

Christopher Watson

Senior Software Engineer · UI/UX · Full-Stack

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Front-End Engineer with 20+ years building scalable SaaS platforms across automotive, healthcare, and enterprise sectors. Deep expertise in Angular (10–20), React, TypeScript, and Node.js with a consistent record of shipping accessible, high-performance UIs at household-name companies including Disney, PwC, AutoNation, and Walt Disney World. Proven technical lead who has mentored engineering teams, defined front-end architecture, and delivered products from concept through production.

CORE SKILLS

Languages: JavaScript (ES6+), TypeScript, HTML5, CSS3, C#, PHP

Frameworks: Angular 10–20, React / Redux, AngularJS, Node.js, Ember.js, Backbone.js, .NET

Cloud / DevOps: AWS, Docker, Kubernetes, Jenkins, Git, CI/CD pipelines

Databases: MongoDB, PostgreSQL, SQL Server

Practices: SaaS / multi-tenant architecture, WCAG / ARIA accessibility, Agile (Scrum & Kanban), AG-Grid, REST APIs

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Engineer — UI (Contract)

Nov 2025 – Present

The Walt Disney Company · Orlando, FL

- Built a System Map UI component in Apex that visualizes real-time health status of all connected devices across the network.
- Designed the graph algorithm that parses device response data and maps upstream/downstream topology positions for each node.
- Implemented leader-line rendering that connects devices via downstream references, enabling at-a-glance network dependency tracing.
- Delivered supporting features including a file Uploader, OAuth Authentication flow, and WebSocket-based live data feed.

Senior Software Engineer — UI (Contract)

May 2024 – Jun 2025

PwC (PricewaterhouseCoopers) · Tampa, FL (Remote)

- Led front-end development on Sightline, PwC's global SaaS tax platform, managing Angular component architecture and React dashboard modules used by enterprise clients worldwide.
- Migrated legacy table structures to AG-Grid, reducing rendering time and improving data manipulation UX for complex financial datasets.
- Delivered accessibility improvements aligned with WCAG 2.1, including ARIA labeling and keyboard navigation upgrades across core workflows.
- Collaborated with backend, product, and UX teams to scope and implement new feature releases on a recurring sprint cadence.

Senior Software Engineer — UI/UX (Contract)

May 2022 – Jan 2024

AutoNation · Fort Lauderdale, FL (Remote)

- Re-architected an internal SaaS dealership platform in Angular 15–20, improving performance and modernizing a legacy AngularJS codebase.
- Built Chrome extension–powered sales tools integrated with CarGurus, AutoTrader, and Craigslist, enabling in-browser VDP overlay and lead capture.
- Developed an Appointment Services Dashboard that centralized service-call troubleshooting, reducing lookup time for service advisors.
- Led UI/UX from wireframe through deployment — produced project plans, low/high-fidelity designs, and front-end architecture docs.
- Implemented Single Sign-On (SSO) across multiple internal platforms, improving security posture and eliminating redundant login flows.

Senior Software Engineer — UI/UX (Contract)

Nov 2021 – May 2022

Global Tel-Link Corporation · Falls Church, VA (Remote)

- Contributed full-stack Angular/Node.js development to a multi-tenant SaaS tablet ecosystem serving correctional facilities.
- Built mobile and web application features, REST APIs, and microservices within a cross-functional tablet engineering team.
- Maintained up-to-date knowledge of React, TypeScript, Ruby on Rails, and Node.js best practices within an Agile delivery environment.

Software Developer — UI/UX (Contract)

May 2021 – Dec 2021

Allscripts · Remote

- Enhanced a production healthcare SaaS platform using Ember.js, implementing new features and resolving high-priority production bugs.
- Owned NUnit testing lifecycle — deprecated outdated tests, authored new test cases, and utilized a custom internal testing platform.
- Managed CI/CD pipeline integrations via Jenkins, handled branch management in Jira, and led PR reviews across the team.

Senior Software Engineer — UI/UX (Contract)

Aug 2019 – May 2021

Walt Disney World · Lake Buena Vista, FL

- Led the re-coding of an internal park-operations SaaS app from AngularJS to Angular 10, modernizing architecture for a platform used across resort operations.
- Built three Angular 8 SaaS applications leveraging guest geolocation data for real-time forecasting, scheduling, and spatial visualization.
- Engineered dynamic heatmaps and multi-polygon map rendering (Destination/Area/Land/Location tiers) used by park planning teams.
- Integrated DNM XML file format with in-app edit/save capability, enabling non-technical staff to manage spatial area definitions.
- Enforced WCAG accessibility standards and established code quality protocols adopted by the front-end team.

Senior Software Engineer III — Lead

Oct 2017 – Jun 2019

Wyndham Destinations · Orlando, FL (Remote)

- Designed and delivered multi-site SaaS applications in Angular, React, and Node.js for both internal and external audiences.
- Pioneered adoption of Docker for containerized local development, improving environment consistency and onboarding speed.
- Led UI/UX direction, mentored a team of front-end developers, and ran Agile sprints as technical lead.
- Reverse-engineered legacy EOL software and produced a modernization roadmap, extending platform lifespan and reducing operational risk.
- Implemented WCAG accessibility and code standards org-wide, establishing repeatable front-end quality controls.

Software Engineer — UI (Contract)

Nov 2016 – Oct 2017

AutoNation · Miami / Fort Lauderdale, FL

- Engineered a dealership sales tool in React / Redux with Angular modules for printing and email distribution, serving sales teams across AutoNation's national network.
- Led frontend architecture and collaborated with a .NET backend team for seamless API integration.
- Led Magento development for an acquisition e-commerce parts site, delivering a full retail storefront.

Architect & Lead Full-Stack Engineer

Jun 2014 – Oct 2016

Queralyze LLC · Miami, FL (Remote)

- Architected and built a SaaS ed-tech platform from zero to launch using React, Node.js, Backbone.js, and MongoDB, supporting individualized student learning for high school classrooms.
- Owned full product lifecycle: architecture decisions, cloud deployment, performance optimization, and LTI integration with Canvas LMS.

UI / Web Developer

2002 – 2014

Various — Insight Global (JM Family), Sysco, ION Television, ENSR · South Florida & Northeast US

- Built and maintained web platforms, custom CMS systems, and brand design systems across finance, food distribution, and broadcast media.
- At Sysco: designed and deployed templated branding across 30 websites, built a custom CMS, and led the company's first social media integration initiative.
- At Insight Global / JM Family: applied HCI principles to enterprise UI design, focused on user-centered interaction design.
- At ENSR / AECOM: led corporate rebranding post-merger, mentored production artists, and managed a team of designers.

FREELANCE & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Owner / President

Sep 1996 – Present

WatsonInk LLC · Windermere, FL

- Operated an independent web design and development consultancy for 29 years, delivering SaaS applications, e-commerce platforms, and custom CMS solutions for 30+ clients.
- Notable clients include FreshPoint (Sysco Foods), Queralyze, Yowza Fitness, NaviTech Marine Electronics, and Super Yacht Network.
- Delivered full-stack Node.js / REST API builds, mobile-responsive frameworks, and API integrations with Facebook, Twitter, and PayPal.

EDUCATION

BS, Graphic Design

2001 – 2005

Art Institute of Pittsburgh · Pittsburgh, PA

AS, Web Design & Development · AS, Visual Communications

1994 – 2011

Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale · Fort Lauderdale, FL