
- Built a SageMaker and TensorFlow forecasting hackathon for Morgan Stanley data scientists and created 170+ technical enablement assets.
- Delivered 50+ technical presentations and workshops and earned AWS ML Elite Gold and Platinum recognition.

EARLIER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- Led a 25-person CambridgeSoft organization delivering enterprise scientific software and a five-person Dimensional Photonics team launching an award-winning cloud-connected regulated product.
- Built and operated a fault-tolerant AWS/Cassandra platform with APIs, integrations, monitoring, analytics, and no significant production downtime.

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

cloud architecture • data platforms • AI/ML • AWS • Kubernetes • Docker • microservices • serverless • event-driven systems • data lakes • Snowflake • Spark • Kafka • MLOps • SageMaker • MLflow • LLMs • infrastructure as code • CI/CD • security • governance • observability • Python • REST APIs • distributed systems • FastAPI • PostgreSQL • PGVector • TensorFlow • RAG • LangChain • LangGraph • AWS CDK • CloudFormation • IAM • workflow orchestration • responsible AI