

Cory Trast

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Software Engineer and Quality Engineering leader with 20+ years of experience designing, building, and leading test automation frameworks across Healthcare, Finance, Retail, and High-Frequency Trading. Deep expertise in AWS-native architecture, API development, and end-to-end pipeline engineering. Proven track record architecting QE practices from the ground up — frameworks, processes, teams, and tooling. AWS Certified with hands-on experience across Kinesis, Lambda, S3, Glue, DynamoDB, API Gateway, and CloudFront.

CERTIFICATIONS

AWS Certified Developer — Associate (DVA) — Active 2024–2027 | [Verify](#)

AWS Certified Solutions Architect — Associate (SAA) — Active 2023–2026 | [Verify](#)

AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner (CLF) — Active 2022–2027 | [Verify](#)

AWS Certified Data Engineer — Associate (DEA) — In Progress

Full Stack Development — General Assembly

Six Sigma Black Belt Training — American Society for Quality, 2008

CORE COMPETENCIES & TECHNOLOGIES

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|------------------------|--|
| Languages | Java · JavaScript / TypeScript · C# · Python · SQL · Groovy · PERL · Bash |
| Test Frameworks | Selenium · Cucumber/Gherkin · TestNG · RestAssured · Appium · Playwright · SoapUI · ReadyAPI |
| AWS Services | Lambda · Kinesis · S3 · Glue · DynamoDB · API Gateway · CloudFront · Cognito · SES · KMS · Bedrock |
| DevOps / CI-CD | Jenkins · Docker · Kubernetes · Bitbucket Pipelines · Artifactory · Git / GitHub |
| Databases | MongoDB · PostgreSQL · SQL Server · Oracle · Azure Table Storage · DynamoDB |
| Methodologies | Agile / Scrum · SDLC · TDD · BDD · SAFe · Value Stream Validation |
| Leadership | QE Architecture · Team Building · Mentoring · Interviewing · Project Management · Process Design |
| Platforms | Salesforce OmniStudio · Kafka · JIRA / Xray · Postman · IntelliJ · Eclipse · Visual Studio |

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Quality Engineering Practice Lead

Chief Data Office | Remote | Dec 2021 – Present

- Lead QE practice for AI/ML API and pipeline validation within the Chief Data Office.
- Designed and implemented API test framework incorporating AWS SDK for comprehensive service validation.
- Documented tools, processes, and validation patterns for AI/ML pipelines.
- Interviewed, hired, and managed QE team members; directed project resourcing and delivery.

Agile Full Stack Developer — DreamTeam Dev-QE

Chief Data Office | Remote | Jan 2021 – Dec 2021

- Salesforce OmniStudio (Velocity) developer on an Agile dev-QE hybrid team.
- Built and maintained Drools rules for API validation logic.
- Developed APIs using TypeScript, Java, and JavaScript with MongoDB/Compass backend.
- Delivered unit and integration testing across all feature work.

Sr. Specialist Systems Developer

Prudential | Plymouth, MN | Jan 2019 – Jan 2021

- Designed and developed API automation framework using Java, Selenium, TestNG, Maven, Cucumber, RestAssured, and Jira Xray.
- Owned and drove test automation frameworks and techniques for UI and API validation across multiple Agile Release Trains.
- Established continuous testing integration via Jenkins and Artifactory.
- Mentored and coached test automation engineers; led framework knowledge-sharing initiatives.

Lead Quality Engineer

Revel | Minneapolis, MN | 2017 – 2018

- Designed and implemented UI and API automation framework: Gherkin/Cucumber, Java, Selenium, Appium, TestNG, Sauce Labs.
- Built Bitbucket CI pipelines for continuous testing in test environments.
- Managed QA team: 1-on-1s, interviewing, hiring, mentoring, and test strategy oversight.
- Owned test plans, strategies, and estimations across SDLC areas.

Lead Engineer — Value Stream & Item Automation

Target Corp | Minneapolis, MN | 2015 – 2017

- Architected Value Stream Validation platform: dynamically stood up application ecosystems to execute cross-app tests.
- Built API validation framework (Java, Spring, RestAssured) and reference implementation using Docker, Kafka, Drone, Gradle, Flyway, Postgres.
- Designed and deployed Kafka-integrated data validator; served as Product Owner for Value Stream Validation.
- Led Item Team automation framework build (Selenium, Java, Maven, TestNG); served as Scrum Master and Product Owner.

Software Developer Engineer in Test

C2its / Patterson Dental | Minneapolis, MN | 2014 – 2015

- Visual Studio Coded UI testing of APIs; framework design for API and UI testing using Selenium and Appium.
- Enabled cross-platform test execution: same desktop test running on Android OS default browser.

SDET & Automation Architect

Life Time Fitness | Chanhassen, MN | 2012 – 2014

- Built C# .NET automation framework with GUI front-end for testers and run engine wrapping WatiN/Selenium.
- Served as Agile Product Owner for the framework; supported three teams with automation design and objects.
- Designed QTP/QC-based framework enabling manual testers to generate automated tests within QC Step Designer.

QA Test Lead — High Frequency Trading

Citi Derivatives Markets | Minnetonka, MN | 2010 – 2012

- Designed and executed automation framework (QTP/QC) and PERL/SQL test harness for high-frequency trading validation.
- Built dashboard metrics pipeline parsing application data via PERL scripts and SQL.
- Administered Quality Center 10.0; trained and mentored staff on framework usage and test case design.

QA Test Lead — Pharmacy System Conversion

BioScrip | Eden Prairie, MN | 2008 – 2010

- Led QA for conversion of 35 pharmacy stores to a new automated system; implemented IBM Rational ClearQuest, Test Manager, Manual Tester, and RequisitePro.
- Trained 30+ project team members, PMO, DBAs, and business users on ClearQuest workflows.
- Designed Java automation framework using Rational Functional Tester with reusable data-driven architecture.

Advisory / Senior Consultant

Ambient Consulting / Project Consulting Group / SWAT Solutions / Traust Group | Minneapolis, MN | 1998 – 2010

- Clients included: Wells Fargo, Best Buy, Blue Cross Blue Shield MN, Ingenix, US Postal Service, State of Mississippi, Lawson Software, PeopleNet.

- Delivered QA leadership, test automation frameworks, process design, and tool evaluations across Banking, Insurance, Healthcare, and Retail verticals.
- Designed Oracle E-Business Suite automation product line; authored testing process documentation and SDLC best practices.

EDUCATION

General Assembly — Software Engineering Immersive — 480 hours

Baker College Online — B.S. Computer Science

University of St. Thomas — Accounting

American Society for Quality — Six Sigma Black Belt Training, 2008

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Healthcare · Retail · Banking & Finance · High-Frequency Trading · Insurance · Pharmaceuticals · Electric Utility
· Transportation & Warehousing