CLAYTON ALEXANDER CUTERI

VP of Engineering & AI | CTO | AI-Driven Engineering Executive

Mount Pleasant, SC | (412) 352-9019 | cuteri.clayton28@gmail.com

LinkedIn | GitHub

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Engineering and AI executive with 8+ years of experience building and scaling AI-powered platforms from concept to production. Currently directing 25 professionals across 5 cross-functional squads (Engineering, Data Science/AI, Product, Design, DevOps) with 13 direct reports, 6 in AI/ML roles. Track record of raising $500K+ in venture capital, achieving a successful startup exit, and delivering measurable business outcomes through AI-driven architecture, including 20% user retention growth, 37% infrastructure cost reduction, and 15% engagement uplift. Active SECRET security clearance.

CORE COMPETENCIES

AI/ML Strategy & Execution	Cloud Architecture (AWS)	Cross-Functional Team Leadership
RAG Systems & LLM Integration	Microservices at Scale	Agile / Scrum (13 Direct Reports)
NLP & Content Moderation	Event-Driven Architecture	Venture Capital & Fundraising
Predictive Analytics & A/B Testing	Terraform / IaC / CI-CD	P&L Ownership & Cost Optimization

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Vice President of Engineering & AI | Amara Social
Sep 2021 - Present

Leading a 25-person cross-functional organization building an AI-driven social media platform. Reporting to CEO with full ownership of engineering, AI/ML, product, design, and DevOps.

Tech: *Python, Node.js, TypeScript, React Native, Java, AWS (Bedrock, Rekognition, Lambda, ECS), RAG, Terraform, Git*

- **AI-Powered Moderation:** Built content moderation pipeline using AWS Bedrock and Rekognition, reducing manual review by 35% with 85% flagging accuracy across 2,700+ posts.
- **Recommendation Engine:** Designed and deployed RAG-based recommendation system, increasing click-through rate by 18% and session duration by 12% (A/B tested across 3,000 users).
- **Infrastructure Optimization:** Architected event-driven AWS microservices, cutting infrastructure costs by 37% and improving API performance by 36%.
- **Fundraising & Strategy:** Aligned AI roadmap with business goals alongside C-suite, directly contributing to $500K+ in venture capital raised and 22% profit growth.
- **Team Building:** Recruited and developed a 6-person AI team (ML engineers, data scientists, AI lead). Increased engineering velocity by 54% through Agile transformation.
- **Generative AI R&D:** Led pilot integrating LLMs via Bedrock for personalized content creation, driving 25% quality uplift in user-generated content and 15% DAU growth.
- **AI Ethics & Compliance:** Established bias audit and transparency framework for AI systems, reducing bias incidents by 33% and achieving GDPR/CCPA compliance.
- **Predictive Analytics:** Built churn prediction models reducing user churn by 15%; implemented NLP content tagging improving search accuracy by 30%.

Co-Founder & CTO | Dolo Distribution LLC
Oct 2020 - Aug 2021

Co-founded and built an AI-enhanced B2B e-commerce marketplace from zero to successful exit.

Tech: *Python, React, AWS, Git*

- **AI Recommendation System:** Built product recommendation engine that increased average order value by 18%.
- **Inventory Intelligence:** Developed AI-driven inventory optimization models, reducing stockouts by 25% across retailer network.
- **Successful Exit:** Led full-stack technical strategy from MVP to acquisition, demonstrating end-to-end startup execution.

Software Engineer | General Atomics
Sep 2017 - Jun 2021

Developed mission-critical software for military drone operations in a classified environment.

Tech: *.NET, C#, WPF, C++, XAML*

- Engineered and maintained the pilot control application used to fly military UAS (Unmanned Aircraft Systems) in active operations.
- Delivered high-reliability software under strict DoD quality standards and security protocols.

Simulation Systems Intern | **The MITRE Corporation**   *Jun 2015 - May 2017*

Tech: *Linux, MongoDB, NoSQL, JUnit, Ruby, HTML/JS*

- Supported simulation and modeling projects for U.S. government agency research programs.

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

B.S. Computer Engineering | University of Central Florida   *2012 - 2017*

GPA: 3.05 | Dean's List

Certifications & Clearance:

- Active SECRET Security Clearance (U.S. Department of Defense)
- CompTIA Security+ (in progress, 2025)

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- Global Leader of the Year 2024 - Asia's Icon Awards (Colombo, Sri Lanka) - AI leadership panel participant
- 1st Place, Lockheed Martin Battlebots Competition (2017)
- MITRE Spark Award for Innovation (2016)

TECHNICAL PROFICIENCIES

AI / ML	RAG, AWS Bedrock, Rekognition, NLP, LLMs, Predictive Modeling, A/B Testing
Languages	Python, TypeScript, Node.js, Java, C#, C++, Ruby
Cloud & Infra	AWS (Lambda, ECS, S3, DynamoDB, SQS, SNS), Terraform, Docker, Kubernetes
Frameworks	React, React Native, .NET, WPF, Express
Data	PostgreSQL, MongoDB, DynamoDB, Redis, Data Pipelines
Practices	Agile/Scrum, CI/CD, Event-Driven Architecture, Microservices, GDPR/CCPA