

Donato Perconti

Engineering Leadership | Platform Engineering | AI Systems

donato.perconti@gmail.com

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/dperconti/>

<https://github.com/dperconti>

(208) 790-1990

Summary

Engineering leader with 10+ years of experience building payments systems, backend platforms, and engineering teams across fintech and health tech. Hands-on across architecture, infrastructure, and product delivery, with recent focus on AI integrations, RAG pipelines, and developer automation using LLMs. Known for fast execution, strong ownership, and shipping reliable systems at scale.

Experience

Pangea

Engineering Manager

April 2025 – Present

- Led a team of 6 senior and staff-level engineers across backend, infrastructure, and data systems for an early-stage FX trading and payments platform
- Built real-time RFQ execution and market data pipelines, reducing quote latency by ~50%
- Scaled event-driven GCP infrastructure using Pub/Sub, Terraform, and Cloud Run, reducing deployment times from hours to minutes
- Delivered Plaid, Jiko, and Clerk integrations while improving engineering delivery velocity by ~35%
- Led the company's transition from a hedging platform into an international FX and payments product, architecting and building core trading, payments, and infrastructure systems from 0 → 1

Heard

Engineering Manager

October 2023 – April 2025

- Reorganized a 14-person engineering organization into three functional squads, hiring an additional Engineering Manager, building a nearshore team, and mentoring a senior engineer into management to improve ownership and delivery velocity
- Built AI-powered transaction categorization systems using RAG pipelines and vector search, reducing manual categorization work by ~40%
- Led migration from Heroku to AWS, improving uptime from 97.5% to 99.9% while reducing infrastructure costs by ~20%
- Recruited and scaled backend, frontend, and infra teams, increasing engineering capacity by ~60%

Ness

Engineering Manager

Sep 2022 – October 2023

- Led backend, mobile, and infrastructure engineering during the company's push from pre-launch toward product-market fit, rapidly building and shipping core onboarding, payments, rewards, and card systems through 10 production releases in 9 months to support a fast-growing customer waitlist
- Built Plaid integrations and migration workflows that reduced onboarding time by ~50% and accelerated customer activation
- Stayed deeply hands-on across APIs, infrastructure, and payment systems to support rapid iteration, product launches, and early customer feedback cycles
- Led a team of 10 senior and staff-level engineers across backend, infrastructure, and data systems for an early-stage FX trading and payments platform

Elevate Security

Engineering Manager

June 2021 – September 2022

- Led a distributed engineering organization of 18 engineers across platform, frontend, and analytics teams, delivering a real-time security automation platform that reduced customer response times by ~60%
- Built and scaled a no-code workflow engine and real-time analytics platform used by enterprise customers to automate security and compliance operations, increasing automation adoption by ~3x
- Developed high-volume event processing and analytics infrastructure powering customer behavioral insights, reducing investigation and reporting latency from hours to seconds
- Partnered with product and design to prioritize roadmap investments using customer telemetry and usage analytics, improving customer retention and platform engagement
- Improved execution across globally distributed teams through clearer ownership, operational processes, and squad alignment, increasing delivery throughput by ~40%

Skillshare

Staff Software Engineer

2019 – 2021

- Led engineering for global payments infrastructure, checkout systems, and revenue recognition pipelines across distributed backend and platform teams
- Led migration from a legacy PHP monolith to NestJS microservices, enabling expansion to 13 global payment providers
- Architected multi-provider payment orchestration systems that improved checkout reliability, payment success rates, and international transaction coverage
- Coordinated cross-functional teams delivering subscription billing, reconciliation, payouts, and financial reporting systems
- Modernized payments architecture to improve deployment speed, provider integration velocity, and overall system resiliency

Lululemon

Lead Software Engineer

2017 – 2019

- Led backend and API development for Buy Online, Pick-Up In Store (BOPIS) initiatives
- Built scalable serverless systems on AWS Lambda supporting inventory and fulfillment workflows
- Developed MVP applications and platform services to rapidly validate new retail initiatives

Projects

- **With Light AI** – AI mobile and web application for therapists and their clients <https://withlight.ai/>
- **Aevum** - API-first scheduling infrastructure that enables developers to embed booking, availability, and calendar workflows directly into their applications <https://withaevum.com/>

Technical Skills

AI/LLMs: OpenAI, Anthropic, RAG pipelines, embeddings, vector search, agentic workflows

Backend: Python, Django, FastAPI, TypeScript, Node.js, Next.js, SQL

Cloud & Infra: AWS, GCP, Terraform, Docker, Kubernetes, Pub/Sub

Data: Postgres, Redis, Kafka, DynamoDB

DevOps: GitHub Actions, Datadog, Grafana, CI/CD

Education:

B.A. Computer Science and Mathematics, Lewis & Clark College

Business Administration Certificate, University of Washington

AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner