

Keith Steward, Ph.D.

AI Transformation VP | Agentic Systems & Responsible Delivery

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PROFILE

AI executive and hands-on builder who converts operational pain points into governed agentic workflows, scalable platforms, and measurable business outcomes. Combines AI strategy, product and engineering leadership, vendor choices, adoption, ROI, governance, security, and production delivery with healthcare-technology and regulated-software experience. Personally built the core and first 80% of an AI platform, then led 11 engineers supporting 70+ automations across more than 20 workflows with 99.9% availability. Builds small, high-leverage teams that move from opportunity discovery through dependable implementation.

SELECTED CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Built and led engineering organizations of up to 25 and developed global AWS specialist communities totaling 180+ professionals.
- Built and operates a production AI platform supporting 70+ automations across more than 20 workflows with 99.9% availability.
- Advised 200+ AWS enterprise customers on AI, ML, data, security, and cloud modernization.
- Delivered an enterprise data lake in seven months, reducing cross-ERP reporting from roughly two months to one day.
- Established Responsible AI, privacy, IAM, auditability, model governance, evaluation, and observability controls.
- Connected architecture standards to delivery through technical decision records, reusable reference patterns, executive reviews, security and governance gates, and measurable operating outcomes across cloud, data, AI, privacy, and application programs. This included translating ambiguous transformation goals into sequenced roadmaps, clarifying ownership before implementation, developing technical leaders, and helping cross-functional teams make explicit tradeoffs among customer impact, speed, reliability, cost, security, and long-term maintainability across complex enterprise portfolios and geographies globally.
- Built AI operating models that connect use-case discovery, value hypotheses, workflow redesign, architecture, data readiness, vendor and model selection, evaluation, human oversight, security, release controls, adoption, and measurable operating results. Combined executive prioritization with hands-on prototypes and production evidence so stakeholders could compare opportunities by impact, feasibility, risk, cost, reliability, and time to value rather than by demonstrations alone. Applied workflow automation, vendor management, HIPAA-aware delivery, and team leadership to operational transformation programs.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Technical Co-Founder & CEO | Intelligent DataWorks | Boston, MA | Aug 2023 to Oct 2026

Built and operated a production AI platform while personally owning architecture, implementation, engineering standards, evaluation, delivery, governance, security, and cloud 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.
- Owned a \$900,000 budget, staffing, product and technical roadmaps, architecture, releases, cloud operations, and executive decisions across the venture.
- Completed planned transition from operating CEO responsibilities to pursue a long-term 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.

Vice President, 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 CambridgeSoft engineering organization delivering enterprise scientific and cloud software.
- Directed the AWS/Cassandra platform for an FDA-cleared connected product with regulated reliability requirements.

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

AI strategy • AI engineering • enterprise AI platforms • Generative AI • LLMs • AI agents • RAG • MLOps • model lifecycle management • AI governance • Responsible AI • security • compliance • observability • model monitoring • Python • FastAPI • REST APIs • vector databases • PostgreSQL • PGVector • AWS • Amazon Bedrock • SageMaker • Kubernetes • Docker • AWS CDK • CI/CD • distributed systems • microservices • data platforms • data lakes • Spark • Redshift • Snowflake • IAM • privacy • auditability • portfolio prioritization • budget management • organization development • cloud modernization