David Dossou

Senior Software Engineer · Ruby on Rails · Payments

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SUMMARY

Senior backend engineer with 8+ years building Ruby on Rails products, most of them in payments and fintech. Built and ran ANKA Pay, a payments product that processed €3.7M for 400+ merchants, along with its risk and compliance systems. A background as a product manager means shipping end to end, from deciding what to build to production and monitoring.

EXPERIENCE

AFRIKREA / ANKA | Senior Software Engineer · Remote — Jan 2024 – Nov 2026

Pan-African marketplace and payments platform ($60M+ in transactions across 175 countries). Owned the payments platform: ANKA Pay, provider integrations, risk and compliance.

- Built and scaled **ANKA Pay**, processing **€3.7M across 14,000+ payments** for 400+ merchants, from buyers in 100+ countries, with a **public REST API** (85k+ calls) and a WooCommerce plugin used by 50+ merchants.
- Integrated **7 payment providers**, cards and mobile money, with **routing** by country, shop and brand that the team can change from the admin, without a new release.
- Made payments **reliable when a request is retried or two happen at once**, to prevent duplicate charges, including parallel checkouts on a **Stripe Terminal POS** used at New York Fashion Week (470+ sales, ~$80k).
- Built **daily checks** that recover payment updates missed from providers and alert the team when a provider stops working.
- Built **KYC/KYB, dispute management and a fraud engine** that replaced a 210,000-entry manual review queue with automatic checks when users sign in and pay. **16 fraudulent accounts** locked or blocked in the first 6 weeks.
- Cut **CI from 20+ to under 11 minutes** and **deploys from ~9 to 4.5 minutes**, so changes reach production faster.

Tech · Ruby on Rails, PostgreSQL, Redis/Sidekiq, Hotwire, OpenSearch, Docker, GitHub Actions, AWS (S3), AppSignal

PREPDD | Full-Stack Engineer · Remote — Dec 2022 – Nov 2023

Work-management platform for finance and accounting teams.

- Turned three copy-pasted client scripts into **one shared NetSuite import** that no longer shows users half-updated data. Adding a client became a configuration change, not new code.
- Cut estimated **Sage Intacct API calls by 85%+** by syncing only what changed, and removed redundant **QuickBooks Online** refreshes.
- Fixed **reconciliation totals** that could go out of date when accountants replaced or removed an Excel file.
- Built features across a **GraphQL API in Rails** and a **React/TypeScript** frontend (Apollo Client).

Tech · Ruby on Rails, GraphQL, PostgreSQL, Redis/Sidekiq, React, TypeScript, Apollo Client, PHP, Heroku

BOTAMP | Product Manager & Full-Stack Engineer · Remote — May 2021 – Dec 2022

Website builder used by thousands of small businesses across francophone Africa.

- Owned activation and growth: built a **guided onboarding and a referral program** in Rails, and shaped the editor, templates and payment features from user research; the platform reached **8.4/10 user satisfaction**.

Tech · Ruby on Rails, PostgreSQL, Redis/Sidekiq, Stimulus, jQuery, Bootstrap, Heroku, AWS (S3)

KUDIZY | Head of Product · Cotonou, Benin — Sep 2020 – Apr 2021

Invoicing, bookkeeping and point-of-sale app for small businesses.

- Led product and set up the product process with engineering; helped grow new customers from about a dozen to **100+ per week**.

EXPERIENCE, CONTINUED

HAPPIERCO | Full-Stack Engineer & Product Manager · Cotonou, Benin Sep 2018 – Sep 2020

Employee engagement and performance platform (US company).

- Helped rebuild an abandoned **Ruby on Rails product** in a team of 3, delivering feedback, recognition, survey and performance features; grew it to **3,000+ users** on a freemium model.
- Took over the **product roadmap and onboarding** as the team grew to 15, using usage data and customer feedback. Read the case study

Tech · Ruby on Rails, PostgreSQL, JavaScript, jQuery, Bootstrap, Redis, Heroku

PROJECTS

SPENS | Creator & sole engineer · spens.me

Personal finance and budgeting app for francophone Africa.

- Built **AI-assisted transaction entry** that turns everyday phrases into transactions, so logging an expense takes seconds. Used for **over half of all transactions**; **4 in 5 of those entries** are handled by the rules alone, without an AI call.
- Designed, built and launched it alone: **380+ sign-ups in two months**, **~3,000 automated tests** and automated deploys, run in production solo.

Tech · Ruby on Rails, Hotwire, PostgreSQL, Solid Queue, Tailwind CSS, Claude API, Meta Pixel & Conversions API, RSpec, GitHub Actions, Docker, Kamal

IRAWO | Full-Stack Engineer → Product Lead · part-time

Learning platform for professionals in francophone Africa, with 9,400+ learners, 120+ programmes and 200+ workshops.

- Built a multi-provider **payment system** for cards and mobile money (**350+ paid orders**) and automated certificates that supported training partnerships with companies such as **Canal+ Côte d'Ivoire**.
- Led the **product vision and roadmap** for the B2B platform (company learning spaces, progress tracking, learning paths), delivered with a developer.

Tech · Ruby on Rails, PostgreSQL, Redis/Sidekiq, Hotwire (Turbo), Bootstrap, AWS (S3)

SKILLS

Backend	Ruby on Rails, Ruby, PostgreSQL, SQL, Redis/Sidekiq, GraphQL, REST APIs, Hotwire
Frontend	React, TypeScript, JavaScript, Tailwind CSS
Payments	Stripe, Square, PayPal, PayPlug, Flutterwave, pawaPay, Monnify, Veriff (KYC/KYB)
Integrations	NetSuite, Sage Intacct, QuickBooks Online, Claude API, Meta Conversions API
Infrastructure	Docker, Kamal, GitHub Actions, AWS (S3), Hetzner, Heroku, Cloudflare
Monitoring & testing	AppSignal, Honeybadger, PgHero, Bullet, RSpec
Product	Roadmaps, user research, onboarding, analytics (PostHog, Mixpanel)

EDUCATION

Bachelor in Computer Science Applied to Business Management
ENEAM, University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin · 2013 – 2016

LANGUAGES

French · native
English · professional