

Benjamin Sampica

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Summary

I currently work as a Lead Software Engineer for Casey's in Iowa. I'm a skilled professional in the .NET stack, a full-time learner, and problem solver.

I like to not only make things work but make them work well. When things break, I like when they break really fast. I yearn to work with a community of like-minded professionals to make constant, evolutionary change every day.

My Website - www.bensampica.com

Employment History

Lead Engineer

Caseys

06/2024 - Present

Lead the rearchitecture of Casey's daily sales ingestion of ~\$20 billion across 3,000 stores, moving from a reactive, batched, push-based system to a proactive, streaming, pull-based system built with .NET, EF Core, Blazor and hosted Azure.

Lead the implementation of Casey's Smart Safe initiative which brought in IoT cash safes into each store, saving ~\$25 million and received the Association for Financial Professionals 2023 Pinnacle Awards Grand Prize for excellence in treasury and finance.

Created and lead the enterprise strategy for containers at Casey's including creation, pushing, deployment, security, and auditing.

Lead the committee that created an engineering handbook containing heuristics of the practice at Casey's for new and current engineers.

Created and lead Casey's quarterly DevJam, a two-day event of discovery and learning for developers to tackle new and existing problems in a safe, pressure-free box of their own making.

Senior Engineer

Casey's General Stores • Ankeny, Iowa

12/2021 - 06/2024

Software Engineer III

Comoto • Philadelphia, PA

06/2021 - 12/2021

As part of a Scrum team, developed and maintained features for jpcycles.com, revzilla.com, and cyclegear.com, largely focused on marketing and search engine optimization so our pages and products would be seen by our customer's eyes first.

Used a wide array of tools including .NET, Elixir, MSSQL, Postgres, TeamCity, and CircleCI to take features from concept to cash.

Senior Application Developer

Homesteaders Life Company • Des Moines, IA

08/2020 - 06/2021

Maintained and enhanced a Blazor PDF processing application that utilized Azure OCR to scan each individual page, ingest the results, perform additional scrubbing and business validation, and then saved to an Azure SQL database for

further manual processing. This application began with nearly 50,000 lines of code containing zero tests. I left it with 80% code coverage.

Pair/ensemble programmed daily with other developers on my team and advocated for these good software practices across the organization by leading the adoption of a tech talk for interested developers.

Helped guide Azure DevOps organizational strategy for pipelines, templates, and projects.

Web Application Developer - Contract

Polk County • Des Moines, IA

08/2019 - 08/2020

Full-stack web developer that worked on a Scrum team to create and maintain web applications to enhance the ability of Polk County to serve its residents. Largely worked in the .NET stack including ASP.NET Core MVC, Bootstrap 4, MSSQL, JavaScript, and Git.

Steered, prototyped, and ultimately built, maintained, and skilled up Polk County's presence in Azure DevOps - moving us away from Bitbucket and bringing CI/CD into our toolchain.

Steered and participated in a reimagining of teams into product-focused teams instead of project-based teams which led to increased transparency, introspection, and adaptation.

Software Engineer

Casey's General Store • Ankeny, IA

03/2019 - 08/2019

Led an API strategy for sun setting legacy applications that needed to continue to speak with each other. These were coupled with a few ASP.NET Core websites which utilized Azure DevOps for CI/CD in order to replace these legacy applications.

Maintained and refactored legacy applications written in VB.NET, VBScript, and other legacy languages.

Associate Web Developer

Polk County • Des Moines, IA

06/2016 - 03/2019

Full-stack web developer that worked on a Scrum team to create and maintain web applications to enhance the ability of Polk County to serve its residents. Largely worked in the .NET stack including ASP.NET MVC 5, Bootstrap 3, MSSQL, JavaScript, and Git.

The products our team built and maintained ranged from small to large-scale for the Treasurer, Sheriff, Accounting, and Human Resources departments. Notably, we wrote a Scheduler application whose primary outcomes were managing county-wide scheduling, leave, and payroll. We also wrote a CMS for the Sheriff's office to handle their entire Civil division workflow - from notice to judgment to collection to the tune of ~\$5 million.

Education

Management Information Systems

University of Northern Iowa • Cedar Falls, Iowa

Graduated 05/2016

Computer Support Specialist

Kirkwood Community College • Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Graduated 12/2012

Hobbies

- I'm a full-time DM for Dungeons and Dragons.
- I like building really neat computers and like to one-up myself every time - see my site for pictures.
- I spend a lot of time reading. I like to read soft/hard-skill books in the software development space but also enjoy sprawling epics like the Horus Heresy, Wheel of Time, or most things Brandon Sanderson.
- I host a podcast at <https://voicesof.xyz>