

TARUN MITTAL

B.E. (CSE), M.Tech (Databases)

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Open Source Profiles: [Github](#), [Dockerhub](#), [NPM](#)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Zostel.com — VP Engineering

April 2025 – Present

Zostel is India's largest chain of backpacker hostels, running a digital platform that spans the consumer booking experience, property and partner operations, and the internal tooling used across the network. As VP Engineering I own platform architecture, cloud cost and performance, engineering process, and the growth of the team, and I have stayed deliberately hands-on throughout — the platform work below was designed, built and shipped to production by me.

- Cut monthly AWS spend in half, from roughly USD 9,000 to USD 4,500, through the media, transcoding and infrastructure work below.
- Built an in-house image proxy and media server, taking it from proof of concept through stabilisation, tuning and scale-out. Page weight dropped from roughly 70 MB to under 15 MB and CloudFront egress from about 14 TB to a few hundred GB, saving approximately USD 1,000 a month.
- Added a self-hosted, Lambda-based video transcoding pipeline that brought page weight down further to under 10 MB, with a one-time conversion cost per asset and no recurring transcoding spend.
- Established the engineering on-call process — responsibilities, escalation paths and automation — with the whole team aligned on a single incident workflow.
- Consolidated data from multiple AWS accounts and databases into one optimised analytics database using AWS DMS replication, supercharging Metabase and unlocking self-serve reporting for teams across the business.
- Rebuilt CI/CD on AWS for the Zo backend, the Zostel frontend and Monofront (project management tool, admin, check-in and Zo apps), giving faster iterations, far better scalability and tighter release controls — the same hygiene that carried us through the npm supply-chain compromise unaffected. Per-PR demo environments on GitHub have since transformed review and QA turnaround.
- Activated our own booking engine through the Cloudbeds OTA integration, previously underutilised, opening a direct channel for onboarding partner properties.
- Integrated MoEngage for customer engagement and lifecycle messaging, and MyGate for property access and visitor management.
- Drove backend performance and reliability through structured root-cause analysis using New Relic, Sentry and the AWS CLI, turning recurring incidents into permanent fixes.
- Ran regular 1:1s with every engineer, covering day-to-day work, mentoring and career direction.
- Owned engineering hiring end to end, and made the difficult calls on team composition and priorities that the role demands.

Technologies: AWS (Lambda, CloudFront, DMS, S3), CI/CD pipelines, Node.js, Metabase, New Relic, Sentry, GitHub, MoEngage

Manufactured Networks Inc., Los Angeles (CA) — Integrations Lead

June 2022 – March 2025

Manufactured.com is an end-to-end manufacturing & inventory credit solution. It enables merchants in the US to source inventory from across the world via its super strong vendor network and help them scale with credit and financing. Manufactured is a strong believer in buy vs. build, and I was responsible for finding and integrating various solutions. This included KYB/KYC (US and international), banking data (Plaid), various ecommerce platforms, logistics and tracking, accounting software, including a deep QuickBooks Online integration with our own platform. Along with this, built various end-to-end features on our platform (dashboards etc). Also implemented a solution that parses emails using the OpenAI and Gmail APIs to move the logistics workflow forward.

- Designed an EDI-based integration to consume client data and pass it through to a third party.
- End-to-end KYB/KYC solution (Alloy and Trulioo both).
- Implemented a pipeline for the factoring business (invoice ingestion, approvals, purchases, payout tracking, etc.), enabling the risk team to migrate from spreadsheets to our platform.
- Logistics lifecycle — used the OpenAI and Gmail APIs to parse emails received by the logistics team and manage the lifecycle on our platform, including integrations with third parties to track vessels, couriers and air shipments worldwide.
- Continuous monitoring of bank statements using Plaid and HeronData. Built a dashboard for the risk team to visualize and flag the data.

Hiperware Labs Inc. (ClassHero.com), Vancouver (WA) — Senior Developer

Jan 2017 – May 2022

ClassHero.com is a Math app used in thousands of schools and hundreds of school districts across the US. It combines an interactive Math learning app with a powerful teacher dashboard that enables teachers to make decisions for each child individually or for the class as a whole. Live student progress is tracked and viewed on the dashboard, enabling teachers to create interventions. As part of a very small remote team, it was my task to design, engineer, develop and test the app at an aggressive pace. I was the sole contributor to the client dashboard and one of two engineers handling backend services. My contributions included:

- Implemented the dashboard from scratch, through numerous iterations since its inception.
- Wrote backend services with a codebase that stayed maintainable and scalable.
- Set up infrastructure on AWS and co-managed Heroku deployments.
- Integration with [Clever](#), [NWEA](#), [Stripe](#) and various other third-party services.
- Integrated numerous client libraries (Chart.js, DataTables, Google Classroom, etc.).

TrulyMadly — Senior Software Engineer

Sep 2015 – Dec 2016

TrulyMadly is one of the biggest online dating and social platforms in India. It is an app-only product with more than a million monthly active users, which meant tackling scale at the backend. I was primarily responsible for revamping the messaging module, building an admin platform for internal tasks, and providing scalable backend solutions for new features.

- Took complete ownership of the chat module within my first month, migrating it from polling to WebSockets using the Socket.IO library for Node.js.
- Wrote modular, unit-tested code that was easy to maintain and extend.
- Handled the complete infrastructure for the chat module, scaling the chat servers to 800,000 concurrent socket connections with maximum resource utilisation (two app servers behind two Nginx load balancers kept the system highly available).
- Owned the AWS infrastructure for the dev and QA environments, bringing costs down substantially by making greater use of Spot instances and writing automation scripts to manage them.

- Created an internal admin module for content curation, reporting and user moderation, secured with proper access controls and built on the web using Bootstrap and jQuery.
- Wrote scalable backend code for new social modules and for in-app purchases, integrating with Google via the Android Developer APIs, Apple Pay and Paytm.

Technologies: Node.js, Socket.IO, PHP, Nginx, AWS, MySQL, Git

Nexus Payments Group — Lead Engineer & Architect

Dec 2013 – Sep 2015

Nexus Payments Group is a multinational group of companies that enables small businesses and individuals to transact and pay electronically, operating in the UAE, Qatar and Kuwait. It offers an eCommerce platform and a payment gateway solution to small and medium businesses.

I started as a senior developer and quickly took ownership of one of the new projects (the acquiring business). My work included the design and development of the end software as well as managing the servers and databases. Server-side development was mainly in the Play Framework (Java) and PHP (Magento). My major contributions were:

- Integration with various banks and payment processors.
 - DataCash (Mastercard) in Qatar via Qatar National Bank.
 - CyberSource in the UAE via Network International.
 - CyberSource and KNET in Kuwait via National Bank of Kuwait.
- Developed a service-oriented acquiring platform through which we could accept payments on behalf of our clients. Clients could integrate their own websites with our payment gateway via APIs. We also provided a complete eCommerce platform built on Magento (open-source community edition), where anyone could set up a store with ease and manage it from our dashboard, along with Facebook and Instagram integration. We additionally offered a way to add payment functionality to a static website, using JavaScript to open the payment page in an iframe.
- Managed the servers and deployments. I was solely responsible for server management across our QA and production environments, on AWS as well as a datacentre in Qatar. I automated Docker builds via scripts in GitLab, and introduced HAProxy as our load balancer, migrating the project from Amazon's ELB. We used Docker for deployment and Git for version control.
- Ran development using Agile practices, with project management in Jira.
- Revamped our Android app and integrated it with a third-party mobile POS solution.

Technologies: Play Framework (Java), MySQL, JPA and Ebean, Docker, Git, PHP (Magento), Nginx, Android, Cloud, Linux scripting

HealthKart.com — Senior Software Engineer

April 2012 – October 2013

Description: HealthKart.com is one of the leading players in the e-commerce domain, selling health, beauty and sports products online. As part of the tech team, I worked on various modules of the existing system (online catalogue, inventory management, finance and operations). My major contributions were:

- Given ownership of a scalable system to manage and run the in-house courier services and operations, covering client- and server-side development as well as the database design.
- Integrated the HealthKart system with third-party financial software (Busy), and provided database-driven reports to the finance department for reconciliation and audits.
- Integrated our system with one of the leading courier service providers and worked on various modules of the warehouse management system.

Technologies: J2EE, Spring, Hibernate, Stripes, MySQL, Apache and Tomcat, Google Guice

Zomato.com — Web Developer

July 2011 – March 2012

Description: Zomato.com is an online restaurant search and discovery service providing information on home delivery, dining out, cafés and nightlife across India and 21 other countries.

I worked with Zomato in its early days, where my work was not limited to a single project. I maintained the existing product and kept adding new functionality across content management, search and the APIs. My major contribution was opening the APIs up to the developer community, which involved work on security and scalability. I also built the APIs for the then newly launched events section and played an important role in the new e-commerce section of the website.

Technologies: PHP, MySQL, Linux, Apache Solr, AJAX, jQuery, JavaScript

Mercedes-Benz Research and Development India — Industrial Intern

Jan – June 2011

Description: Developed a new module for the project “Zula”, which manages workflows at MBRDI.

Technologies: J2EE with RAD and WebSphere, Java Business Process Management (jBPM)

SKILLS:

- Full-stack web development involving:
 - Java, PHP, JavaScript and Node.js (including third-party libraries)
 - Apache2, Nginx, HAProxy, Docker, Git, CI/CD pipelines
 - Play Framework, Spring, Hibernate, JPA and Ebean, Magento
 - MySQL, Apache Solr, Metabase
 - Linux (Ubuntu, openSUSE)
- Working knowledge of Android development.
- Deployment on Linux servers (AWS and datacentres); observability with New Relic and Sentry

EDUCATION:**M.Tech in Information Technology**

71.3%

July 2009 – 2011

International Institute of Information Technology, Bangalore

B.E. in Computer Science and Engineering

71.4%

Aug 2005 – 2009

Jodhpur Engineering College and Research Centre, Jodhpur

Senior Secondary (CBSE)

79.8%

April 2004 – 2005

St. Anne's School, Jodhpur

Secondary (CBSE)

83.6%

April 2002 – 2003

St. Anne's School, Jodhpur