

Amber Dunn, MBA

Engineering Manager

Frontend & Product Engineering | Complex Systems & Modernization | Player-Coach

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Professional Summary

Engineering Manager with 20+ years in technology and software, including 10+ years in engineering leadership. Frontend-rooted and full-stack capable, with a record of making complex systems understandable across product interfaces, modern web platforms, data pipelines, payment workflows, and hardware integrations. Combines people leadership and product judgment with hands-on ownership of architecture, modernization, team development, and high-risk delivery.

Core Skills

Engineering Management | People Management | Hiring & Team Development | Performance Coaching | Product Engineering | Software Architecture & System Design | Frontend Architecture | Complex Workflows | Application Modernization | Technical Discovery | Integration Architecture | Cross-Functional Delivery | Accessibility & Quality

Selected Impact

0 downtime / 0 known launch defects - Live migration from Create React App and Heroku to Next.js and Vercel

295 hours per month saved - Operations workflow automation delivered in approximately two to three weeks

22 months to 2-3 months - Reusable delivery model supporting at least eight website launches

50% fewer regressions in three months - Stronger testing and regression-prevention practices

Professional Experience

AI Training Specialist - Project-Based Consultant

2025-Present

- Evaluate AI-generated code, software architecture, system designs, debugging approaches, and technical documentation for engineering correctness, maintainability, reliability, production readiness, edge-case handling, and architectural tradeoffs.

Project-based consulting completed alongside family caregiving responsibilities.

Engineering Manager

Jul 2024-Oct 2024

Onaroll | Shift-worker rewards SaaS | Remote | Team of 4 | Position eliminated in layoff affecting recent hires

- Led a four-person product engineering team while designing and implementing most of a live migration from Create React App and Heroku to Next.js and Vercel, completing the production cutover with no downtime and zero known launch defects.
- Reduced migration risk by mapping dependencies across the React application, Django services, AWS infrastructure, deployment environments, and external integrations; established staging, production-like rehearsal, backup, rollback, and monitoring procedures.
- Improved team delivery velocity by approximately 30%, onboarded an additional engineer, and coordinated delivery across Product, Design, Infrastructure, QA, and Customer Success while using evidence-based coaching to surface engineers' strengths and ownership.

Engineering Manager / Frontend Team Lead

Jul 2023-Jul 2024

Keeper Memorials | Public-service memorial technology | Remote | Team grew from 2 to 4 contributors

- Led frontend engineering with responsibility for people development, team growth, delivery planning, technical direction, quality, accessibility, and coordination with product, design, government, and platform stakeholders.
- Rebuilt team capacity during a leadership transition, helping grow the engineering group from two to four contributors while onboarding engineers and maintaining delivery for an established public platform.
- Strengthened testing and regression-prevention practices, contributing to a 50% reduction in regression volume during the first three months; the team also delivered new administrative capabilities in under two months and advanced Section 508 accessibility and reusable frontend standards.

Engineering Manager / Development Team Lead

May 2020-Sep 2022

Midigator | Payment-dispute management SaaS | Remote | Team grew from 3 to 6 engineers

- Inherited a high-risk dispute-management product and growing distributed team; stabilized DisputeFlow 2, evolved it into configurable DisputeFlow 2.1, and established clearer technical direction, shared ownership, and development paths that helped engineers advance into senior and leadership responsibilities.
- Partnered with Operations and Product to replace a spreadsheet-dependent workflow with a React and Node.js platform, personally leading discovery through implementation in approximately two to three weeks and saving Operations approximately 295 hours of manual entry per month.
- Designed and built most of a standalone Node.js ingestion service that collected daily files through secure SFTP, normalized incompatible schemas, validated records, handled failures, and delivered data through the existing platform API; the first pipeline reached production in approximately two to three months and eliminated manual conversion for supported workflows.

CTO

Aug 2019-May 2020

Poetic Labs | Closed after COVID-19 disrupted its early-stage business and funding

- Led engineering strategy, architecture, technical discovery, hiring, and delivery across early-stage initiatives involving payments, financial technology, gaming, blockchain systems, and hardware-integrated products.
- Designed and built a production Node.js controller for a globally deployed Bitcoin ATM bill recycler, using finite-state-machine architecture to translate a timing-sensitive binary serial protocol into reliable cash-management workflows, 39 REST endpoints, operational recovery controls, and approximately 95 pages of technical documentation.

Director of Software Engineering

2015-2019

NexGaming | Gaming and payments technology | Primarily offshore engineering teams

- Helped organize and lead primarily offshore engineering teams that grew from roughly five to 35 contributors across projects over nearly four years while remaining hands-on; as sole developer, took a custom casino operations platform from paper workflows through full-stack implementation, integration, testing, deployment, training, and production launch in approximately nine months.
- Independently reverse-engineered 10 legacy C++/DirectX slot titles and built a reusable HTML5/CreateJS engine separating shared game states, weighted outcomes, wager and credit flow, paylines, payouts, assets, animation, and events from title-specific rules.

Senior Software Engineer

2012-2015

AgFirst Farm Credit

- Redesigned a fragmented association-website delivery process into a reusable, parallel model that reduced the first full discovery-to-launch lifecycle from approximately 22 months to two to three months and supported at least eight website launches.
- Built reusable Kentico, JavaScript, HTML, and CSS foundations and transferred the delivery process through pairing and documentation, enabling two engineers to independently lead association websites in parallel.

Additional Experience

Business Manager | Mutual Modeling Associates | 2009-2011 - Managed company websites, marketing platforms, operational systems, and technology-enabled process improvements.

Education

MBA, Technical Business Management | Keller Graduate School

BS, Game & Simulation Programming | DeVry University

Selected Technologies

Languages & Frontend: TypeScript, JavaScript, React, Next.js, Redux, AngularJS, HTML, CSS, Chakra UI, CreateJS

Backend & Systems: Node.js, Express, GraphQL, REST APIs, MongoDB, SQL, finite-state machines, event-driven workflows, protocol-driven integrations, secure SFTP, data ingestion and normalization

Delivery, Quality & Accessibility: AWS, Docker, Vercel, Heroku, application modernization, production deployments, monitoring, backup and rollback planning, Cypress, Jest, Section 508 accessibility, regression prevention, and production readiness