Steven Deobald

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Experience

Founder and CEO, Endatabas (2023-2024, Canada)

- *Product management, funding, pre-sales*
- Defined product UX, APIs, SQL dialect, open source license & business model
- Prioritized features, validated architecture, reviewed all code
- Defined brand and marketing - endatabas.com
- Created all investment memos, pitch decks - pitch.endatabas.com
- Wrote all documentation - docs.endatabas.com

Product Consultant, XTDB (2020-2023, Remote)

- *Market research, product/project/engineering management, funding, legal*
- Researched and successfully pitched open source, serverless business model
- Managed developers and artists for branding, website, documentation - xtdb.com
- Managed team packaging and distributing software
- Wrote all expository technical essays on immutable and temporal databases

Engineering Manager, Pariyatti (2019-present, Volunteer, Remote)

- *Open source project & engineering management, R&D, architecture*
- Complete development of Clojure and Rails backends (GitHub: pariyatti/kosa2)
- Maintenance of Flutter (Dart) mobile apps (GitHub: pariyatti/mobile-app)
- Prioritization of projects and tasks
- Managing staff and volunteers across the team

Founder and CEO, Nilenso Software (2012-2018, India)

- *Marketing, sales, recruitment, product leadership, project management, mentorship*
- Championed worker-owned, cooperative model
- Wrote and open-sourced first international worker cooperative constitution in India
- Drafted and implemented menstrual leave policy
- Trained all staff in Clojure and functional programming on the JVM
- Built company to ₹15cr ARR, with 20 staff members

Chief Product Officer, C42 Engineering (2011-2012, India)

- *Product management, mentorship, architecture*
- Managed team building rubymonk.com, including a self-sandboxing Ruby interpreter

Tech Lead, DRW Trading (2008-2011, USA)

- *Systems architecture in C#, Java, Ruby, Clojure, and Rails*
- Helped champion re-architecture of entire trade and positions management platform
- Led development of instrument reference data system in JRuby

Tech Lead, ThoughtWorks (2005-2008, Canada / USA / UK / India)

- *Development in C#, Java, and Ruby; mentorship, architecture, analysis*
- Scoped and sold projects at inception
- Built and maintained systems through delivery

Senior Developer, Adxstudio (Acq. Microsoft) (2004-2005, Canada)

- *CMS systems design and implementation in C# and .NET*

Education

B.Sc.Hons.Coop. in Computer Science, University of Regina (2005)

- Graduated with Honours in the Cooperative Education Program
- Participated in five work terms across public, private, and cooperative sectors
- Held Top Secret security clearance with Canadian government

Activities and Interests

- Third wave open source
- Vipassana meditation
- Pāli, Sanskrit, Hindi
- Off-grid solar, construction, waste management
- Swimming, cycling, running, yoga, kayaking, canoeing, backpacking, kempo, skiing

Projects

Pariyatti Digital Library and Mobile App (ongoing open source, github.com/pariyatti)

Atlantic Canada Vipassana Meditation (ongoing non-profit, atlantic.ca.dhamma.org)

Vipassana for Hackers (ongoing papers, vipassana-for-hackers.org)

Optimistic Computing (2024 essay, deobald.ca/essays)

Third Wave Open Source (2024 essay, deobald.ca/essays)

The Grift, the Grind, and the ग्रंथ (2024 keynote, IN/Clojure)

Democracy at Work: The Case Study of Nilenso (2023 podcast, WorkWise)

Trucks, Tubes, and Truth (2022 essay, deobald.ca/essays)

Blockchain Without the Crypto (2021 essay, deobald.ca/essays)

The Strength of the Record (2021 essay, deobald.ca/essays)

Ethical Software for Everyone (2019 essay, deobald.ca/essays)

Transparency in Work (2017 talk, CreativeMornings)

Vipassana for Hackers (2016 talk, HasGeek TV)

Nilenso Cooperative Agreement (CC0-1.0) (2016 legal template, github.com/nilenso)

Two Years Wiser: The Nilenso Experiment (2015 keynote, The Fifth Elephant)

Clojure is my favourite Ruby (2012 talk, RubyConf India)