



Sebastian – Corneliu Vîrlan

-- Software Engineering Manager --

Personal Details

Contact Details	Me
City: Salford, Manchester	Gender: Male
Country: United Kingdom	Date of Birth: 28 th of Aug 1990
Phone: +447562220309	Nationality: Romanian
Email: sebastian.virlan@gmail.com	Languages: Romanian (native), English (fluent)
Skype: sebastian.virlan	Website: https://sebastianvirlan.com

About Me

My career in software engineering started back in 2008 when I built a successful Romanian social platform Angel and Demon - <https://isd.sebastianvirlan.com/> (previously <http://ingersidemon.ro>). I worked on this project for approximately 2 years, work that stopped due to the rise in popularity of Facebook. This project gave the experience to work as a Web Software Engineer for a local business. After 1 year, I switched back to working as a freelancer where I built various software solutions for different local companies.

Between 2015 - 2018 I grew up professionally as Senior Web Software Engineer in Romania and in the UK.

In September 2018 I decided to move from doing WEB development to something different and I joined **BBC** in Manchester as **Platform Software Engineer**, where I was responsible for the design of software, for implementation and operation of effective software and tools.

End of 2019, I decided to join **TalkTalk** as a **Senior Lead Software Engineer** where I was responsible with the technical leadership of multiple squads. It started as a greenfield project, so we kicked off with recruiting, defining strategies (branching model, testing, etc), guidelines, technologies to be used. In January 2021 we released to production the new <https://talktalk.co.uk>.

Encouraged by the positive feedback about my leadership skills, In January 2022 I decided to start a new role as a Software Engineering Manager at Moteefe, where I am responsible for their Buyer Experience and Platform teams to deliver the company's strategic re-platforming.

Licences & Certifications

- Scrum Master Certification
<https://coursera.org/share/da660bf5236dafa6e75114821d0a3f79>
 - o Introduction to Scrum Master Training
 - o Scrum Methodologies
 - o Scaling Agile and the Team-of-Teams
 - o Combining Scrum with Other Agile Methodologies

Education

Suceava, SV, RO „Ștefan Cel Mare” University of Suceava 2008 – 2016

- M.S.E., Computer Science and Engineering, July 2016
- B.S.E., Computer Engineering, July 2014

For more details about the coursework please read my post on:

<https://sebastianvirlan.com/education/>

Work Experience

Software Engineering Manager at Moteefe (Remote) [January 2022 – Present]

I've been responsible for building and managing 2 high-performing teams, as well ensuring that the right output is produced. Delivered the Moteefe's strategic re-platforming of the buyer experience E-commerce Stores, including its infrastructure.

Teams

- Built and managed 2 engineering teams, including hiring / termination and performance management
- Developed career paths with clear directions for progression
- Drove innovation, established new approaches in improving productivity
- Partner with senior engineers to drive technical initiatives that raise the bar for our engineering practices
- Lead on communication with stakeholders from other teams, creating focus space for engineers to do their best work
- Fostering technical excellence part of the team's agile development culture

Product & Business

- Provided strategic and operational oversight for software product development
- Managed business expectations and resolved conflicts
- Worked closely with business leaders to develop tactical and strategic solutions
- Developed and drove execution of 6 months road maps
- Writing requirements in the absence of a product owner
- Costs saving initiatives by removing unnecessary steps

Senior Lead Software Engineer at TalkTalk Manchester [September 2019 – January 2022]

Had the opportunity to be part of a greenfield project. Product released to Production in January 2021. <http://talktalk.co.uk> (the new Brochureware + Checkout website)

- Contributed on choosing the right technologies and services that would fit our needs (.Net C#, Angular TypeScript, Docker, K8s, Helm, operating on cloud)
- Contributed on defining development strategies and guidelines for new teams (code branching model, testing, build and release, monitoring, logging)
- Software Design such as Architectural Design (domain driven micro-services, public facing APIs, databases, caching)
- Environments based on Development and Business Requirements
- Ensuring resilience and transient-fault-handling (retries, circuit-breakers for downstream API calls)
- [Rollover Keys for Data Encryption \(PII\)](https://sebastianvirlan.com/2021/01/21/azure-key-vault-keys-roll-over-encrypting-pii/) - <https://sebastianvirlan.com/2021/01/21/azure-key-vault-keys-roll-over-encrypting-pii/>
- Mentored / Coached engineers and supported their growth
- Managing teams in multiple locations (offshore)
- Conducted Engineering interviews
- Defined Alerting Model, Incidents & On-Call Strategy

For more details about what I do at TalkTalk please read my post on:

<https://sebastianvirlan.com/software-engineer/talktalk-manchester/>

Platform Software Engineer at BBC MediaCityUK [September 2018 – September 2019]

- Designed and built Data Transformation Workflows that uses Clojure components and Kafka Topics to consume messages and publishes them to S3.
- Ensured quality with unit and integration tests and applying TDD
- Research on a list of CI tools for choosing the best fit for the team
- Work with project, product and technical leads to design software and create implementable specifications and tasks at feature and component level
- Part of my day-to-day tasks is to review and give constructive feedback on others code
- Utilised: JavaScript, TypeScript, Clojure, Docker, K8s, Kafka, Jira, Jenkins

For more details about what I did at the BBC please read my post on:

<https://sebastianvirlan.com/software-engineer/bbc-manchester/>

Senior Software Engineer TheFlow LTD. Sheffield, UK [July 2017 – August 2018]

- Improved existing code using SOLID design principles.
- The development of a framework to increase code re-usability.
- Developed web applications using Ruby, Ruby on Rails Framework and MySQL databases.
- Ensured quality with unit testing and minimum 80% test coverage.
- Utilised: Ruby, Ruby on Rails, JavaScript, Kafka, Docker, Jira, Bamboo

For more details about my work at TheFloow please read my post on:

<https://sebastianvirlan.com/software-engineer/the-floow-sheffield/>

Senior Software Engineer Assist Software Suceava, Romania [September 2015 – July 2017]

- Applied clean code practices and design patterns to develop readable, maintainable and scalable code for web applications.
- Optimized legacy code and improved performance across many projects.
- Lead Developer on a team of 4 people that together we developed a BOT for a Strategic Management Virtual Game for SMES web app.
- Lead Developer on a team of 3 people where we successfully implemented all the client's requirements.
- Integrated software with monitoring and support tools
- Utilised: PHP, Laravel, Ruby, Ruby on Rails, JavaScript, Vapor Swift, Docker, RedMine

For more details about my work at Assist Software please read my post on:

<https://sebastianvirlan.com/software-engineer/assist-software-suceava/>

Freelancer – [15 March 2011 – August 2015]

After working at Enovation HD, I became a Freelancer, and I start building software solutions for Romanian companies. I was mainly focused on building online shops, using WordPress or eCommerce platforms. One of the biggest challenges came later, when I built a Real Estate platform.

For more details about my work in freelancing time please read my post on:

<https://sebastianvirlan.com/software-engineer/freelancer/>

Software Engineer at Enovation HD [15 March 2010 – 15 March 2011]

- Developed static HTML websites for clients
- Developed an eCommerce website using Joomla CMS.

For more details about what I did at Ennovation HD please read my post on:

<https://sebastianvirlan.com/software-engineer/enovation-hd-suceava/>

Other Side Projects

- Angel and Demon Social Platform (2008) – <https://www.isd.sebastianvirlan.com>
- Maps Journey Replay (2018) – <https://github.com/sebastianvirlan/maps-journey-replay>
- Radar Scanner Animation in Swift for IOS (2019)
- Real Estate Platform (2017)
- FoxStorm - TypeScript Web Framework inspired by Laravel & Rails (2019)
<https://github.com/FoxStorm>

For more details about my personal / open-source projects please read my post on:

<https://sebastianvirlan.com/software-engineer/my-projects/>

Skills, Experience, Worked With

- Leveraged Knowledge in WEB Development, Full Stack Development
- Expertise in many mainstream development language/frameworks
 - o Programming Languages: C#, PHP, Ruby, JS/TS, Swift, Clojure
 - o Backend Frameworks: DotNet, Ruby on Rails, Laravel, CodeIgniter, Smarty
- Competence in database design and use in software applications
 - o MySQL, MongoDB, DynamoDB
- Real Time Communication with Sockets
- Good Understanding of DevOps practices
- Experience of professional software development processes (Agile)
- Very Good understandings of OOP/ functional principles and design patterns
- Git and it's features
- Containerisation software platforms like Docker, I used to do video tutorials about "How to deploy modern WEB applications with Docker".
- Expertise in automatic deployment, scaling and management of containerized applications using Kubernetes
- Tests using automated test-driven techniques for ensuring code quality and good coverage
- Mentoring junior engineers / starters
- Computer Science degree + Computer Science and Engineering Master's Degree

Publications

- **Modular JavaScript Facebook Application Tutorial** - <https://assist-software.net/snippets/how-save-data-amazon-dynamodb-using-ruby-on-rails>
- **Workshop Ruby on Rails (CRUD and API tutorial)** - <https://assist-software.net/snippets/ruby-rails-crud-and-api-tutorial>
- **How to save data to Amazon Dynamo DB using Ruby on Rails** - <https://assist-software.net/snippets/modular-javascript-facebook-application-tutorial>
- **Video Tutorials - Deploy Modern Applications with Docker**, based on a contract with the PackPub company.
- **Posts on my Programming Blog** - <http://sebastianvirlan.com/blog/>

Speaker

- **Journey to Success** @ "Ștefan Cel Mare" University of Suceava
- **Choose the right CI Tool for your team** @ BBC Manchester
- **Mentor** @ CodeUp Manchester & CodeUp Salford