

Gian Barboza

Senior Backend Engineer · Rionegro, Antioquia, Colombia · Remote-first

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Summary

Senior Backend Engineer with 10+ years building production systems at scale. Ex-CTO with hands-on expertise in distributed systems, payments infrastructure (Stripe, PayPal, DLocal, Shift4, Payeezy) and AI-driven automation. Track record of taking a single-server monolith to a 99.9%-uptime distributed platform processing \$200K+/month in transactions.

Key Metrics

- **10+ years** in production engineering
 - **99.9% uptime** sustained on critical payments infrastructure (since 2019)
 - **\$200K+/month** in transactions processed
 - **5+ payment providers** integrated end-to-end (3DS, refunds, tokenization, Apple Pay, Google Pay)
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Experience

Senior Backend Engineer — Hablax Inc.

Nov 2023 — Present · Remote (100%)

- Led AI-driven programmatic SEO: hierarchical pipeline (country → service → product) populating thousands of landings via ChatGPT-4o with per-vertical curated prompts. Replaced a significant portion of paid-ad spend with organic traffic at a better new-client conversion rate.
- Designed and shipped a fraud detection engine using Factory + Single Responsibility patterns — new rules self-register into the evaluator, enabling rollout in hours instead of weeks.
- Built a device-fingerprinting layer for access-fraud detection (multi-account abuse, account-takeover attempts).
- Designed API gateways to decouple modern tooling from a legacy stack that couldn't be upgraded in-place.
- Integrated Shift4 payment processor end-to-end (3DS, tokenization, refunds, voids).
- Built a multi-channel notification orchestrator routing emails and push notifications by country, payment method, and product.

Full Stack Engineer — Freelance

Apr 2023 — Nov 2023 · Remote

- Built an end-to-end digital-goods e-commerce platform with Next.js, TypeScript, Clean Architecture, Vitest and GitHub Actions CI/CD.
- Integrated Stripe and PayPal end-to-end including auth, refunds, and automated delivery of digital products.
- Designed a custom admin system for catalog, orders, and fulfillment automation.

Full Stack Developer → CTO — Hablax Inc.

Dec 2017 — Apr 2023 · Remote (100%)

- Promoted from developer to CTO. Led a team of 4 engineers through critical infrastructure migrations and feature builds.
- **Migrated from a single-server monolith to an 8-server distributed architecture on DigitalOcean:** HAProxy load balancing, MySQL master-slave replication for HA, node-level failover, automated backups and recovery runbooks. Executed manually over Linux due to legacy-stack constraints.
- **Result:** eliminated recurring ~3-hour outages on peak-traffic dates (Mother's Day, New Year's Eve) that caused direct revenue loss. 99.9% uptime sustained since.
- Architected a multi-provider payments engine with admin-configurable routing by product and automatic failover across PayPal, Payeezy, and DLocal.
- Built a multi-provider product/catalog engine with priority-based failover — the active provider can be swapped live by operators with no service downtime.
- Implemented Apple Pay, Google Pay, and in-house card tokenization.
- Automated asynchronous catalog and pricing updates across providers; daily syncs with zero downtime.
- Delivered travel booking module (hotels + car rentals), money-transfer integration with third-party provider, and a referral system (products since retired).

Java Software Developer — Fermat.org

Jan 2016 — Mar 2017 · Remote (100%)

- Built P2P Android apps on top of cryptocurrency infrastructure (ride-hailing, e-commerce) where payments settled directly between wallets with no intermediaries.
- First exposure to decentralized systems and 100% remote work.

Selected Projects

Monolith → 8-server distributed infrastructure — Led zero-downtime migration with HAProxy, MySQL replication, and automated recovery. 99.9% uptime sustained since 2019.

Programmatic SEO at scale with AI — 3-tier generation pipeline (country → service → product) powered by ChatGPT-4o; auto-regenerates landings as the catalog grows. Replaced a significant portion of paid-ad spend with organic traffic.

Fraud detection with extensible rule engine — Factory + SRP patterns so new rules plug in without touching the evaluator. Separate device-fingerprinting layer for access fraud. Explored LLM-based contextual evaluation via n8n; shelved due to model cost at scale.

Multi-gateway payments with failover — 5 processors integrated (Stripe, PayPal, DLocal, Shift4, Payeezy) with admin-configurable routing and automatic failover on provider incidents. Full feature set: 3DS, refunds, voids, Apple Pay, Google Pay, in-house tokenization.

Technical Skills

Backend & Architecture — Node.js · TypeScript · Next.js · PHP · Java · REST API · Gateway Pattern · Design Patterns (Factory, Strategy, SRP) · Clean Architecture

Infrastructure — Linux · HAProxy · Nginx · MySQL Replication · DigitalOcean · Cronjobs · CI/CD (GitHub Actions)

Payments & Risk — Stripe · PayPal · DLocal · Shift4 · Payeezy · 3DS · Apple Pay · Google Pay · In-house Tokenization · Payment Routing · Fraud Rule Engines · Device Fingerprinting · PCI Compliance

Automation & AI — n8n · LLM Integration · AI-Assisted Fraud · Programmatic SEO · Content Automation · Web Scraping

Languages

- **Spanish** — Native
 - **English** — Upper-intermediate (B2)
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Education

Ingeniero en Informática — Universidad Dr. Rafael Belloso Chacín (URBE), 2011 - 2015

Availability

Two weeks notice