Damien House

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Distinguished engineer experienced in the architecture and production of information systems and software applications as a full stack engineer, software systems architect, and administrator of development operations.

EXPERTISE

Web / App Design	interactive media, portal, content management system, search engine	*18 yr*
Digital Marketing	optimization, accessibility, human centered design	
Platform Engineering	software architecture, software as a service, platform as a service, business	*28 yr*
Development Operations	process management, automation, migration, support, design science research	

TECHNOLOGY

Operations	linux, windows, chromeos, android, cloud, aws, azure, google, virtualization, docker, ddev, git, figma
AI	nlp, llm, generative, rag, agentic, mcp, lovable, cursor, claude, copilot, chatgpt, gemini, notebooklm
Development	drupal, node, react, vue, angular, jquery, bootstrap, sass, twig, graphql, mysql, sqlserver, oracle
Language	html, css, javascript, typescript, php, sql, powershell, python, go, rust, csharp, visual basic, delphi

CERTIFICATION

Google Project Management	Foundation, Initiation, Planning, Execution, Agile, Capstone
Google UX Design	Foundation, Starting the Process, Wireframes and Low-Fidelity Prototypes, Research and Testing, High-Fidelity Design and Prototyping, Dynamic UI, Design for Social Good

PORTFOLIO

Product & Systems Architecture	Designing and engineering scalable, end-to-end software products that solve complex user problems and drive business outcomes.
AI-Augmented Engineering	Developing and integrating intelligent systems that enhance software capabilities and streamline development workflows.
Developer Tooling & Ecosystems	Creating robust tools and reusable systems that improve developer velocity, code quality, and platform stability.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Senior Technical Consultant	**GXM Consulting**	2022.08 – 2025.04
Remote	Washington, DC	2 yr 9 mo

- United States Department of Commerce: International Trade Administration, Office of Public Affairs, Digital Services: www.trade.gov
- **Led Strategic Platform Modernization and Infrastructure Management:** Directed the migration of ITA's web assets from Microsoft Azure to the Acquia Cloud Platform, spearheading the transition to a Composer-based deployment pipeline and standardizing Cloud IDE, environment configurations, and database procedures to reduce onboarding friction and deployment risk. Provided continuous Operations & Maintenance (O&M) support for high availability, performance, and security, including proactive Drupal core patching, module updates, and front-end optimization of CSS, HTML, JavaScript, and SASS/Grunt assets.
- **Engineered Complex Drupal Solutions and Critical Features:** Developed advanced Drupal solutions through custom module development, including an automated Content Expiration Notification system. Achieved WCAG

2.2 Level AA accessibility compliance by resolving critical front-end and structural issues. Implemented key features such as field-level permissions for granular access control across 61 content types and 185 fields.
- **Leveraged Deep Drupal Expertise for Custom Development and System Integration:** Developed and maintained over a dozen custom modules (e.g., Analytics, Data, Events, Media, Reports, Search) to extend core functionality and integrate with essential external services like Power BI, Tableau, Salesforce, Elasticsearch, and other APIs. Provided critical technical consultation and authored extensive documentation for development processes, local environment setups (Docker, DDEV), and deployment workflow, streamlining team onboarding and operational procedures.
- **Drove Cross-Functional Collaboration and Agile Process Optimization:** Directed solution delivery within the Agile Scrum framework, partnering with Product Owners, Project Managers, CX/HCD specialists, and SEO/Analytics experts. Guided projects like Export Solutions Redesign and the automated Content Expiration Notification system from requirements definition and story estimation to backlog refinement and successful deployment, while proactively championing process improvements such as advocating for a 3-week sprint cycle for improved metrics and exploring options for dedicated development environments to streamline workflows.

Senior Technical Consultant **Focused Management, Inc.** 2017.05 – 2020.12

Hybrid Washington, DC 3 yr 8 mo
- United States Department of Agriculture: Office of the Chief Information Officer, Customer Solutions, Infrastructure Operations, Platform Services
- **Orchestrated Enterprise Drupal Migration and Security Modernization**: Executed comprehensive migration of 13 mission-critical USDA Drupal websites (v7, v8) as sole full-stack engineer and SME, transforming fragmented Windows/IIS/SQL Server environments into a unified Linux/Apache/MariaDB architecture delivered 3 months ahead of schedule. Pioneered USDA's inaugural Docker containerized production environment (eWAPS, Enterprise Web Application Platform and Services) with Rancher-orchestrated CI/CD pipelines while implementing comprehensive eAuth SSO integration across all platforms to eliminate credential storage vulnerabilities per security team mandates.
- **Delivered Scalable Operations & Maintenance and DevOps Excellence**: Provided continuous platform support serving thousands of users across diverse USDA agencies and business units, engineering high-impact enhancements including intelligent autocomplete functionality, community engagement voting modules, custom reporting views/templates, and automated content workflows including weekly Radio Archives updates. Established sustainable deployment procedures, documented migration methodologies, and maintained zero-downtime operations through strategic database optimization and proactive module lifecycle management.
- **Managed Critical Infrastructure Operations and System Administration**: Assumed comprehensive SysAdmin responsibilities within Infrastructure Operations, maintaining 24/7 on-call availability for mission-critical systems while efficiently triaging Remedy ticket queues for database server incidents. Diagnosed complex Active Directory/DNS/MSSQL cluster alerts, executed system-level maintenance and emergency hot-fixes, and performed systematic core/module security updates through rigorous pre-production testing protocols, significantly reducing infrastructure downtime and ensuring regulatory compliance across enterprise-wide operations for both internal and public-facing applications.

Senior Technical Consultant **Blackstone Technology Group** 2013.11 – 2016.12

Hybrid Arlington, VA 3 yr 2 mo
- United States Department of Agriculture: Food and Nutrition Service, Agricultural Marketing Service: www.fns.usda.gov, www.ams.usda.gov
- **Directed Technical Execution and Client Collaboration for USDA Web Modernization**: As the Drupal Subject Matter Expert and lead developer, orchestrated the successful migration and enhancement of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) website from a legacy Stellent system to a modern Drupal 7 platform. Guided the project through comprehensive technical analysis, architecture design, and iterative delivery using an Agile Scrum methodology across three major releases (v3 to v5) and dozens of two-week sprints. Became a trusted technical advisor to USDA stakeholders by leading requirements-gathering sessions, architecting solutions for complex needs like Market News integration, and ensuring PIV card integration was delivered within the first three months of the contract period.

- **Engineered High-Performing, Mission-Critical Drupal Applications and Processes**: Leveraged deep Drupal expertise to design, build, and deploy high-volume web solutions for the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) and AMS, leading to consistent "Exceeds Expectations" ratings for delivery and coaching. Drove a 67% increase in team productivity above baseline, achieving a sprint velocity of 29 story points against a baseline of 18 during critical project phases while managing an expanding backlog. Delivered key enhancements including Entity Expansion, improved views for Market News, and enabled new module capabilities for video/audio streaming, ensuring all sprint items met the team's definition of "Done" as accepted by the Product Owner.
- **Championed Innovation and Reusability to Enhance Project Delivery and Stability**: Drove long-term value and efficiency by establishing a standardized deployment checklist and contributing to the creation of a foundational Web Content Management (WCM) baseline, significantly improving predictability and stability for future USDA projects. Actively participated in internal R&D initiatives, including a Web Content Management Center of Excellence (WCM CFE), to explore emerging technologies like headless Drupal 8 and Node.js, ensuring the team's skills remained aligned with modern development practices.
- **Led Comprehensive Knowledge Transfer and Mentorship to Empower Client Self-Sufficiency**: Authored and maintained detailed technical documentation, including software architecture and user manuals, within a shared Confluence collaboration space to create a lasting knowledge base. Facilitated dedicated knowledge transfer sessions and incorporated pair programming with government technical personnel, successfully building their internal Drupal capabilities and ensuring the client's team was fully equipped to independently operate and maintain the platform post-transition.

Senior Software Engineer	Virilion	2007.12 – 2012.04
Hybrid	Washington, DC	4 yr 5 mo

- eBay Government Relations, American Coalition for Clean Coal Electricity, UNICEF, J8 Summit, Baseball Hall of Fame, National Association of Realtors, South Carolina Department of Commerce, Every Mother Counts, Town and Country Bank
- **Leveraged Extensive Technical Leadership and Architecture Experience to Meet Critical Business Demands**: Drawing on over a decade of experience in lead and senior software engineering roles at companies like Time, Inc. and ActiveHealth Management, managed codebases, designed system enhancements, and oversaw project timelines, demonstrating immediate alignment with need for a Senior Engineer capable of architecting complex technical systems and guiding development initiatives. Proficiency in diverse programming languages (PHP, .NET, Java, Perl, Ruby) and database environments (MySQL, MS SQL Server, Oracle) ensured a robust foundation for client solutions from the outset.
- **Spearheaded Drupal Standardization Efforts, Driving Progression Towards Technical Director Role**: Instrumental in addressing the maintenance problems caused by varied CMS usage across clients by leading the initiative to standardize Drupal for technical delivery, laying the groundwork for improved long-term project maintainability and scalability. This strategic leadership, including developing a process for strategizing Drupal architecture and presenting on best practices, directly contributed to progression into a Technical Director role, significantly shaping the company's technical vision and efficiency.
- **Delivered High-Impact Digital Platforms Across Diverse Sectors as a Full-Stack Drupal SME**: As a full-stack Drupal Subject Matter Expert, architected, developed, and led the successful completion of numerous high-profile projects. This included transforming eBay Main Street into a sophisticated, multi-regional advocacy platform that endured three major Drupal migrations (v5 to v7) through comprehensive migration strategies. For ACCCE / America's Power – Factuality Tour, engineered an energetic campaign hub featuring interactive maps and social sharing that mobilized communities around energy policy. For UNICEF, delivered the high traffic Tap Project for global fundraising and TeachUNICEF, an authoritative educational resource portal that streamlined access to teaching materials via custom taxonomies and faceted search.
- **Elevated Team Capabilities Through Process Definition, Mentorship, and Technical Ownership**: Beyond direct project delivery, impact as a team leader was evident in defining crucial processes, such as the "Process for Devising a Development Strategy with Drupal" and authoring critical documentation like the "Technical Specification for eBay Main Street Web Site Redesign". Consistently contributed to and often led discussions in weekly tech meetings, sharing expertise on Drupal modules and other technical solutions. This blend of hands-on technical ownership and proactive knowledge sharing was essential for guiding the team, managing complex project implementations, and ensuring consistent, high-quality deliverables across all client engagements.