



Richard Forshaw

Highly experienced agile technology leader looking for high-level engineering roles in innovative technology

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 forshaw.tech

 [Software Blog](#)

A proficient technical leader with experience across diverse industries and companies. I specialize in bridging the gap between stakeholder vision and complex engineering and uplifting teams to deliver using industry best practices. I excel in enhancing innovation with rigour, bringing fresh ideas to life in a structured way, always aligning with business value.

I champion:

- **Agile & Data-Driven Business Expansion** focused on market feedback
- **Incremental Value Delivery** grounded in constant stakeholder communication
- **Empowering teams** with the best tools, techniques and information
- **Distraction-Free Engineering** by leveraging AI and automation
- **Staying Skilled** and keeping up-to-date with Industry Practices

KEY SKILLS

- ❖ Agile Delivery and Team Leadership
- ❖ AI-Assisted Development Practices
- ❖ Stakeholder Engagement
- ❖ Business Roadmaps
- ❖ Software Design & Architecture
- ❖ Coaching
- ❖ TDD / BDD
- ❖ DevOps & Automation

AI Innovation: *Adoption of AI tools to increase productivity*

I recognise the value in using AI tools to automate development processes. By using AI to *augment the BDD processes* and also implementing a *custom-prompted AI code review agent*, issues were detected and addressed sooner, reducing 'Code Review churn' and the time spent by other engineers on these tasks.

Evolving Process Maturity: *CTO of Growing Technology Business*

A crucial part of Instatruck's growth and maturity journey, I introduced structure to move from a chaotic and impulsive development style to one with an agile priority-driven roadmap and traceability through to deployment. Progress is visible to stakeholders, priorities are agreed and the roadmap is aligned around business and strategic goals.

Technical Process Uplift: *Development of DSL Testing Framework*

Drawing from experience with BDD and various testing frameworks, I designed and then championed an in-house testing framework and DSL in order to enhance the testing experience. This increased developer productivity and quality through reducing friction in TDD practices.

Structured Innovation: *Development of AI Customer-Support Chatbot*

While leading the integration of a custom chatbot to relieve customer-support calls, I ensured that there was a balance between engineering rigour and innovation in order to continually provide business value and ensure feature-quality in a non-deterministic environment.

Employment History

Instatruck

Perth, Kuala Lumpur, Saigon, Sydney, 2016–present
CTO, Architect

Instatruck provides a national last-mile on-demand truck matching, fleet management and route optimisation platform for businesses.

Mechanical Rock 2018–2020

Perth, 2018–2020
Principal Consultant

One of Perth's premier consultancies delivering fully automated cloud-native and serverless solutions.

Click Engineering

Perth, 2014–2016
Technology Lead

A boutique consultancy bringing software engineering best-practices to a variety of engineering projects.

Ansaldo-STS/Hitachi Rail

Perth, 2008–2014
Project Engineer, Team Lead, Senior Developer

A global Rail-Solutions company, providing Signalling & Train Control systems, including Rio Tinto's world-first Automated Heavy-Haul System.

Key Achievements

- Developed product from \$0 start-up to **\$2.5m annual business**
- Recruited, managed and coached local & remote teams (Malaysia, Vietnam, Nepal, Perth)
- Assisted with **board-level reporting**
- **Strategic re-platforming** of mobile apps and web-app
- Reduced platform operation costs by over 20%
- Increased testing effectiveness by developing an internal DSL
- Led **adoption of AI** in software development processes
- Built **custom AI code review agent**, reducing review time and mean time to deployment

- Agile Delivery Lead on a **100% serverless** client-management application
- Deployed automated AWS data migration system for **40TB of data for VGW**
- Explored business expansion into the **Malaysian market**

- Technical Engineering Lead of a **UAV control system integration project**
- Development Team Leader for local **events-based mobile application**

- Involved in over **\$20m worth of project delivery**
- Technical Lead of a high-availability remote data collection & processing system (**\$7m value**, 5 engineers)
- Team Leader for a “SIL-3” Train Order subsystem (**\$6m value**, 10 engineers)
- Project Engineer for subsystem of Rio Tinto AutoHaul system (**\$2m value**, 4 engineers)

Previous Roles:

Immersive Technologies, Perth, 2003–2008 — Architect, Team Lead, Snr Developer

A world-leader in 3D training simulators for heavy-equipment mining operators.

Q-Vis, Perth, 2001–2003 — Software Engineer

A Medical Technology company, developing a pioneering LASIK Laser-Eye Surgery product.

McLaren Racing, Woking, UK, 1998–2001 — Software Engineer

An internationally recognised and multiple-championship-winning Formula1 Racing Team.

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

DDI Leadership Development, Perth — Ansaldo STS Talent Management Program

CEGOS, Perth — Essential Project Management

AIM, Perth — Leadership Development

Strategic Systems WA, Perth — Software Architecture

Southampton University, UK — BSc Comp. Science (Distributed Systems & Networks)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

(Perth, Malaysia, Vietnam, New Zealand 2018-present)

Speaker at events and conferences for development techniques, cloud computing, serverless and DevOps:

- PyCon NZ 2025: *"Learn to Love Your Tests Again"*
- Tech Meetup Saigon 2023: *"Web Analytics 3 Ways"*
- Tech Meetup Saigon 2022: *"Scrum: Under The Hood"*
- Serverless Meetup Singapore 2020: *"Serverless: Oh the things that you'll do!"*
- Latency Conference 2019: *"5 DevOps Mistakes"*
- Python Meetup Kuala Lumpur 2019: *"260 Deployments, 1 Rollback"*

Discussion Moderator (*"Big Ideas Book Club"*, Sydney, 2024-Present)

Research and assist with facilitation of monthly non-fiction book selections

OTHER PROJECTS

Podcast Creator (2026)

Creator and co-host of *"The Common Knowledge Club"* podcast, about the history and engineering behind common everyday things.

CTO Mentor (2025)

Provided mentoring and advisory services to CTO in ESG technology start-up

Personal Projects:

- **Personal development with AI:** worked with SpecKit and other tools to learn to rapidly produce production-level code
- **screenbalance.online** (*Experimental Startup, 2025*) A generative-AI service to help disrupt teens and adults from social media doomscrolling.
- **thingsforkids.in** (*Website, 2015*) A curated list of local child-friendly events, to explore business ideas and digital & social-media marketing.
- **pitlanemanager.com** (*Website, 2011*) A Fantasy Formula-1 Website to assist in learning Django & web development.

Photography Exhibition (2013)

Hosted a Photography Exhibition of original photos.