

Laurie Voss

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I'm currently seeking a new role. A richer explanation of how I'm looking to contribute is at slides.com/seldo/job-pitch. TLDR: I want to use my unique combination of technical and strategic experience to extract meaningful insights from the mountains of data your company generates.

For the last 10 years I have been running startups as co-founder. I've held titles including CTO, COO, and most recently CDO or Chief Data Officer. I have do-everything experience that comes from being a founder, but I believe I will have the most impact running the team that focus on data.

I started a web development company in high school, have been in tech for twenty-two years. The first 12 years of my career were mostly as an individual contributor, building sites at every level from front-end through the application stack and down to the level of DBA and systems administration. I keep my technical skills up to date and continue to code on side projects regularly.

I'm a web developer, in the sense that I build websites, and also in the sense that I develop the web: my passion is making the web itself bigger, better, more powerful, and I believe the best way to do that is to get more people building web sites and web apps. I look for companies that help that goal.

Experience

Co-founder and CTO/COO/CDO, npm, Inc.

January 2014 – July 2019 (5 years 6 months)

A wide-ranging role that evolved as the company grew. Major milestones over five years included:

- Grew from 1 million to over 11 million users worldwide
- Grew from 100,000 to over 1 million published packages
- Grew from 150k to over 2.3 billion daily package downloads
- Designed and launched self-serve SaaS product for teams
- Grew from zero to \$3.6M ARR with 40,000 paid users
- Recruited world-class team of 50+ across all departments

As CTO from 2014-2015, I was responsible for early architectural decisions and recruiting the first 20 members of the engineering team.

As COO from 2016-2018, I oversaw financial, legal, HR, policy, support, sales and marketing functions, as well as fundraising.

As Chief Data Officer in 2019, I combined data management and analysis functions from my previous two positions into a unified data team that improved, refined and expanded our data processing pipelines.

In all my roles, I turned data into insights that illuminated and directed support, marketing, sales and engineering functions, as well as strategic

direction for the company. For two years, I conceived and executed an influential survey of the JavaScript ecosystem. My analysis and publications about that data (see Publications below) have shaped strategy for the entire web industry.

Co-founder and CTO, awe.sm

April 2010 – July 2013 (3 years 4 months)

As with any co-founder, I took on a lot of roles and responsibilities.

- Had final decision on all technical strategy
- Collaborated on product, sales and marketing strategy
- Grew team from zero to 15 people
- Technical accomplishments included
 - High-traffic rich front-end applications
 - Comprehensive internal and external APIs
 - DB of 500m+ rows of relational data
 - Data warehouse handling 2.5bn+ data points
 - Data processing workflows in Hadoop with Hive
 - Real-time data analytics system
 - Infrastructure with better than 99.99% uptime

Engineer, Yahoo!

November 2005 – February 2010 (4 years 7 months)

Yahoo taught me how to work with large teams, and how to build web sites at truly global scale. I worked on many teams, building front-end tools, APIs, and databases as part of the Yahoo! Developer Network, Yahoo! Application Platform, and Yahoo! Widgets (née Konfabulator), an early attempt to build desktop applications in JavaScript.

Developer, Boltblue International

June 2004 – October 2005 (1 year 5 months)

Developer, Wide Area Communications

August 2003 – June 2004 (11 months)

Web developer, Easyart

March 2000 – September 2000 (7 months)

Co-founder, Net Results

July 1997 - September 1999 (2 years 2 months)

Selected Publications

JavaScript: Who, What, Where, Why and Next (JSConf EU Opening Keynote 2019)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gChULw-uEjY>

<https://slides.com/seldo/jsconf-eu-2019>

Professional JavaScript in 2019 (FinJS London, New York, Stockholm 2019)

<https://slides.com/seldo/professional-javascript-2019>

npm and the Future of JavaScript (JSConf US 2018)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mSQhogcDXkc&t=6s>

Solving Imaginary Scaling Issues, At Scale (Dinosaur JS 2017)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FJByltoGnA8>

Disappeared (Reply All podcast July 2016)

<https://gimletmedia.com/shows/reply-all/xjhe54>

You Suck At Technical Interviews (2014)

http://seldo.com/weblog/2014/08/26/you_suck_at_technical_interviews

Why I Am A Web Developer (2013)

http://seldo.com/weblog/2013/09/04/why_i_am_a_web_developer

Blue Collar Knowledge Workers Will Save The Economy (2012)

http://seldo.com/weblog/2012/08/30/software_developers_can_save_the_economy

ORM is an antipattern (2011)

http://seldo.com/weblog/2011/06/15/orm_is_an_antipattern

In defence of SQL (2011)

http://seldo.com/weblog/2010/07/12/in_defence_of_sql

Education

University of Warwick, Coventry, UK.

BSc. Computer Science 2003