

CONTACT

t: 077 4348 9534
e: hello@stevenmcgovern.co.uk
w: stevenmcgovern.co.uk
in: [mcgovernsteven](https://mcgovernsteven.com)

References

"Steven is a world-class developer. His flexibility and ability to come up with innovative solutions to some fairly complex challenges were always impressive. Never sees a challenge as impossible and has an engineering toolbox that would be an incredible asset to any company."

Scott Ferguson

Head Of Marketing
[e.fundamentals](https://e.fundamentals.com)

"Steven has worked for me in two companies - Scapa and Diet Chef. Steven is very strong technically. He is able to work on his own or as part of a team and deliver projects with minimal management. He is able to provide system solutions rather than blindly delivering software to a spec. He is a committed employee who is prepared to work the hours necessary to deliver critical projects on time."

Brian Gray

Operations Director
Diet Chef

"I have known and worked with Steven, both closely and loosely, over several years and have never had reason to regret relying on his technical competence, work ethic or professional integrity, to say nothing of his general amiability. I have also been gratified to observe him gradually enhance his core technical skills with those of corporate diplomacy and good communications to the point of a mature, well-rounded, and highly effective IT professional."

Neil Sanderson

Development Manager
Scapa Technologies

Steven McGovern

Senior Full-Stack Software Engineer

I help teams ship reliable software faster, from first MVP to production AI products and data platforms at scale. With over 20 years of experience, I manage teams of developers and work comfortably in both frontend and backend development. I excel in TypeScript/JavaScript, React, and Node.js. Experienced in Cloud computing (GCP/AWS), I deliver optimised solutions for a diverse range of projects in a timely fashion, to the highest standard.

JavaScript/TypeScript, Python, Go, PHP, Java, C, C++, Ruby, Perl, React, Node.js, Next.js, AWS, GCP, Claude.

Career history

SENIOR FULL-STACK SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Independent
September 2026 - Present

I am a senior full-stack software engineer with over 25 years of experience, now offering my services as an independent contractor to companies and startups. I have led engineering teams and delivered production software across SaaS, data analytics, e-commerce and AI-driven products. Most recently I was the most senior engineer at Invision360, where I led the team building VITA, a generative AI platform that creates high-quality EHCPs in a fraction of the time manual writing takes. I work primarily with TypeScript, React, Next.js and Node.js, and I build and deploy on AWS (including Amplify Gen 2) and Google Cloud, with well-tested CI/CD pipelines behind every project.

My background spans global enterprise clients and early-stage ventures. At e.fundamentals (a CommercelQ company), I built performant, cost-efficient analytics on petabyte-scale datasets for brands such as Mars, Coca-Cola and Samsung. Before that, I spent eight years at Hollander International Systems, where I built microservices, RESTful APIs and React front ends, and mentored junior developers. I also co-founded and ran my own digital studio, so I understand the pressures founders face. I translate business requirements into clean, reliable and scalable solutions, communicate clearly with stakeholders, and can step in quickly to lead delivery, strengthen an existing team or build a product from scratch.

SENIOR FULL-STACK SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Invision360
March 2024 - September 2026

Invision360 offers pioneering tools designed to upgrade quality assurance processes, driving efficiencies for Local Authorities and ensuring better outcomes for children and young people.

I have predominantly been working on their latest offering, VITA, which uses generative AI to create high-quality EHCPs in significantly less time than it takes to write them manually.

As the most senior engineer, I have been leading the engineering team to operate effectively and deliver the best results possible, following best software practices.

AWS has been the cloud platform of choice, where we use the very latest technologies to build and deploy applications using AWS Amplify Gen 2, which is a TypeScript-based, code-first developer experience (DX) for defining backends, offering a unified developer experience with hosting, backend, and UI-building capabilities and a code-first approach. Next.js is the React framework we use to build the applications.

Further education

1999-2000

Napier University Edinburgh

Software Technology

Post-Graduate Diploma

1995-1999

Napier University Edinburgh

Applied Physics with Computing

Bachelor of Science

SENIOR FULL-STACK SOFTWARE ENGINEER

e.fundamentals - A CommerceIQ company, Edinburgh

July 2021 - March 2024

The e.fundamentals platform is part of CommerceIQ's Retail Ecommerce Management cutting-edge digital shelf analytics solution, setting new industry standards in coverage, transparency, and actionable insights. Some of their biggest clients include Mars, Coca-Cola, Samsung, Apple, PepsiCo, Nestlé, to name a few.

I provided leadership in the SAAS squad in driving product innovation and development by collaborating closely with other senior developers and product managers to ensure timely delivery of the product roadmap, aligning technical solutions with business objectives.

I managed a diverse range of responsibilities, from smaller assignments to larger, long-term initiatives, showcasing adaptability and leadership in dynamic environments. During my time here, I leveraged expertise in React, Node.js, Google BigQuery, and Google Cloud Platform (GCP) to optimise application performance and scalability. I also worked on having a good CI/CD process for each application/API using GitHub workflows and Google Cloud Build.

Being a data analytics solution, a key part of my job was to develop the queries that powered the vast number of different reports. This was a multi-stage process of working with the key stakeholders and the product manager to fully understand the business requirements. From this a Google BigQuery could be created that would need to be highly optimised to not only allow for dynamic input from the user (i.e. using filters, sorting, grouping, ...) but also return the results within a short period of time as the data sets were petabytes in size. The cost of running these queries was also an important consideration, so efficiency was key.

SENIOR FULL-STACK SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Hollander International Systems Ltd, Edinburgh

May 2013 - July 2021

Hollander International Systems is part of US-based Solera Holdings, which brings together insurers, OEMs, dealers, SMR industry participants, and our customers' customers. Hollander created a digital marketplace that empowers the customer to manage their vehicle's entire life in a single platform.

I strived to create clean, optimised, thoroughly tested and reusable code. Undertaking end-to-end and specialist software development activities across all design phases from conceptual to solution and the highest quality end product.

I mentored several junior developers. I was able to offer my advanced skills in Software Engineering to tackle efficiently and create solutions to the problems we needed to fix across the numerous products and services on offer. I primarily developed websites/components with a ReactJS frontend and a Node.js backend that utilised a range of microservices exposing RESTful APIs (that I also created).

I also used my expert knowledge in Java / J2EE-based projects, and others like Android Apps, Python / PHP / JavaScript / HTML-driven websites, and SQL, to name but a few of the languages/platforms.

FULL-STACK SOFTWARE ENGINEER - FOUNDER

360Rocket, Edinburgh

October 2011 - May 2013

360Rocket was a digital design studio based in Edinburgh offering design services. My role at 360Rocket was to manage IT systems, both internal and those of our clients. I was also the main point of contact for our clients, dealing with their requests and enquiries. Some of my responsibilities were to: write custom software to handle clients' specific requirements, set up new Dedicated Servers to host our clients' websites, setup/configure the Magento eCommerce system, run advertising campaigns in Google AdWords/Facebook, train clients to manage the eCommerce system Magento, and so much more.

Interests and activities

I'm passionate about exploring emerging technologies and continually expanding my technical knowledge. Outside of work, I enjoy spending quality time with my family through outdoor activities such as walking, swimming, and day trips. I'm also an enthusiastic runner who competes in everything from marathons to parkruns, which helps me maintain a healthy work-life balance.

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Diet Chef, Edinburgh Ltd.
October 2009 - October 2011

Diet Chef is the UK's largest diet home delivery company, with over 50,000 customers from all over the UK, Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, Germany, and France. As a Senior Systems Developer, my role was to manage all the IT systems crucial to the business's running. My responsibilities included but were not limited to website maintenance/development, developing proprietary software, Server maintenance, Desktop/Laptop PC maintenance, and managing internal VoIP telephony systems.

As Diet Chef did almost all of its business through online sales, there was constant pressure to keep the website up and running close to 100%, and this was no mean feat. I was required to apply updates to the website and deal with customer problems in real time, which would often involve making changes to the live system during peak times, leaving no room for error. The warehouse IT systems also needed a lot of care and attention if they had a problem; then the company would fulfil no orders coming in. This role made full use of my skills as a Software Engineer and a Systems Administrator.

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Scapa Technologies, Edinburgh
November 2000 - October 2009

Scapa Technologies primarily sells software, as well as training and some testing services around its software.

I started as a Software Engineer developing mainly in Java / C / C++, and after a few years, I also took on the role of Systems Administrator. I was required to work to tight deadlines as part of a team and provide support to customers, which enhanced my communication and teamwork skills. Both these roles required a large amount of problem-solving, ranging from helping customers create scripts to test their proprietary web-based application and helping staff gain VPN access to internal systems. I was also responsible for leading development and acting as a mentor to the younger developers.

The main Scapa product is a performance-testing platform used to test distributed application systems across a wide range of protocols. This process automatically (sometimes manually) captures a typical user session that involves interacting with the application (Internet Explorer, for example). This captured session would then be mediated/modified in some way to make it valid when replayed during a load test (matching in and out dependencies between APIs, parsing Session IDs, etc.). I would then use this use case to build a load test simulating 100s or 1000s of users from just a few client computers running the Scapa software. The Scapa platform provides the framework, and plug-in connectors support different protocols.

My primary role was to develop the HTTP, Java, and AR System connectors. I did early versions of Scapa connectors in C / C++ and Java, but this evolved into a pure Java solution. The most challenging and satisfying of these to work with was HTTP due to its versatile nature. This work included supporting HTTPS, all kinds of security/authentication schemes, and mediating/modifying captured bespoke application user sessions such that they would be in a valid state for replay. I would also be required to provide support to staff in the office / on customer sites or directly to the customer and quickly solve any problems.

Thank you for taking the time to look over my curriculum vitae.

Steven McGovern