

Sean Leighton

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EXPERIENCE

PoliteMail Software, Greenland NH — *Senior Software Engineer*

April, 2016 - PRESENT

- Lead the full software development lifecycle for the organization, guiding architectural decisions and managing a cross-functional engineering team of 2–6 members.
- Lead architect delivering multiple production-ready systems from initial concept through deployment, ensuring scalability, maintainability, and alignment with business objectives.
- Develop and integrate machine learning and AI-powered features into customer-facing products, enhancing functionality and user experience.
- Adopted Claude Code as a core part of the team's daily engineering workflow following the company's shift to AI-native development, applying agentic coding practices to production feature work, refactors, and debugging.
- Build and optimize complex SQL queries and database schemas for large-scale datasets, improving performance, reliability, and data accessibility.
- Deploy and maintain cloud-based applications in Azure, leveraging multiple Azure services to enhance reliability, monitoring, and operational efficiency.
- Championed modernization of the company's flagship product by driving the migration from Web Forms to a React-based architecture and introducing best-practice engineering patterns.
- Designed and implemented RESTful APIs with secure authentication and authorization layers, enabling reliable integrations and improved system interoperability.
- Established a structured Agile lifecycle, transforming an unorganized release process into predictable biweekly sprints with clear milestones and accountability.
- Own release management and production reliability — packaging and deploying builds, delivering rapid fixes to urgent incidents and high-priority customer issues while maintaining system stability.

CSquared Systems, Auburn NH — *Software Engineer*

May, 2014 – April, 2016

- Served as the primary liaison for a major client, maintaining and coordinating internal software solutions.

SKILLS

Languages: React, Javascript, C#, Python, SQL, ASP.NET, C++, and Java

Cloud & Infra: Azure, REST APIs, CI/CD

AI/ML: Machine learning integration, AI product development, LLM Pipelines

AI-Native Development: Claude Code (daily use — PoliteMail production + personal projects), custom AI agent tooling, prompt engineering for LLM integrations, AI-assisted legacy-code refactoring

Leadership: 7+ years of team leadership and project management

Communication: Verbal communication, stakeholder presentations

AWARDS

2024 Employee of the Year

2023 MVP

Frequent Employee of the Month

PERSONAL

Adaptive Ski Instructor from 2006 – Present

Division 1 Cross Country and Track athlete

Adaptive Guide for Boston Marathon 2017 – 2020

Marathoner, Ultramarathon trail runner, skier, snowboarder, golfer, and world traveler

AIRE Lvl 1 Certified

EDUCATION

University of New Hampshire, Durham NH – *Bachelor of Science, Computer Science*

May 2014