

NIMILA HIRANYA SAMARASINGHE

Senior Technical Lead | Backend & Distributed Systems | Payments Platform Engineering
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Senior Technical Lead with nearly 10 years at a single high-growth commerce technology company, advancing through four promotions from Software Engineer to Senior Technical Lead. Owns the Java and Spring Boot payments platform behind POS, self-service kiosk, mobile ordering and web ordering products serving 400+ active merchants across the US and Canada, processing over 320,000 transactions and \$5M in payment volume per month at 99.99% availability. Designed, implemented and certified eight processor and smart terminal integrations end to end within a 25-integration provider architecture, and extended that architecture so new processors ship without a client release. Leads a team of five, has developed 10+ engineers from intern to Tech Lead, and acts as the engineering interface to enterprise customers, payment providers and hardware vendors. Targeting Senior Software Engineer, Staff Engineer, Lead Software Engineer or Backend Platform Engineer roles.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- **Scale:** operate the payments platform for 400+ active merchants, many multi-location, across the US and Canada, processing 320,000+ transactions and \$5.25M monthly (roughly 3.9M transactions and \$63M annually) at 99.99% uptime over the past year on a publicly published status page.
- **Integration depth:** designed and implemented 8 of the platform's 25 payment integrations end to end: NAB/EPX, Payeezy, TSYS and Stripe for card-not-present, and PAX (TSYS and NAB/EPX), Square, Clover and Poynt for card-present. Personally owned all NAB/EPX and TSYS processor certification.
- **Architecture leverage:** extended an inherited two-contract provider abstraction into a 25-integration platform with per-merchant provider routing, so onboarding a new processor is a backend-only change requiring no client application release: under a week of development, one two-week sprint to production including QA.
- **Platform capability:** added tip adjustment, Apple Pay and Google Pay support, and automated merchant provisioning across the provider layer, expanding what every existing integration could express rather than solving each case per provider.
- **Payment integrity:** engineered safeguards against inconsistent terminal behaviour, including detection of partial payments the hardware permits but business rules forbid, with automatic void and user notification.
- **Leadership:** lead a team of five (an Associate Technical Lead, two Senior Software Engineers and two QA engineers); have developed 10+ engineers from intern through to Tech Lead, and conducted 50+ technical interviews.
- **Organizational influence:** designed and led a company-wide AI enablement program: four workshops across two cross-functional cohorts spanning engineering, QA, business analysis, marketing and sales, covering AI fundamentals, tooling and MCP. Participants shipped working internal and merchant-facing tools, and the strongest builds were adopted into company systems with their creators empowered to form teams around them.
- **Industry presence:** represented the company at ETA Transact, the National Restaurant Association Show and the Hawaii Restaurant Association Foodservice Expo.

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Languages: Java, JavaScript, TypeScript, SQL

Backend & Architecture: Spring Boot, Spring MVC, REST API design, microservices, distributed systems, multi-tenant platform design, high availability, performance optimization

Security & Payment Standards: OAuth2, JWT, tokenization, 3D Secure, hosted payment pages, secure payment APIs, processor certification

Data: PostgreSQL, MongoDB, MySQL, Redis

Cloud & DevOps: AWS, Docker, Jenkins, Git, Nginx, Apache Tomcat

Payment Processors & Gateways: Clover, Square, Stripe, TSYS, NMI, Payeezy, NAB/EPX

Digital Wallets & Terminals: Apple Pay, Google Pay; PAX, Poynt (web and terminal), Clover, Square

Commerce Platforms: POS, self-service kiosks, mobile ordering, web ordering, loyalty and rewards, merchant administration and provisioning

POS Hardware Ecosystem: Elo, Teamsable, LANDI, Clover, Square, Poynt, PAX

Leadership: Technical leadership, mentoring, hiring, production incident management, cross-functional collaboration, enterprise customer engagement

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

APPOVA INC. Enterprise restaurant commerce and payments technology

Senior Technical Lead 2017 to Present

- **Architecture and platform:** architect backend services underpinning the POS, kiosk, mobile ordering and web ordering platforms, defining service boundaries, data models and integration contracts across the product suite for a 400+ merchant multi-tenant base.
- **Payments engineering:** build and maintain integrations across processors, gateways, digital wallets and smart payment terminals, covering authorization, capture, refunds, partial refunds, voids, tip adjustment, stored cards, tokenization, 3DS, gift card flows and merchant onboarding.
- **API design:** design scalable Java and Spring Boot REST APIs consumed by web clients, native mobile applications, self-service kiosks and payment terminals, standardizing authentication, capability negotiation, versioning and error semantics so provider differences never reach the client.
- **Technical leadership:** lead architecture discussions and drive engineering best practices in design review, code quality and release readiness, translating product requirements into implementable technical direction.
- **Mentorship and hiring:** grow engineers through code review and hands-on technical coaching, and assess candidates across 50+ technical interviews as part of the engineering hiring process.
- **Production reliability:** serve as final escalation point for payment-critical incidents, tracing failures across distributed services, third party providers and terminal hardware; operate an overnight resolution model across a Sri Lanka to US time difference, unblocking merchants by their next business day with a workaround while the engineered fix moves through QA and deployment.
- **External engineering interface:** work directly with enterprise customers, payment providers and POS hardware vendors on integration design, certification requirements and issue resolution, and with Product, QA and Customer Success to scope, ship and support releases end to end.

MAJOR PROJECTS

- **Multi-Provider Payment Architecture.** Extended a two-contract provider abstraction, separating card-not-present and card-present flows, into a platform carrying 25 integrations. Capability declaration at the interface level and per-merchant provider routing at the data layer mean the backend selects and drives the correct processor, terminal, payment form and refund path with no client-side branching. New processor onboarding: under a week of development, one sprint to production.
- **Processor Integration and Certification.** Delivered NAB/EPX, Payeezy, TSYS and Stripe web integrations and PAX, Square, Clover and Poynt terminal integrations end to end, and completed full NAB/EPX and TSYS certification test scripts and signoff.
- **Digital Wallet and Tip Adjustment Rollout.** Introduced Apple Pay and Google Pay across the provider layer, including per-provider web SDK configuration, and added tip adjustment as a platform-level capability available to every compatible integration.
- **Payment Integrity Safeguards.** Built detection and automatic reversal for partial payments permitted by terminal hardware but disallowed by business rules, voiding the transaction and notifying the user to keep merchant settlement and order state consistent.
- **POS, Kiosk and Ordering Platforms.** Backend services behind the point of sale, unattended self-service kiosk, mobile ordering and web ordering products, integrated with Elo, Teamsable, LANDI, Clover, Square, Poynt and PAX hardware, plus loyalty and rewards and merchant administration capability surfaced consistently across all channels.

INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP & CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT

- **International representation:** represented the company at ETA Transact, the National Restaurant Association Show and the Hawaii Restaurant Association Foodservice Expo, delivering product demonstrations and building relationships with payment providers, hardware vendors and technology partners.
- **Enterprise accounts:** support national entertainment chains, multi-state franchise restaurant groups, high-traffic public venues and quick-service and beverage brands as the technical point of contact for platform and payment matters.
- **On-site customer delivery:** perform customer installations, platform upgrades and technical health checks on site, ensuring enterprise deployments go live and stay healthy.

EDUCATION

BEng (Hons) Software Engineering 2017

University of Westminster, delivered via the Informatics Institute of Technology (IIT), Sri Lanka

CERTIFICATIONS

- Master Java Developer, Institute of Software Engineering (IJSE)
- CIMA Certificate in Business Accounting, Chartered Institute of Management Accountants