

Nikolay Konovalov

Senior Software Engineer

Warsaw, Poland | +48 571021371 | konovalov.nk@gmail.com
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Work experience

Senior Software Engineer Remote, Poland
2023-11 - 2026-03

Codility

— Owned security-critical identity and access domains for 25+ months across a legacy B2B SaaS platform, including AuthN/AuthZ, SAML, RBAC/ABAC, and CSP hardening; addressed 20+ audit-driven findings across all severity levels, supported ~200 auth/access endpoints and flows, and became the **solo continuity owner for 15+ months** after the original team rolled off.

— Co-led delivery of an **enterprise permissions redesign** for a 15+ year-old monolith, helping ship an MVP in ~6 months and later becoming a primary owner for production bugs, follow-up fixes, and operational continuity after most of the original team rolled off.

— Owned critical-path registration, verification, login, and token lifecycle logic for **ARR-impacting payment-linked flows**, contributing to a customer-facing initiative with measurable ARR impact over 2 years and shipping production changes in roughly 2 weeks.

— Turned a fragile, high-risk account-merge workflow with 10 years of legacy complexity into an enforceable engineering system by adding **CI guardrails for schema drift**, preventing silent regressions as the data model evolves.

— Built **LLM-assisted engineering tooling** that connected Jira, observability, code search, and GitLab workflows to speed up debugging and investigation across tickets, logs, and code, helping shape ideas that later evolved into **Coherence**.

Stack: Python, Django, React, Next.js, FastAPI, PostgreSQL, AWS, Terraform, Authentication, Authorization, IAM, SAML, OAuth, OpenTelemetry

Senior Software Engineer Remote
RE Partners / Stash.com 2021-10 - 2023-06

— Achieved significant improvements in user acquisition metrics by improving the **web onboarding flow**:

- Increased first platform deposit by **11%**
- Decreased referral cost by **32%**
- Boosted promo redemptions by **35%**

— Improved request traceability, logging, and monitoring across an event-driven architecture consisting of **7+ team-owned microservices**, reducing time to identify and resolve issues.

— Built a scalable event aggregation service for Kafka messaging, maintaining an **99.9%+ SLO for 6 months**.

— Drove team adoption of **commit standards, documentation, debt removal, and bug-reporting hygiene** to improve velocity and maintainability.

Stack: AWS, CircleCI, CI/CD, DataDog, Docker, JavaScript, Kubernetes, Kafka, Kotlin, Node.js, PostgreSQL, React, Redis, Ruby/Rails, Scala, Sentry, Terraform

Senior Software Engineer Remote
Amitree 2021-03 - 2021-09

— Built a custom CI/CD pipeline based on GitLab Auto DevOps and a self-hosted Kubernetes cluster as a proof of concept for migrating from Heroku and **reducing hosting costs by 50%**.

— Dockerized the application monolith into **6 services plus job workers**.

— Proposed and helped implement a one-step UAT flow with Review Apps, resulting in **20% higher velocity and 0 monthly master reverts**.

Stack: AWS, Docker, Ember.js, Google API, Heroku, MailChimp, Mixpanel, PostgreSQL, Redis, Ruby/Rails, Sidekiq, Stripe, Twilio

Software Developer Remote
True & Co. 2018-09 - 2020-12

— Led **cross-functional technical delivery** for an e-commerce project, guiding 3 frontend engineers and coordinating with ~15 people across backend, DevOps, engineering leadership, design, and marketing.

— Shaped **core architecture for Rails + Vue/Nuxt**, covering Nuxt.js frontend structure, JSON:API serialization, and OAuth 2.0/JWT authentication.

— Resolved performance regressions causing **up to 80% slowdown** in a mobile-heavy e-commerce storefront by optimizing SQL queries, caching layers, CDN/HTTP/2 delivery, SSR behavior, and JavaScript bundle loading.

— Resolved a critical Nuxt.js SSR production incident caused by request-scoped API authentication state being cached in a shared Node.js singleton after a JS→TS migration; **restored per-user request isolation** and shipped a production fix within 20 hours.

Stack: Ruby/Rails, Vue.js, Nuxt.js, JSON:API, OAuth 2.0/JWT, MySQL, Redis, Sidekiq, Docker, Kubernetes, GKE, Google Cloud, Sentry, Rollbar

Self-employed 2018-03 - 2018-09
Independent Software Developer

— Built an open-source e-commerce MVP in **3 weeks** using Rails, Vue.js, Docker, and PayPal payments; published **front-end** and **back-end** repositories on GitHub.

— Transitioned from PHP/Laravel to Ruby/Rails through **self-directed full-stack product development**.

Software Developer Remote
Edukey Education Ltd 2017-02 - 2018-03

— Developed and launched paid cross-platform safeguarding software used by **350,000+ teachers and 4 million students** in the UK and US, receiving strong end-user feedback.

— Identified inefficient bug tracker usage and introduced **practical issue-reporting standards**, improving turnaround time for common issues by 15%.

— Reduced development/production environment provisioning time **from 8–16 hours to ~15 minutes** using Vagrant-based automation.

Stack: CakePHP, Mailgun, MySQL, PHP, Vagrant, Vue.js, Webpack

Web Developer Remote
RXA Technology LLC 2015-07 - 2017-01

— Owned maintenance and UX improvements across **several legacy web projects**, improving maintainability, performance, and delivery speed.

— Reduced turnaround time for critical bug fixes **from ~8 hours to 1.5–2 hours** by adding regression tests around fragile legacy flows.

— Built a secure Stripe-based subscription payment flow for a product used by **500+ users**, integrating Stripe API/webhooks, structured error logging, and Mailgun alerts.

— Improved engineering quality through **code reviews, CI, and TDD** practices.

Stack: CodeIgniter, Laravel, Mailgun, MySQL, PHP, TypeScript, Vue.js, Webpack, jQuery

Web Developer Remote
Ahead Technology 2015-02 - 2015-07

— Served as the **primary contributor and technical owner** for custom Moodle LMS plugins, focusing on maintainability, documentation, and long-term extensibility.

— Helped the client launch **two months earlier** by rapidly prototyping reusable Moodle blocks and modules.

Technical Support Software Engineer Moscow, Russia
Open Technologies 2013-09 - 2015-01

— Led **QA, release testing, and support** for a Moodle-based open-source education platform.

— Owned final release checks for new features and translated **recurring customer issues into engineering fixes**.

— Mentored **5 junior developers**.

Education

Volgograd State University Bachelor's degree in Computer Science
2009 - 2013

Coursework and Diploma were focused on creating a parallel, multi-threaded application to accelerate execution of the Barnes-Hut force-calculation algorithm using CUDA API and modern NVIDIA hardware solutions (Tesla, GeForce).

[Quick Demo](#) what I've been working with.

Testimonials

Ilya Sakharov, Codility CTO

I had the pleasure of working with Nikolay Konovalov as CTO at Codility. Nikolay brought depth to our engineering team, his full-stack expertise, especially in building scalable systems, was impressive.

What stood out most was his systemic thinking: he always zoomed out to see how pieces fit together, considering long-term maintainability and performance from the start. His analytical approach shone through in debugging tough issues, he'd break them down methodically, find root causes quickly, and deliver clean, effective solutions.

Nikolay was a reliable, thoughtful contributor who made our product stronger. I'd happily recommend him to any team looking for a sharp, big-picture engineer.

Duncan Wilson, Edukey Education Ltd CEO

I've met Nikolay when we needed two more developers for our ClassCharts and Provision Map products a little over a year ago. We have successfully launched our Safeguarding module together where Nik was responsible for the reporting interface. I was impressed with Nik's front-end skills. And, of course, his attention to details - clean code!

Summary

Senior Software Engineer with **10+ years** of experience across SaaS, identity/access, payments, security-critical systems, legacy modernization, and full-stack product engineering. Strong focus on production ownership, cross-functional delivery, and making legacy systems safer to change.

Languages

Commercial experience / years:

- JavaScript/TypeScript / 12
- Ruby / 6
- Python / 3
- Kotlin/Scala / 2
- PHP / 5

Side-project / fast ramp-up

- Rust · Elixir · Clojure · Go · Lua

Frameworks

Commercial experience / years:

- Ruby on Rails / 6
- React.js/Next.js / 6
- Django/FastAPI / 3
- Node.js / 6
- Vue.js/Nuxt.js / 4

How I build software

- [The Twelve-Factor App](#)
- [The Joel Test](#)
- [Strong code-review culture](#)
- [OpenCode / agentic workflows](#)
- [Coherence / spec-to-evidence](#)

Selected work

- [Codility](#) / [Flexible User Roles](#)
- [Stash](#) / [Web onboarding](#)
- [Amitree](#) / [Folio](#)
- [True&Co](#) / [E-commerce platform](#)
- [Edukey](#) / [Safeguarding module](#)