

Ashton Honnecke

Engineering Leader • CTO • Cloud Architecture • AI-Native SaaS

mailto:published_cv@cxcs.us | <https://ashton.honnecke.us> | <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ashtonhonnecke/> | <https://github.com/ahonnecke/> | Denver, CO

Highlights

- Engineering leader with ~25 years building and scaling production systems; fluent from low-level systems detail to business outcomes.
- AI-native engineering leadership: shipped a greenfield B2B SaaS (CrewCapable) from zero to production pilot in <10 months as solo founder-engineer, directing LLM-accelerated development with senior-level architectural judgment.
- Cost and quality leadership at scale: ~30% AWS infrastructure reduction and >50% unit-test coverage gains at Panasonic via Cost Explorer discipline and self-hosted SonarQube rollout.
- Chaired cross-team best-practices workgroup (~50 engineers) at Panasonic; authored ADRs, incident playbooks, and blameless post-mortem process.
- Public speaker (PyColorado, PyDEN) and active open-source maintainer (PyPI: Consolo, Snifter, Jolly Brancher).

Experience

CrewCapable AI - Chief Technology Officer (2025-Present)

Subject Matter Expert: AI-native SaaS strategy, AWS serverless, LLM extraction pipelines, supply-chain/manufacturing domain, EDI/ERP integration

- Owned end-to-end technology strategy for a greenfield AI-native B2B SaaS (supply-chain / manufacturing); took platform from zero to production pilot in under 10 months as single founder-engineer with ~3 active contributors.
- Partnered directly with the founding business team on roadmap, architecture, hiring, and vendor strategy; converted a manual purchase-order intake workflow into an API-driven, human-in-the-loop product.
- Demonstrated AI-native engineering leadership at production scale: ~3,455 commits / ~112k LOC TypeScript / 94 test files in 10 months — senior-team-scale output via LLM-accelerated development, directed with ~25 years of systems depth.
- Designed fully serverless AWS architecture on CDK: 10 Lambda functions + Step Functions workflow orchestrating OCR / extraction / reconciliation across S3, Textract, EventBridge, SNS, Secrets Manager.
- Architected multi-provider LLM document-extraction pipeline (OpenAI, Gemini, Mistral, Tesseract, Textract) with Zod-typed schemas and an immutable audit trail — defensible for enterprise audit and ERP export.
- Shipped production integrations with 3 ERPs (Amtech DAT over SFTP, Epicor P21, QuickBooks) and outbound X12 850 EDI, replacing manual data entry for the pilot customer.
- Chose serverless-first, managed-database stack (Lambda + Supabase + Vercel) to keep cloud spend proportional to document volume and eliminate idle infrastructure cost.
- Established engineering conventions (LLM-optimized code patterns, strict typing, per-tenant RLS) across a Turborepo / pnpm monorepo spanning web, backend, and 5 shared packages.

Panasonic North America - Lead Cloud Engineer (2020-2025)

Subject Matter Expert: AWS cloud architecture, V2X/OBU telematics (SAE J2735), cost optimization, code-

quality tooling, ADRs, incident management

- Chaired cross-team best-practices workgroup across ~50 engineers (OO, SOLID, security, code quality); raised org-wide standards and mentored developers.
- Drove ~30% reduction in AWS infrastructure cost via Cost Explorer analysis, tagging discipline, and decommissioning of unused resources.
- Led self-hosted SonarQube rollout → >50% unit-test coverage gains across multiple languages; gave leadership visibility into code-quality trends.
- Authored ADRs for event-driven/serverless and serverful (Fargate) cloud architectures; authored incident playbooks end-to-end (classification → response → blameless post-mortem).
- Shipped V2X messaging deployment for a Utah snowplow fleet; worked with the SAE J2735 DSRC Message Set Dictionary (industry-standard V2X wire format) in the OBU/telematics data path.
- Designed and released three open-source developer tools on PyPI (Consolo, Snifter, Jolly Brancher) to reduce cloud-native iteration time across the org.

Digital Assets Data - Blockchain Tech Lead / Sr. Software Engineer (2018-2020)

Subject Matter Expert: Tech-lead leadership, AWS serverless, BTC/ETH nodes, on-call ownership, hiring

- Technical lead for blockchain track (1 direct report, team of 2 at peak); owned on-call playbooks and actively contributed to hiring for the blockchain team.
- Built AWS ingestion pipelines (S3/CloudWatch/Lambda/ECS) processing 100 GB nightly with 30 GB individual files, serving institutional-grade on-chain BTC/ETH datasets.
- Implemented Lambda + API Gateway microservices for cryptographic decoding at high throughput.
- Standardized CI across the team (CircleCI fan-out workflows, linting, unit testing, git hooks); containerized every stack with Docker.
- Restructured deploys from a manual multi-stage process into a single "push-button" script.

Havenly - Senior Software Engineer (2015-2017)

Subject Matter Expert: Greenfield data-ingest systems, horizontal scaling, queued architectures

- Most senior engineer on the data-ingest initiative within an ~8-person team; designed and shipped a greenfield horizontally scalable queued system ingesting 7M+ rows/day from 25+ sources in 15 formats.

Colorado State University Global Campus - Systems Architect (pro tem) (2014-2015)

Subject Matter Expert: Architecture leadership, SDLC, data modeling

- Covered a vacated architecture-leadership seat (director-level scope); led 1 engineer on architecture and SDLC for student-facing systems (portal, registration, transcripts).

Pixelstube Consulting - Founder (2009-Present)

Subject Matter Expert: Independent consulting, full-stack delivery, LLM-driven extraction

- Founder of a profitable freelancing LLC operating alongside W-2 leadership roles; recent work includes an LLM-driven image-to-structured-data pipeline for menu ingestion that foreshadowed the extraction architecture at CrewCapable.

Photobucket - Software Engineer → Senior Software Engineer (2005-2009)

Subject Matter Expert: Payments, trust & safety tooling, consumer-scale web

- Engineer at Photobucket during its peak-traffic era (top-50 global web property, ~100M users); promoted SWE → Sr SWE on full ownership of payments and internal tooling.

- Built trust & safety reporting pipeline: tool that packaged offensive content and transmitted to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) — proactive law-enforcement integration that contributed to multiple predator arrests.

Skills

- Software development across multiple languages, frameworks, and stacks (~25 yrs).
- Linux/Unix administration (~20 yrs); DevOps (cloud & colo) (~10 yrs).
- Startups (founder & early-stage) (~15 yrs), including profitable exits or profitability (~10 yrs).
- AI/LLM-native engineering (production LLM extraction pipelines, agent-directed development, multi-provider orchestration) (~1 yr production, ongoing).
- Blockchain (ETH/BTC nodes, data engineering) (~2 yrs).

Speaking

- **Cleaning Up Your Python Environment: Superfund Site**
 - Slides and Code: <https://github.com/ahonnecke/pycolorado2019>
 - Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cpseEHA_haA
- **The Value of Linting**
 - Materials: <https://github.com/ahonnecke/linting-talk>

FOSS Utilities

Console

- Hot-mount Lambda filesystems for rapid iteration; "hot reloading."
- <https://pypi.org/project/console/>

Snifter

- Fast SNS topic/message inspection from the CLI.
- <https://pypi.org/project/snifter/>

Jolly Brancher

- Git/Jira helper: find tickets, create matching branches, enforce branch hygiene.
- <https://pypi.org/project/jolly-brancher/>

Education

Master of Business Administration — University of Denver (2004-2005)

- Emphasis: Accounting

Bachelor of Computer Science — University of Denver (2000-2004)

- Minors: Mathematics, Philosophy