Forward Deployed Engineer

Joshua Lengfelder

I build and deploy software, and work directly with the people using it—from requirements and onboarding to customer support and public communication.

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Selected work

QTrainer / QTurk · Research software & RAG

Built a low-latency, statistically validated research system using proprietary Bayesian updating and advanced statistical processing. Built its RAG system and a self-composing knowledge graph connecting scientific specifications to implementation.
Built and shipped servers to a stakeholder, handled onboarding, and kept existing services running throughout the handoff. Project overview ↗ · Independent retrieval demo ↗

Bluebonnet Music · Agency operations

Made the agency's administrative workflows agent-driven: inquiries, scheduling, contracts, invoices, and follow-ups. Built SMS automation with Twilio, plus SEO and inquiry-handling workflows. The agency booked thousands of dollars in gigs, including a $7,000 orchestra engagement, and began receiving inquiries from ChatGPT. Visit the public site ↗ · Read the story ↗

Chronomancy · iOS app & community

Built and published an iOS app that prompts people to pause at unpredictable moments and record what they notice. Developed it in Swift and SwiftUI, with local notifications, offline scheduling, and a private journal with photo and video capture. App Store ↗ · Project & socials ↗

Randonautica · Founder & CEO, 2019–2022

Created the Randonaut movement and a new category of real-world exploration apps. As founder and CEO, led product, engineering, launch, and growth, shipping apps that reached the App Store's top 10 and millions of downloads across 150+ countries. Grew the company to $100k in monthly revenue and a successful exit.
Handled customer support, community communication, and media interviews, representing Randonautica with The New York Times, NPR, and WIRED. Explained the product, answered difficult questions, and addressed concerns as the user base grew.

> "Videos tagged #Randonautica have to date accumulated 1 billion views on the site."
>
> WIRED on TikTok · November 2021 ↗

Systems & automation

Built and maintained self-hosted services, internal tools, and automation. Traced problems across applications, servers, deployments, and networking. Used code and AI agents to investigate issues, implement changes, and document the work. Agent messaging code ↗

Technical range

- Python and Rust
- iOS development with Swift and SwiftUI
- Web applications and APIs
- Authentication and session workflows
- Linux and self-hosted infrastructure
- Diagnostics and deployment
- Automation and AI agents
- RAG, hybrid search, and knowledge graphs

Customers & communication

- Understand needs and clarify requirements
- Explain technical decisions in plain language
- Onboard customers and stakeholders
- Handle support and difficult questions
- Media interviews and public communication
- Follow through from issue to resolution

What's next

I'm interested in new technical challenges, whether that's joining a team, building a product, improving an existing system, or helping make a research idea usable. Tell me what you're working on.