# Oleksandr Kukhtin

Senior Product Engineer

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Product Engineer with 12+ years building scalable, user-centric web applications for product teams at Netflix, Writer, HelloFresh, Zalando and Tourlane. I am primarily a frontend specialist; I can also build the basic Node.js, Express and PostgreSQL CRUD services and backend-for-frontend layers a feature needs, but I am not a distributed-systems backend engineer. I specialise in thoughtful user experience, robust frontend architecture and remote-first, transparent engineering — async workflows, sharp documentation, and no-ego code review.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**Senior UI Engineer (Frontend), Netflix**
Aug 2023 — Present · Warsaw, Poland (on-site)

- Redesigned and developed internal drive-based workflow tools, improving file upload/download efficiency for thousands of productions, reducing incidents and bugs by 20% and manual steps by 30% through automation.
- Re-architected the backend-for-frontend layer, migrating from Node.js/Express to a Netflix-internal BFF solution and doubling system observability and monitoring capability.
- Built and maintained Node.js services and GraphQL/REST endpoints over relational (PostgreSQL) and internal data stores, owning schema changes, migrations and query performance.
- Developed a video diffing tool that visually surfaces differences between video file versions in media players and timelines, streamlining quality assurance.
- Collaborated cross-functionally with Design, Product and Support to understand user needs and ship impactful improvements.
- Championed clear asynchronous communication, documentation, and no-ego code reviews focused on clarity and shared learning.

**Technologies:** React, TypeScript, GraphQL, Node.js, Express, PostgreSQL, Jest, Sentry, Jenkins, Git, SRE, AI-First Development

**Senior Frontend Engineer, Writer**
Dec 2021 — Jul 2022

- Engineered an AI-powered writing assistant for teams: terminology management, writing rules and dynamic style-guide enforcement.
- Designed and implemented a custom Quill-based AI-assisted editor highlighting grammar, clarity and compliance issues in real time.
- Built and maintained the CMS for user and team management, supporting scalable collaboration and admin workflows.
- Extended Node.js/Express API endpoints backing the editor and admin surfaces, including data modelling in PostgreSQL.

**Technologies:** React, React Hooks, TypeScript, Node.js, Express, PostgreSQL, Lerna, Jest, GitHub Actions

**Senior Frontend Engineer, HelloFresh**
Dec 2020 — Jan 2022

- Owned delivery of critical updates to the Delivery History feature serving millions of users.
- Consolidated three internal CMS systems, streamlining menu publishing, recipe editing and menu creation.
- Led requirements gathering, user stories, delivery coordination and documentation for multiple high-impact features as Delivery Lead.
- Interviewed frontend candidates and drove async transparency across stakeholders.

**Technologies:** React, Redux, React Query, TypeScript, Cypress, Testing Library

**Senior Frontend Engineer, Tourlane**
Jun 2019 — Nov 2020

- Delivered internal productivity tools that cut agent time per customer by 32% and raised customer satisfaction.
- Built MVP frontends for backend teams, accelerating new app launches and integration across Backend, Product and Design.
- Wrote Node.js/Express service and BFF endpoints with PostgreSQL-backed data to unblock frontend delivery.
- Applied TDD throughout and kept cross-functional communication open and explicit.

**Technologies:** React, JavaScript, Node.js, Express, PostgreSQL, Styled Components, Cypress, TDD, GitHub Actions

**Frontend Engineer, Zalando SE**
Mar 2016 — May 2019

- Developed an application that streamlined campaign setup for advertising managers, increasing team capacity and contributing to revenue growth.
- Migrated the legacy platform from Angular to React, improving performance and maintainability.
- Mentored junior developers and aligned OKRs with UX, Product Management and leadership.

**Technologies:** JavaScript, React, Angular, Redux, CSS, Jenkins, Protractor

**Frontend Engineer (Remote), Freelance**
Feb 2015 — Feb 2016

- Built client-facing web applications end to end, from requirements to delivery.
- Introduced component-driven architecture and end-to-end testing to small product teams.

**Technologies:** JavaScript, React, Angular, Redux, CSS, E2E Testing

## SKILLS

**Core:** React, TypeScript, JavaScript, React Hooks, Redux, React Query, GraphQL

**Craft:** Design systems, Accessibility, Animation / motion, Styled Components, Tailwind CSS, Web performance

**Quality:** Jest, Cypress, Testing Library, Protractor, TDD, Sentry

**Backend:** Node.js, Express, REST APIs, GraphQL servers, Backend-for-frontend (BFF), PostgreSQL, SQL & schema design, Migrations, Auth & sessions (JWT/OAuth), Docker basics

**Platform:** Electron, Webpack, Vite, Jenkins, GitHub Actions, Git, SRE, Observability

**AI:** LLM APIs, AI-First Development, Model Context Protocol (MCP), Tool calling, RAG & embeddings, Chunking strategies, Evals, Prompt engineering, Claude Code, Codex, Antigravity, Kimi K3, Cursor

**Leadership:** Mentoring, Project management, Requirements & delivery lead, Hiring & interviewing, Async documentation

**Languages:** English, Ukrainian, Russian

## CERTIFICATIONS

**AI Engineering Basics — 2026**
Certification · passed
Model selection, prompt and context design, embeddings, chunking, retrieval-augmented generation, evaluation and deployment trade-offs.

## EDUCATION

**MSc, Computer Science**
National Technical University of Ukraine (Kyiv Polytechnic Institute) — Feb 2016

- GPA 4.4 / 5
- Two years as group representative

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