

Simon Quick

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SUMMARY

Product-focused lead software engineer with 15+ years' experience delivering products from idea to scale across startups, SMEs, and global commerce leaders. Skilled at combining user empathy, product sense, and technical excellence with applied Generative AI. Experienced collaborator who thrives in high-growth and cross-disciplinary teams.

Key career highlights:

Led the build of a Webby-nominated AI companion for arthritis sufferers, achieving 87% approval from specialists and 90% recommending it to patients

Delivered an adaptive AI search adopted by the Australian federal government, healthcare providers, and national infrastructure, on track to answer nearly 2 million questions per year

Founded Sound Shelter, a vinyl marketplace scaled to 100k users and 30+ partner stores, including full web, mobile, and automation build

Part-time CTO of Rebuilt, Australia's first self-service platform for generating verified Product Carbon Footprints, accelerating the shift to low-carbon construction

Engineered and integrated platforms for Apple, Vodafone, Expedia, Puma, and CSIRO

Founding engineer at Precept, awarded Google DNI funding to combat online misinformation using natural language processing

EXPERIENCE

Lead Product Engineer — Pollen

JAN 2022 - PRESENT / SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Pollen is an award-winning digital design, UX, and product studio. I lead the engineering team, shaping technical direction and AI strategy. Promoted from Senior Engineer to Lead in March 2023.

Selected Achievements

AI Companion App for Arthritis (Webby-nominated)

Architected and led the build of [Clara](#) (iOS, Android, Web), an AI companion delivering personalised, evidence-based support to 3.7M Australians with arthritis. Designed a secure RAG pipeline to surface contextual answers, achieving 87% approval from specialists, with 90% recommending the app to patients. Featured on 9News, Sydney Morning Herald, and The Age.

Agentic AI Search (Government & Infrastructure)

Architected and launched a production AI search product, now adopted by the Australian federal government, healthcare providers, and national infrastructure organisations. The system processes millions of user queries

SKILLS

Languages: JavaScript, TypeScript, Python, SQL

Front-end: React, Next.js, React Native, Expo, Tailwind

Back-end: Node.js, Express, Django, FastAPI, GraphQL, Prisma, Postgres, MySQL

AI/ML: RAG, semantic search, vector databases, prompt engineering, OpenAI, Anthropic, LlamaIndex, Langfuse, Vercel AI SDK

Infrastructure: AWS, Google Cloud, Vercel, CI/CD, Docker, Git

Testing & Analytics: Playwright, Jest, Vitest, RTL, GA4, Mixpanel

WORKING RIGHTS

Australian citizen

annually through a multi-step pipeline (PII redaction, LLM-as-judge classification, dynamic query rewrite, hybrid semantic/vector search, and LLM summarisation). Designed the enterprise-grade cloud foundations and implemented continuous evaluation frameworks to drive measurable improvements in accuracy and trust.

Part-time CTO, Rebuilt

Leading technical direction for [Rebuilt](#), Australia's first self-service platform enabling manufacturers to generate and publish verified Product Carbon Footprints (PCFs). Designed and launched the platform to make trusted carbon data accessible at scale, accelerating the shift to low-carbon construction.

In addition to full-stack engineering across web, mobile, generative AI, and infrastructure:

- Member of the leadership team driving technical and AI strategy and direction. Built and led a high-performing engineering team delivering multi-million-dollar projects.
- System and infrastructure architecture design and setup using Infrastructure as Code (IAC) across AWS, Google Cloud, EAS, and Vercel.
- Continuous collaboration with product and design teams to drive product direction
- Ongoing improvement of automated testing, deployment processes, and documentation

Tech stack: Typescript, Python, React / [Next.js](#), [Node.js](#), Django, Prisma, Postgres, TailwindCSS, React Native / Expo, AWS, Google Cloud, Pulumi, RAG, LlamaIndex, Vector/Hybrid search, Langfuse, OpenAI, Anthropic

Founder / Engineer — Sound Shelter

APRIL 2013 - JAN 2024 / SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

- Designed and built a platform that delivers personalised music recommendations and matches buyers to record stores selling the music they want. Onboarded over 30 partner record stores and grew the user base to around 100,000 unique visitors per year.
- Manage infrastructure that pulls information from partner websites via APIs, feed, and web scraping. Setup end-to-end marketing automation.
- Created and launched an iOS app into the App Store.

Tech: React / Next.js, Node.js, Prisma, MySQL, Tailwind, React Native, AWS

Senior Software Engineer — Endeavour

JAN 2020 - JAN 2022 / SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Engineer for the marketing team with a focus on building content and event platforms for new student acquisition and beat lead targets by 17%.

- Migrated existing events platform to React + Django to provide a superior experience for thousands of prospective students.
- Managed the build of a new student onboarding platform used by hundreds of students each term.
- Built a new clinic booking front-end leading to the platform processing

hundreds of instant payment bookings per week.

Tech: React, Django, Postgres, Tailwind, AWS

Senior Software Engineer — Precept

AUG 2018 - AUG 2019 / BARCELONA, SPAIN

YouCheck was awarded Google DNI funding to improve online information environments.

- Developed backend infrastructure including APIs for a machine learning-based application to help identify misinformation and fake news in images and text.

- Lead a team of two working on a React / Node platform that connects journalists with experts. Managed DevOps and gave code review.

Tech: React, Next.js, Node.js, Python, Django, Google Cloud

Integration Engineer — Partnerize

DEC 2016 - APR 2018 / SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Technical lead for APAC working on integrating clients into our partner marketing infrastructure. Clients include Apple, Expedia, Tripadvisor, Vodafone, Nike, Google and Emirates.

- Created several custom integrations with several 3rd party platforms and APIs to extract and transform data into Partnerize schema.

- Worked as the pre-sales and post-sales consultant in teams that won several million dollars worth of new business and renewals by designing and presenting technical solutions during the pre-sales process.

Travel

AUG 2016 - DEC 2016

Sales Engineer, HomeAway.com — Expedia Inc.

JUL 2012 - AUG 2016 / MELBOURNE & SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

First technical hire for HomeAway.com in APAC, developing technical solutions that enable partners to leverage the marketplace.

- Developed a custom feed parsing infrastructure that powered ~20,000 property listings on HomeAway.com for two years. Worked in a global team to migrate all listings to a standardised platform.

- Provided all pre-sales and post-sales consulting for the APAC business

EDUCATION

BSc (Hons) Internet Computing — Northumbria University

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, UK