

Valentinos Papasavvas

Personal Details

Full Name: Valentinos Papasavvas **DOB:** 11/05/1986
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GitHub account: <https://github.com/poupouxios>
Driving Licence: Yes

Personal Profile

I am sociable, energetic and friendly person. My interpersonal skills make me a good communicator, able to work well with others. I motivate and encourage people around me. I am self-aware and always seek to learn and grow. I am not scared of undertaking new responsibilities no matter the degree of difficulty. I am a critical thinker and a good researcher.

Currently in my role, I've had the privilege of leading cross-functional teams of engineers, devops and developers in the design, implementation, and optimization of these innovative solutions. By empowering our teams with the resources, support, and autonomy they need, we've cultivated an environment where creativity flourishes, and groundbreaking ideas come to life. My primary focus has been on fostering a culture of collaboration and empowerment, where our talented teams are inspired to push the boundaries of what's possible.

One of our key achievements has been the development of scalable, resilient, and performant systems that form the backbone of our telecommunications solutions. Central to this success is our strategic utilization of RabbitMQ as a message broker, containerization for autoscaling enabling seamless communication and data exchange across our platform. Furthermore, our adoption of microservices architecture has revolutionized the way we design and deploy software, allowing us to build modular, independent services that can scale effortlessly to meet the demands of our growing customer base.

Employment

Head of Engineering at Intergo Telecom Ltd, Cyprus

09/2021 – 09/2024

THE ROLE: Leading and growing a diverse team of **20 professionals** across Engineering, QA, Technical Support, IT and Infrastructure driving the design, implementation, and optimization of these innovative solutions. By empowering our teams with the resources, support, and autonomy they need, we've cultivated an environment where creativity flourishes, and groundbreaking ideas come to life. I've had the privilege of spearheading our company's remarkable growth journey since 2021, with a strong emphasis on empowering teams to drive technological innovation along with unlocking core features of our products. Managed to shape the company from a small startup to be today's FT-1000 Europe's fastest-growing company (one of the 2 in Cyprus <https://www.ft.com/ft1000-2024>) and be part of Deloitte's Technology Fast 50 award (<https://www2.deloitte.com/xe/en/pages/deloitte-private/articles/fast-50-3rd-edition-results.html>).

Company had 5x employee growth from 2021 until 2024 and 70-80% YOY revenue.

Current stack used (hands-on experience) is PHP OO based in Laravel, Lumen, using GO for microservices and leveraging MariaDB, Elasticsearch, Redis, ELK, APM (AppOptics and OpenTelemetry), RabbitMQ, Harbor for private docker registry, Github Actions with Jenkins for CI/CD all dockerized etc in an optimized way to scale and be resilient. Use of Atlassian package (Jira, Confluence) for documentation and following a 2 week Sprint through Jira in an Agile environment along with documenting test cases in Testrail.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Allocate resources, manage expectations and performance, and drive team efficiencies
- Manage the use of technology stacks and ensures that team members grow their knowledge base, by utilizing Online courses and additional professional development
- Successfully implemented ISO-27001, ensuring the highest standards of security, compliance, and risk management across the organization.

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- Participate in the hiring and part of management decision makers
- Work with other business units to analyze trends and product needs for continues product improvement
- Enhance engineering efficiency by closely observing the team and identify opportunities
- Provide mentorship and technical guidance to teammates
- Own development projects from conception through build, testing, implementation and support ensuring they meet business needs.
- Identifying bottlenecks on the systems and try and find the cause through various APM tools
- Manage QA resources to ensure through testing of all code before release. Utilising automated testing where possible.

Software Development Manager at Mindgeek, Cyprus

09/2019 – 09/2021

THE ROLE: Leading and coaching a team of nearly **30 professionals** across engineering and QA, spearheading one of the company's largest in-house services along with other critical internal products, ensuring the delivery of high-quality, robust software solutions within defined timelines and budgets.

Current stack used (hands-on experience) is PHP OO based in Laravel, Lumen leveraging MySQL, Elasticsearch, Redis, ELK, APM (AppOptics), RabbitMQ, Harbor for private docker registry, Gitlab CI for CI/CD. Use of Atlassian package (Jira, Confluence) for documentation and following a 2 week Sprint through Jira in an Agile environment along with documentating test cases in Testrail.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Allocate resources, manage expectations and performance, and drive team efficiencies
- Manage the use of technology stacks and ensures that team members grow their knowledge base, by utilizing Online courses and additional professional development
- Participate in the hiring and onboarding process
- Work with other business units to analyze trends and product needs for continues product improvement
- Enhance engineering efficiency by closely observing the team and identify opportunities
- Provide mentorship and technical guidance to teammates
- Own development projects from conception through build, testing, implementation and support ensuring they meet business needs.
- Manage QA resources to ensure through testing of all code before release. Utilising automated testing where possible.

Lead PHP Developer at Mindgeek, Cyprus

09/2017 – 09/2019

THE ROLE: Responsible for coaching a team that deals with one of the biggest products of the company along with other internal products the company has, providing continuous feedback, suggesting potential improvements, working closing with the product department.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Setting a sustainable pace to deliver the completed, tested, integrated, production ready software
- Analyse processes in order to provide solutions
- Providing continues feedback to the team
- Making regular meetings with Seniors to improve the process of the team
- Making bi-weekly meetings with the team to discuss the Sprint process and what we can do better
- Dealing with issues that block the Sprint process
- Suggesting new technologies to improve and optimize the services a product uses
- Split the deliverable into stages and make small releases.
- Perform code review and detrermine recommendations for adaptation
- Pair programming to approach a problem with different opinions

Senior PHP Developer at Mindgeek, Cyprus

01/2017 – 09/2017

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THE ROLE: Responsible for maintaining the products the company has, collaborate with the team for potential improvements, involve in project management.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Setting a sustainable pace to deliver the completed, tested, integrated, production ready software
- Analyse processes in order to provide solutions
- Team collaboration in Cyprus and Germany
- Split the deliverable into stages and make small releases.
- Perform code verification and determine recommendations for adaptation
- Pair programming to approach a problem with different opinions

Senior PHP Programmer at Approved Food, Sheffield

08/2016 - 11/2016

THE ROLE: Responsible for the internal picking system, collaborate with the team for potential improvements, involve in project management.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Setting a sustainable pace to deliver the completed, tested, integrated, production ready software
- Split the current system into Microservices written in Laravel Framework that will consume an API, written in Lumen Framework
- Reviewing new technologies and making suggestions for possible improvements in the system
- Collaborate with the people in the warehouse to understand the needs of the system
- Split the deliverable into stages and make small releases
- Undertake merge requests for code improvement
- Implement unit and integration tests
- Pair programming to approach a problem with different opinions

Senior Web Developer/iOS Developer at Llama Digital, Sheffield

04/2014 - 08/2016

THE ROLE: Collaborate with others to deliver quality code, involved in project management, provision of guidance and improvements in the process of delivering a feature/product to a client.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Stand up meetings to keep up to date with the process of each person in the team
- Implement unit testing - TDD for the developers to be aware if they accidentally break a feature and BDD for the clients to understand what we tested for the deliverable based on the User Stories
- Suggest new technologies and solutions to be used based on client requirements for the best result
- Communicate with the clients and understand their requirements
- Split the deliverable into stages to show each stage to the client to see the progress for feedback
- Meet the deadlines inside the team by dividing and analysing each point of a project/feature
- Refactor whenever is needed to keep the project quality and security up to date
- Pair programming to approach a problem with different opinions
- Develop and maintain the company's main mobile Application called Situate on iOS
- Work on various type of big projects of the company based on PHP MVC Framework
- Use merge requests for core review

Web Developer at Llama Digital, Sheffield

01/2012 - 04/2014

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THE ROLE: Started as Graduate Web Developer, I was involved in learning and developing in all CMS of the company. I was later trained with PHP Zend Framework to collaborate with developers and project management teams to deliver quality codes.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Pair with a team and work on big projects based on PHP Zend Framework
- Maintain and support CMS of the company (Drupal 6,7, MODx Evolution/Revolution, Magento E-commerce, Wordpress)
- Convert legacy code into a quality structure code
- Started using version control

ADSL Technical Support Assistant at CYTA, Paphos, Cyprus **2008 - 2009**

Military service at Cyprus National Guard **07/2004 - 08/2006**

Education/Qualifications

MSc Database Professional **Sheffield Hallam University (2011 - 2012)**

Degree Grade: First Class Honours (73.2 / 100)

Final Year Project Grade: 76 / 100

Modules include:

Databases & the Web, Data Warehousing, Industrial Expertise, IT Project Management, Logical Database Development, Physical Database Design & Administration, Web Application Design & Modelling

MSc Thesis Title: "Investigation of Column-Based Databases Performance against Relational Databases"

BSc (Hons) Computer Science **University of Crete (2006 - 2010)**

Degree Grade: 6.76 / 10

Final Year Project Grade: 9 / 10

Modules include:

Data Structures, Object-Oriented Programming, Mathematics, Computer Organization, Software Technology Laboratory, Computer Networks, Languages & Compilers, Operating Systems, Algorithms & Complexity

Final Year Project Title: "Design of Parallelization of the single-node Oracle/Berkeley Database through the use of a Distributed Coordination Service (Borealis)"

A' Lyceum Ethnarchi Makariou, Paphos, Cyprus **(2001 - 2004)**

Apolyterion Grade: 19 / 20 (95%)

Final Year Modules:

Advanced Mathematics, Advanced Computing, Advanced Physics, Advanced Modern Greek, Advanced Office Practice, Civics, English, Italian, Gymnastics, History, Religion

Other Qualifications

Hack Manchester **(2015)**

- Won the The Barclays/Rise Challenge by creating the best use of beacons for the Rise community on <https://youtu.be/YvBy7DBaesk?t=1247> we are on the final 3 for rentalcars.com competition and On <https://youtu.be/YvBy7DBaesk?t=2188> we are on the final 3 for Rise Challenge and win the big prizes

Hack Manchester - Companies Challenge Winner **(2012)**

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- Won the Best Company Award (with the Llama Squad LTD.) for our Automate Time Tracker web application

Pan-Cyprian Students Programming Olympiad (PSP0)

(2004)

- Finished in the top 10

Activities and Interests

Daily search for new advances in technology
Cooking and tasting different cuisines
Attending car meetings and events
Configuration of Linux systems

Cycling
Gym
Travelling in various countries
Troubleshooting PCs and laptops

More information can be found on [my site](#) regarding portfolio, up to date experience etc.

References on request.