

BERNARD OJENGWA

Senior Engineer | CTO | AI Systems Architect | Founder | Consultant Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria | bernardojengwa@gmail.com | bernard.js.org | linkedin.com/in/ojengwa | [+2348037227918](tel:+2348037227918)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Experienced technology leader and senior engineer with over a decade of impact across fintech, logistics, healthtech, and AI infrastructure. Proven expertise in AI/LLM integrations, full-stack development, and building scalable systems from the ground up. Founder and CTO of Hoola, architect of distributed systems, and strategic consultant to global businesses. Hands-on with both product and infrastructure, blending leadership with deep technical execution.

SKILLS

- Fullstack Development (TypeScript, NestJS, React, Next.js)
 - AI/LLMs & Machine Learning (OpenAI, Vertex AI, Gemini, Anthropic, Hugging Face, RAG pipelines)
 - DevOps & Infra (Docker, Kubernetes, GitHub Actions, AWS, GCP)
 - Database Management (PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Redis)
 - Blockchain & Digital Rights Systems
 - Team Leadership & Mentorship
 - Problem-Solving & Ethical Decision-Making
 - Start-up Experience & Project Management
-

EXPERIENCE

Chief Technology Officer

Hoola Technology UK Ltd. | Jul 2023 – Present

- Built Hoola, an AI-powered financial co-pilot for querying and collaborating with financial data.
 - Deployed production-ready LLM infrastructure using Vertex AI (Gemini, OpenAI, Anthropic, Hugging Face).
 - Engineered real-time RAG pipelines for document querying and insight generation.
 - Developed enterprise dashboards using Next.js, React Server Actions, and TailwindCSS.
 - Architected backend with Node.js, PostgreSQL, Websockets, and GCP Storage.
-

Senior Partner

Forrest & Finch LLC | 2015 – Present

- Delivered software strategy and systems architecture for clients across fintech, logistics, and healthcare.
- Led full development of a U.S.-based medical credentialing platform used by healthcare professionals.

- Consulted globally across the U.S., UK, and Africa on product development, technical hiring, and AI/infra strategy.
-

Chief Technology Officer

ACRES PRO | 2022 - 2023

- Led platform engineering for real estate and property management operations.
 - Designed internal ERP tooling for listings, tenant workflows, and asset tracking.
-

Lead Engineer

Ramani Inc. (YC-backed) | 2021 - 2022

- Headed backend development through a successful \$30M Series-A raise.
 - Built systems to digitize supply chains and distributor networks across East Africa.
-

Director of Engineering

Neucleans Solutions Inc. | 2018 - 2021

- Delivered enterprise marketplace for matching cleaning vendors and vacation rentals hosts.
 - Managed engineering teams and ensured delivery of stable, scalable platforms.
-

Senior Software Engineer

MAX.ng | 2016 - 2017

- Developed the backend and DevOps systems for Africa's first motorcycle ride-hailing service.
 - Scaled logistics platform and optimized operational efficiency.
-

Technical Coordinator

Andela | 2014 - 2015

- Mentored early cohorts of African software engineers, many now leading companies.
 - Supported technical coordination and DevOps best practice training.
-

EDUCATION

- **University of Nigeria** – B.Sc. Computer Science
 - **Columbia University** – Certificate in Statistical Thinking for Data Science & Analytics
 - **Delft University of Technology** – Certificate in Project Management for Engineering Projects
 - **IDEO U** – Certificate in Human-Centered Design Thinking
-

CERTIFICATIONS

- Statistical Thinking - Columbia University via EDx
 - Project Management - TU Delft via EDx
 - Human-Centered Design - IDEO U
 - Blockchain Use in Enterprises
 - Responsible AI Principles
-

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Deployed production-grade LLM systems with Vertex AI's Model Garden.
 - Built an AI-native fintech platform with streaming, chat, and RAG-powered queries.
 - Led backend for YC startup Ramani through \$30M Series-A raise.
 - Architected a multi-state healthcare credentialing platform for U.S. providers.
 - Developed Africa's first motorcycle ride-hailing backend at MAX.ng.
 - Deployed Kubernetes clusters on AWS before EKS reached stable release.
 - Mentored developers at Andela - some now lead successful tech ventures.
 - Council Member at FOSSFA, advocating open-source innovation in Africa.
-

COMMUNITY & LEADERSHIP

- Founder, Hoola
 - Council Member, FOSSFA
 - Former Mentor, Andela
 - Technology Consultant for startups in Africa, Europe, and the U.S.
-