

David Camargo

AI & Software Development Leader

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Summary

ID: SUM_01 // TRACK RECORD

\$0 → \$10M ARR

Proven track record

Led companies from 0 to \$10M ARR (Instaleap, acquired by Instacart) and grew teams from 0 to 100+ engineers, delivering value daily while maintaining healthy service levels for customers.

ID: SUM_02 // LEADERSHIP

102 HIRES · 7 COUNTRIES

Generative leadership

Prioritizes strong relationships with teams and stakeholders, a product-focused mindset, and a generative culture; improving processes to drive productivity and, increasingly, to make AI adoption stick beyond the pilot phase.

ID: SUM_03 // EXPERTISE

17 YRS · MVP → ENTERPRISE

17 years of engineering expertise

Extensive experience building solutions from MVP to enterprise across different stacks (mainly JS and Python), from nimble startups to complex scale-ups.

ID: SUM_04 // AI ENABLEMENT

AI GENAI · RAG · AGENTS

AI enablement & mentorship

Mentors engineering leaders at Lidr.co on personal leadership, balancing business results with engineering excellence, and adopting AI responsibly; covering GenAI, RAG, agents, and agent security for both engineers and managers.

Experience

Engineering Manager

Pizza Hut Digital & Technology | Full-time | Remote | 01/2025 - Present

- Launched React Native and web apps for two markets on a MACH architecture, enabling faster market rollout (from 9 months to 3 months) on a shared platform.
- Led AI-native tooling and process adoption (Lite LLM, spec-driven development, AI-assisted code review), improving DORA metrics: 50% reduction in lead time, 10% reduction in change failure rate, and deployment frequency up from biweekly to multiple times per week.
- Steered technical decisions balancing launch speed with long-term scalability, contributing to a conversion rate increase from 7% to 21%.
- Led the implementation and data strategy for marketing tools (Branch, Appsflyer, Meta, TikTok, Braze), driving a 35% increase in revenue.

Adjunct Professor – Leadership & AI Engineering

Lidr.co | Part-time contract | Remote | 03/2022 - Present

- Built and delivered applied AI curriculum covering generative AI, RAG, agent architectures, and agent security for software teams.
- Enabled developers and managers to adopt AI tooling in daily workflows, from IDE assistants to LLM-driven automation pipelines.
- Helped senior engineers transition into leadership roles through mentoring on engineering management, team development, and decision-making under ambiguity.
- Guided companies on where AI adoption created leverage and how to roll it out without disrupting delivery.
- Coached tech leads through career inflection points and leadership growth.

VP of Engineering & Co-founder

Instaleap (acquired by Instacart) | Full-time | Remote | 03/2019 - 03/2023

- Led the tech team to develop a product with \$2M ARR within two years, achieving \$1 Billion GMV in four years.
- Architected a distributed system for 16 products with an API-first methodology, integrating distributed databases.
- Expanded the team by recruiting 102 global members across 7 countries, enhancing a distributed team environment.

- Executed strategic product and architectural decisions, leading software engineering and support teams.
- Implemented Terraform for automated AWS resource provisioning, boosting infrastructure efficiency.
- Coordinated stakeholders to drive business results and foster a collaborative work culture.

CTO

Bright Send | Full-time | Remote | 04/2023 - 03/2024

- Built and led a focused product team, enhancing effectiveness through hands-on mentoring and collaboration with stakeholders for a clearer product view.
- Launched a remittance app for Europe-to-Africa money transfers, integrating payout, KYC, and compliance to enhance functionality.
- Led the integration of Flutterwave for payouts across Africa and Machnet for pay-ins, KYC and compliance.
- Drove technical decisions and established code review and continuous delivery practices across product development.
- Utilized a tech stack including React, TailwindCSS, NextJS, GitHub Actions, Serverless, Java, and Spring Boot.

Software Engineer

Vapi | Full-time contract | Remote | 10/2024 - 12/2024

- Integrated advanced voice capabilities with speech-to-text, LLM reasoning, and text-to-speech for low-latency seamless experiences.
- Enhanced the configuration and management dashboard for voice agents, improving user control and operational usability.
- Developed workflow-builder features with conversation nodes and branching logic. Enabled non-specialists using configurable primitives.

Software Engineer

Littio | Full-time contract | Remote | 04/2024 - 07/2024

- Transitioned to freelance consulting, strategically planning next funding round for Bright Send.
- Engineered an internal finance operations system with NestJS and Serverless, streamlining workflow management and operational efficiency.
- Delivered optimized back-office tools using React and no-code platforms, leading to a significant increase in internal process efficiency.
- Developed and implemented Metabase dashboards, providing enhanced operational visibility for the finance team.

Tech Lead

Mercadoni | Full-time | Bogotá, Colombia | 08/2018 - 12/2018

- Led a team of 15 engineers across multiple platforms to deliver major web, iOS, and Android releases, reviving several stalled projects.
- Scaled core architecture to enhance system reliability and performance for client-facing applications.
- Established engineering guidelines for safer experimentation within the codebase.
- Collaborated with the head of product and engineering to ensure alignment and efficient coordination.
- Monitored system and product metrics with Prometheus, Grafana, Google Analytics, and Metabase (SQL).
- Supported the customer service team in achieving high Net Promoter Score (NPS).
- Utilized a tech stack including Node.js, ECS, RabbitMQ, and others to streamline CI/CD processes.

Senior Software Engineer

Mercadoni | Full-time | Bogotá, Colombia | 05/2018 - 08/2018

- Delivered new features for the next generation of the client-facing web application.
- Rolled out a new client-facing web application with CloudFront and Lambda@Edge, improving frontend scalability and release control.
- Migrated key features from the legacy API to the new platform version.
- Added monitoring and tracking across the web application and APIs for better operational visibility.
- Tech stack: Node.js, ECS, RabbitMQ, MongoDB, React/Redux/Sagas, CI/CD with Jenkins (Frontend).

Senior Frontend Engineer

Torre | Full-time | Remote | 02/2016 - 04/2018

- Spearheaded the frontend architecture and development of seven innovative product experiments, focusing on user experience and interface design.
- Successfully built six alpha products using Angular and launched one beta product with Vue.js, notably the Torre Bio platform.
- Developed backend functionalities in Scala/Play, enhancing the messaging service and crucial features like profile creation and recommendation systems.
- Innovated Material, a tailored fork of Vue Material, to meet unique organizational needs, now extensively used across all company products.

- Contributed significantly to Marrconi, a Node.js and TypeScript-based microservice, managing messaging for four distinct products.
- Drove the MVP launch of translationbunny.com, handling frontend development with Angular 1 and integrating multiple microservices in Groovy, PHP, and Node.js.

Software Engineer

Tutorya | Full-time | Bogotá, Colombia | 08/2013 - 11/2015

- Improved learning experience for 3000 students by enhancing scalable, efficient systems during Tutorya's platform design.
- Led a distributed team in the development of Tutorya, ensuring seamless collaboration and effective product engineering.
- Improved the customer experience by translating user needs and feedback into product decisions.
- Spearheaded front-end engineering efforts, creating intuitive dashboards for easy data tracking and analysis of operators and class coordinators.
- Instrumented features for detailed data tracking, enabling data-informed decisions for product enhancements and customer support.
- Maintained and developed message queues within Tutorya's distributed system, enhancing overall platform reliability with RabbitMQ.

Software Engineer

Shortcut Solutions | Full-time | Bogotá, Colombia | 02/2011 - 10/2011

- Built frontend and backend features using the EBD framework, HTML, CSS, and jQuery.
- Delivered frontend and backend work for Products Arquitectónicos and ID3.
- Tech stack: Perl, EBDML, HTML, CSS, jQuery, MySQL, Linux Bash, Moo tools.

Software Engineer

Cronopios Comunicaciones | Full-time | Bogotá, Colombia | 08/2009 - 02/2010

- Built Joomla templates, modules, and components while maintaining servers for roughly 30 nonprofit information portals.
- Tech stack: jQuery, PHP, Joomla, Moo tools, Flash, ActionScript.

Skills

Leadership: Leadership, Budget Management, Board Communication, Engineering Management, Team Development, Due Diligence, Fundraising, Investor Relations

AI: AI Implementation, LLM, RAG, LangChain, Agent Orchestration, LangGraph, BMAD, SDD

Software development: JavaScript, Python, TypeScript, Java, PHP, Agile, TDD, Lean

Frameworks & tools: React, Angular, Serverless, NestJS, Docker, Flask, RabbitMQ, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Firebase, Metabase, CloudFront, Expo, React Native, Node.js, Redshift

Practices & platforms: AWS, Terraform, Supabase, Google Cloud, CI/CD, Agile methodologies, DORA metrics implementation

Domains: HR, Marketplace, Ecommerce, Fintech, Logistics, Last mile, Retail, Creative services, Gig economy

Education

Systems Engineering

Universidad Distrital Francisco José de Caldas | Bogotá, Colombia

Specialist in software development and managing IT projects.