

Hi. I'm Shawn McCool.

For the last 22 years, I have discovered and exploited business opportunities, shipped software across many platforms and developed in a dozen programming languages, designed and managed Linux servers in a data center, trained developers, founded and operated a small web agency, created a software development conference and training company, wrote a book on web development, built dozens of open-source libraries and tools used in hundreds of thousands of applications, and traveled around the world giving technical presentations and training.

Get to know me at <https://shawnmc.cool>

Work Experience

Human Music BV

Systems Architect, Technical Director, and Product Development

2016 - 2021

Human Music BV is a software development industry education and support company built around providing conferences, workshops, and other training products to developers and software development businesses.

- Founded and organized the software development conferences Laracon EU and Domain-Driven Design EU with a combined annual attendee count of 1400 developers.
- Hunted talented developers, nurtured relationships, and put them on stage in Spain, Belgium, The Netherlands, and online.
- Organized dozens of vendors and made sure that everyone was focused, on task, and sharing a vision.
- Founded and directed the Laravel Certification Program, a comprehensive skill assessment designed to improve the hiring process for businesses who lack the resources or skill set required to assess potential hires.
- Designed and built all software supporting the company, including the automation of the certification program's lifecycle, report production, customer support, product purchasing, and other business processes. The automation was critical in allowing a very small team to punch far above their weight.

Big Name

Founder / Team Lead

2011 - 2016

Big Name was a software development agency that sought to support and train a small number of developers while serving the varied needs of clientele.

- Discovered and directly managed relationships with clients.
- Trained developers in software development and project management.
- Led the development team in building applications for long-term and short-term contracts.
- Created the "Event Sourcery" online video course for introducing developers to CQRS and event sourcing.

Anthology Creative

Technical Lead

2009 - 2011

Anthology Creative was a web agency with a half dozen highly talented and well-known professionals who designed products for large creative agencies.

- Led a skilled and successful team of industry professionals in creating ambitious artistic products.
- Developed over 30 unique applications for Sony music campaigns.
- Built media-focused applications including video transcoding and streaming software.

Relegent

Director of Technology

2005 - 2009

Relegent was an opportunistic business venture made by a fantastic entrepreneur and mentor. I was responsible for implementing solutions to business problems that he discovered.

- Led a small team of developers and designers in adaptation of Web MD and Discovery owned health content into a product that could be deployed to provide encyclopedias of treatments and conditions to hospitals.
- Worked with educators and designers of school curricula to create HealthTeacher.com which provided health educational curricula to thousands of school districts.
- Designed technical solutions for dozens of significantly varied entrepreneurial efforts.

Ascendant Media

Linux Systems Administrator

1999 - 2005

Ascendant Media was a medium-sized company who built a top-50 internet property during the original internet boom.

- Designed, provisioned, and built the hardware for over 40 Linux servers, including RAIDs, networking hardware, and wiring.
- Automated Linux systems provisioning and management.
- Worked closely with MySQL to implement binary replication and maintain a 150 gigabyte database (very large now, unbelievably huge then).
- Implemented network, server, and data redundancy including multiple on and off-site backups.

Family Features Editorial Syndicate

Programmer

1998 - 2000

Family Features was a family-owned print editorial company focused on the food industry.

- Tasked with data entry, I started creating automated tooling to increase efficiency and reduce error. Was given carte blanche to navigate the company and automate or improve whatever possible.
- Built skills on navigating organizational structure, assessing human problems, and finding solutions that improved the quality and experience of their work.