

Manuel Herrera

Senior Full Stack Engineer | AI Engineer | Forward Deployed Engineer

Senior Full Stack Engineer and Mobile Engineer with 16+ years building and modernizing enterprise systems across e-commerce, healthcare, insurance, fleet safety, and satellite geolocation. Deep expertise in Java/Spring Boot microservices, event-driven architectures (Kafka, RabbitMQ, Redis), and modern web and mobile frontends (React, Angular, Vue.js, React Native) on AWS. Currently embedded with a U.S. enterprise e-commerce client as order-lifecycle domain owner, resolving live production incidents across an ATG–SAP ecosystem. Practices AI-assisted, spec-driven engineering with Claude, Copilot, and agentic workflows — delivering faster without compromising quality.

SKILLS

Frontend & Mobile: React.js, Angular, Vue.js 3, React Native, Backbone.js, Redux, HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, TypeScript, Swift/iOS, Kotlin

Backend Development: Java 8/11/17/21, Spring Boot, Spring Framework, Java EE / Jakarta EE, Kotlin, Groovy, Python, Microservices, REST APIs, Liquibase, Flyway, Salesforce integrations, SAP integrations, Oracle ATG Commerce, Hibernate

Messaging & Caching: Apache Kafka, RabbitMQ, Redis

Search & Monitoring: OpenSearch, FullStory

DevOps & CI/CD: Docker, Kubernetes, Terraform, Jenkins, Git, GitHub Actions, GitLab, Azure DevOps, Ant, Maven, Gradle, Spock, SonarQube

Cloud & Infrastructure: AWS (S3, EC2, Aurora), Azure, GCP, Istio, Vault, Splunk, Dynatrace, Grafana

Databases: PostgreSQL, Microsoft SQL Server, Oracle, MySQL, NoSQL (Couchbase, MongoDB)

Platforms: Linux, macOS, Windows

Soft Skills: Leadership, Collaboration, Mentoring, Adaptability, Communication, Agile delivery, Ownership

AI & Agentic Engineering: Anthropic Claude / Claude Code, Spec-Driven Development, CLAUDE.md, Agent Skills, Custom Subagents, Agent Teams, MCP, Hooks, Permission Rules, Context Engineering

AI Tools & Integrations: Plugins, Cursor, GitHub Copilot, OpenAI (GPT), GitHub, Jira, Confluence, Slack

Languages: Spanish (Native), English (Professional working proficiency)

EXPERIENCE

Senior Full-Stack Engineer – AI Engineer / Forward Deployed Engineer Oct 2025 – Present · Current
Remote Contractor — Confidential Enterprise E-Commerce Client (USA)

- Own the order lifecycle domain (checkout, payments, gift cards, promotions, discounts, claims) of a B2B/B2C e-commerce platform for a leading U.S. retail organization, processing 1,000+ orders daily.
- Orchestrate order-to-cash integrations across Oracle ATG Commerce, SAP, Apache Kafka, and Redis, connecting legacy Java 8 modules with modernized Java 21 services.
- Act as first-line troubleshooter during live production incidents — with business customers on the line — tracing orders end-to-end (storefront, ATG, SAP) via OpenSearch, CloudWatch, ATG dynAdmin, FullStory session replay, and database analysis, and remediating stuck orders through state corrections, holds, and gift card/promotion adjustments.
- Maintain the OneTrust privacy application across web and mobile devices, and deliver module-level improvements to the platform's mobile apps in React Native and native Swift/iOS, with additional Kotlin support and responsive web experiences.
- Apply AI-assisted engineering (Claude, Copilot, Codex) with a spec-driven workflow — documented investigation specs that preserve context across sessions — accelerating incident analysis, log triage, and legacy ATG code exploration.
- Coordinate order-domain changes with React, infrastructure, database, and SAP teams within a 100+ engineer organization, and build frontend features in Angular and React.js with GitHub-based CI/CD.

Senior Java Full Stack Developer – AI Engineer Sep 2022 – Oct 2025
Remote Contractor — Confidential Driver Risk & Fleet Safety SaaS Client (USA)

- Developed across the full platform domain of a driver risk management SaaS — driver record (MVR) ingestion from state DMVs, telematics aggregation, risk scoring, automated training assignment, and DOT compliance workflows.
- Owned end-to-end feature delivery — from Vue.js 3 and React.js interfaces through Java 11/17 Spring Boot

services to the data layer — integrating new microservices with legacy monolithic systems.

- Applied AI-assisted engineering practices (GitHub Copilot, Claude) for code generation and review, test creation, and incident and log analysis across the platform.
- Automated CI/CD pipelines with GitHub Actions and Azure DevOps while supporting code quality practices with SonarQube.
- Managed database versioning and migrations with Liquibase across PostgreSQL and Microsoft SQL Server.
- Implemented asynchronous, event-driven integrations with Apache Kafka and RabbitMQ, applying Redis caching to reduce latency on high-volume data flows.

Capability Lead / Full Stack Engineer Sep 2021 – Sep 2022
HealthTech Client (USA, Remote)

- Led the design and development of scalable microservices using Java EE 8 and Spring Boot, following distributed systems best practices.
- Delivered features across web and mobile platforms, including React.js, Angular 8, React Native, Swift/iOS, and Kotlin.
- Oversaw DevOps workflows using GitHub Actions, Docker, and Kubernetes to strengthen CI/CD and infrastructure-as-code practices.
- Applied Test-Driven Development with JUnit 5 and Mockito, improving reliability and maintainability.
- Mentored developers and collaborated with cross-functional Scrum teams on coding standards, delivery, and architectural decisions.
- Implemented Kafka and RabbitMQ messaging for inter-service communication and Redis for caching across microservices.

Senior Software Engineer / Tech Lead / Manager Jun 2019 – Sep 2021
Gorilla Logic — Insurance Client (USA, Remote)

- Designed and delivered scalable backend systems with Java EE 8, Spring Boot, and Kotlin for risk and policy management platforms.
- Built and maintained modern web interfaces using Angular 7 and RxJS, aligned with accessibility and performance standards.
- Managed CI/CD pipelines with Jenkins, Git, and Docker, deployed on AWS, and orchestrated services through Kubernetes and Istio.
- Led a cross-functional Scrum team, mentoring developers and guiding architectural decisions aligned with microservices best practices.
- Advocated clean code and implemented TDD with JUnit 5 and Mockito to improve code reliability across modules.

Senior Software Developer Mar 2017 – Jun 2019
Gorilla Logic — Space Technology Client (USA, Remote)

- Engineered backend systems using Java EE 7/8, Spring Framework, Hibernate, and Liquibase for high-availability satellite geolocation platforms.
- Developed and maintained user-facing components using Backbone.js and Angular within an MVC architecture.
- Built and deployed microservices using Tomcat 8.5, Docker, and Kafka, with CI pipelines orchestrated in Jenkins.
- Automated infrastructure provisioning and configuration with Chef and Puppet, improving deployment reliability.
- Deployed workloads to AWS EC2/S3 and optimized service integration through RESTful APIs.
- Delivered within agile Scrum environments focused on continuous delivery and performance.

Technical Lead / Senior Java Developer Sep 2015 – Mar 2017
Informatech — Debt Collection Platform (USA Client)

- Led a multidisciplinary team of 7 engineers across Java, UI, and QA for a U.S.-based debt collection platform.
- Designed backend services using Java EE 7, Spring Framework, Spring Data, and Hibernate, deployed on Apache Tomcat 8.5.
- Built single-page applications with React.js and Redux, securely integrating with REST APIs.
- Delivered microservices aligned with modularity and scalability best practices.
- Troubleshoot and optimized Apache, Tomcat, Jenkins, AWS, and Aurora DB infrastructure.
- Oversaw SDLC execution in a Scrum environment, ensuring consistent delivery of high-quality software.

Senior Software Developer, Java Migration Projects Sep 2014 – Sep 2015
Experian

- Led modernization of legacy systems built in Visual Basic, COBOL, and early .NET, migrating them to Java EE 7 applications.
- Rebuilt critical modules using Spring Framework, Spring Data REST, and RESTful APIs, deployed on WildFly and Apache Tomcat.

- Developed frontend layers with AngularJS, Bootstrap, and jQuery to enable responsive UI modernization.
- Managed database versioning and consistency with Flyway while improving code quality and maintainability.
- Contributed to digital transformation initiatives that improved performance, scalability, and integration readiness.

Senior Software Engineer / Solution Architect Aug 2013 – Sep 2014

Prodigious — Publicis Groupe

- Promoted from developer to solution architect within 3 months to lead the redesign of a high-visibility enterprise website.
- Designed core software components and architecture artifacts using Java EE 6, Struts 2.x, and Hibernate, hosted on Apache Tomcat.
- Integrated CQ5/AEM v5 as a content management system to modularize code and enable multi-site scalability.
- Delivered performant and maintainable solutions using jQuery, JMVC, and Apache CXF while following MVC and CI/CD principles.
- Led new development and long-term maintenance initiatives, ensuring design consistency and architecture alignment.

Senior Software Engineer, Cross-Platform Lead Developer Dec 2012 – Aug 2013

Prodigious — Publicis Groupe

- Acted as technical owner across PHP, .NET, Java, and ColdFusion, delivering 6+ microsites, a corporate CMS, and custom integrations.
- Modernized and maintained legacy applications, migrating critical components to scalable Java EE web systems integrated with a Perl-based CMS and CQ5/AEM.
- Built frontend layers using JSP, HTML, CSS3, and JavaScript, ensuring compatibility and responsive behavior across platforms.
- Managed deployments on Tomcat 6, IIS 7.1, and WebLogic, supporting backend logic with SQL Server and MySQL.
- Delivered end-to-end architecture and implementation under Scrum while supporting QA, build processes, and stakeholder alignment.

Senior Developer, iOS & Backend (Groovy/Grails) Jul 2012 – Dec 2012

Mobiquity, Inc. (Independent Contractor)

- Designed and delivered a custom iPad-based kiosk ordering system for a restaurant chain, enabling quick re-orders, customization, and loyalty rewards.
- Developed the iOS frontend experience with the iOS SDK, Xcode, and custom animations to improve user flow and engagement.
- Built backend services using Groovy on Grails, exposing REST/SOAP APIs for payment, loyalty, and order management integrations.
- Handled data persistence with Oracle DB and messaging through RabbitMQ, with deployments on WebLogic Server.
- Collaborated in Scrum and TDD practices, participating in UX ideation, wireframing, and API contract design.

Lead Software Engineer, Enterprise & Multi-Platform Development Apr 2011 – Jul 2012

Bosz Digital

- Led frontend and backend teams across Java, PHP, and .NET to deliver enterprise and mobile applications for clients in multiple industries.
- Architected and implemented solutions using Java EE 5/6, Spring, Hibernate, and Groovy, deployed on Tomcat 6 and IIS 5.1.
- Built responsive UIs using JSP, HTML5, JavaScript, jQuery, Prototype, and Scriptaculous.
- Defined and enforced coding standards, design patterns, and CI/CD pipelines using Ant, Maven, and Hudson.
- Integrated CMS platforms including TeamSite, Magnolia, and CQ5, and managed SQL Server, Oracle, and MySQL databases.
- Played a key role in agile ceremonies and cross-team coordination to deliver software aligned with client goals.

Senior Software Engineer / Technical Lead Jun 2010 – Apr 2011

Bosz Digital

- Oversaw frontend and backend implementation of enterprise web applications using Java EE 5, Struts 1.2, and Ant-based build pipelines.
- Delivered full-stack features across JSP, HTML5, JavaScript, CSS2/3, Tomcat 6, iPlanet Server, and TeamSite.
- Applied design patterns and led internal best-practice initiatives for maintainable, layered architecture.
- Integrated CMS platforms including Magnolia and CQ5 to support scalable content publishing workflows.
- Participated actively in Scrum-based sprints, contributing to both implementation and technical direction.

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree in Information Technologies and Communication

Universidad Latina de Costa Rica — San José, Costa Rica

CERTIFICATIONS

Claude Certified Architect Foundations (CCA-F) — in progress, exam scheduled Sep 2026 — Anthropic

Scrum Master Professional Certified — Cenfotec

Scrum Foundations Certified — Cenfotec

Agility Specialization — Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica (ITCR)

Microservices with Java and Spring Boot — LiteThinking

Web Development / React Native / React Web App — Cenfotec

Course Update for Java EE 6 — Cenfotec