John Ndigirigi

Full-stack & AI Engineer

Nairobi, Kenya (UTC+3) · Full overlap with UK and EU hours, 4+ hours with US Eastern · Open to remote roles and relocation
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SUMMARY

Full-stack engineer who ships production web, mobile and SaaS products in TypeScript, React, Node.js, PostgreSQL and AWS, and builds AI features that are safe to put in front of customers: human review, traceability to source documents, and deterministic code wherever correctness matters. Currently building QuoteKamili, an AI quoting product for trade suppliers that turns messy quote requests into priced quotes in under a minute, with every price calculated in tested code rather than by the model. Previously led a multi-tenant cooperative finance platform with LLM agents and database-enforced tenant isolation, and led mobile development in an 8-person team through Toptal.

HOW I BUILD WITH AI

- **Spec first, small slices.** Features start as a written spec with acceptance criteria and architecture decision records, then ship in small, reviewable slices built with AI coding agents, mainly Claude Code, running several in parallel when the work splits cleanly.
- **Verified, not trusted.** Every agent-written change is reviewed and passes the same gates as hand-written code: type checks, dependency boundaries, property-based tests on business rules, real-browser tests and accessibility checks.
- **AI reads, code decides.** In products, models read and suggest, tested code handles anything touching money or data, and a person approves anything customer-facing.
- **A maintained agent setup.** A reusable agent configuration (conventions, context, checks and review rules), adapted per project, connected to tools through MCP and updated as models and tools change.

SKILLS

- **Languages:** TypeScript, JavaScript, Python, SQL, C#
- **Front end and mobile:** React, Next.js, React Native, Expo, Capacitor, Tauri, Tailwind CSS, React Aria
- **Back end and data:** Node.js, Express, FastAPI, PostgreSQL (row-level security, pgvector), MongoDB, Prisma, Redis, REST, GraphQL
- **AI:** LLM applications, AI agents and agentic workflows, document extraction, RAG, LangGraph, OpenAI and Anthropic APIs, Claude Code, Cursor, GitHub Copilot, Model Context Protocol (MCP)
- **Testing and quality:** Vitest, Playwright, Jest, fast-check (property-based testing), axe-core (accessibility)
- **Cloud and delivery:** AWS (ECS Fargate, RDS, CDK), GCP, Docker, GitHub Actions, CI/CD, Linux
- **Identity and Web3:** KERI, ACDC, W3C Verifiable Credentials, DIDs, Cardano smart contracts (Aiken)

EXPERIENCE

QuoteKamili · Founder & Lead Engineer
Sep 2026 – Present · Remote

B2B SaaS built for electrical, plumbing and HVAC distributors in the UK and US, turning requests for quotes into complete, priced quotes. quotekamili.com

- Built an AI pipeline that reads quote requests in any format (emails, PDF purchase orders, photos of handwritten lists, bid sheets), matches each line to the supplier's catalogue and returns a complete quote in under a minute instead of hours of retyping.
- Kept AI away from the money: it only reads the request, while prices, totals and unit conversions run in tested code, and supplier pricing is never sent to a model.
- Designed for human review: every quote line links to its place in the source document, and a rep approves each quote before it goes to a customer or the ERP.
- Architected a multi-tenant platform on AWS (ECS Fargate, RDS PostgreSQL with pgvector, CDK) with row-level security in the database and idempotent background jobs, so retries never create duplicate quotes or charges.
- Test pricing and credit rules with property-based tests (fast-check), and run UI tests in real Chromium, WebKit and Firefox across time zones with Vitest and Playwright, with automated accessibility checks (axe-core).
- Ship one React codebase to web, iOS and Android via Capacitor and to desktop via Tauri.

Toptal · Full-stack & AI Engineer (Freelance)
Jun 2026 – Present · Remote
Accepted into Toptal's freelance network after its multi-stage technical screening.

Mobile Lead, Elevate Youth · Jul – Aug 2026 (contract)
Children's digital wellness app for iOS and Android, built in Expo React Native and TypeScript.

- Led mobile development in an 8-person team spanning backend, QA, DevOps and mobile, delivering separate experiences for parents, children and coaches.
- Built secure sign-in (one-time passcodes, Sign in with Apple, Sign in with Google) and in-app subscriptions with RevenueCat, gating paid features by entitlement.
- Established the release pipeline: automated linting, type checks, tests and builds, with submission to TestFlight and Google Play through GitHub Actions and EAS.

Sociale · Lead Developer
Mar 2025 – May 2026 · Remote
Multi-tenant platform for savings groups and credit unions across Africa (SACCOs, chamas, stokvels and ROSCAs).

- Led a team and architected the platform: a Node.js REST API on PostgreSQL with row-level security, giving every cooperative fully isolated data without per-tenant infrastructure, plus a React admin dashboard and a React Native member app.
- Integrated an AI credit-scoring engine and built LLM agents for board reporting, risk analysis and a multilingual member assistant, bringing agentic workflows into production financial software.
- Built portable Financial Passports that turn a member's verified contribution and repayment history into credentials they can take between institutions, and an on-chain cooperative treasury with multi-signature withdrawals.

DIGN · Identity Solutions Engineer
Jan 2026 – May 2026 · Remote (contract)

- Built integration and demo sites for enterprise partners on a KERI-based identity platform, covering supply chain provenance and onboarding scenarios against live AWS-hosted agents.
- Wrote the partner integration documentation and researched interoperability with the vLEI and

GLEIF ecosystem.

Notamperdata · Lead Developer & Maintainer
Mar 2024 – Feb 2026 · Remote (part-time) · Open source

- Built and maintained an open-source Google Workspace add-on, published on the Workspace Marketplace, with a Next.js verification app that gives research data a tamper-evident audit trail.
- Designed for privacy: only SHA-256 hashes leave Google's infrastructure, anchored on the Cardano blockchain.

Blocktrust · Software Engineer
Mar 2024 – Mar 2025 · Germany (Remote)

- Built a no-code workflow platform in C# and .NET that lets organisations compose credential issuance, KYC verification and sign-in flows without writing code.
- Delivered a fully client-side credential builder and an endorsement system whose credentials expire automatically, preventing misuse of stale endorsements.

DirectEd Development Foundation · Software Engineer
Dec 2022 – Mar 2024 · UK (Remote)

- Built full-stack MERN (MongoDB, Express, React, Node.js) applications, the core of DirectEd's platform work, and maintained the Python FastAPI back end on AWS that powered the main platform API.
- Built internal tools, including a student onboarding platform based on self-sovereign identity.
- Guided interns as they implemented several client projects, from design through delivery.
- Joined as a tutor and intern before moving into engineering contracts.

TEACHING AND COMMUNITY

- **Tutor,** Kenya AI Challenge 2026: mentored teams building AI products for agricultural finance
- **Tutor, Cardano track,** Cardano Africa Tech Summit (CATS) 2026, a months-long program with 500+ developers across 12 African cities
- **Curriculum author,** self-paced smart contract course for CATS 2026 hackathon participants
- **Award winner,** African Blockchain Championship 2025, Cardano track
- **Speaker,** DevFest Mt. Kenya 2024
- **Web Lead,** Google Developer Student Club, DeKUT; organiser, DevFest Nyeri 2022

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

- **BSc Computer Science,** Dedan Kimathi University of Technology
- **Startup School,** Y Combinator (2026)
- **Full Stack Development with React,** HKUST (Coursera)
- **Cardano Blockchain Certified Associate,** Cardano Foundation