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Pete Rai
Principal Engineer

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ABOUT ME

I'm a software engineer by training, experience and desire.

I've been "hands dirty" on everything from embedded to cloud. I've led high stakes projects and large international teams – often working to impossible requirements and improbable deadlines.

These days, my focus is on strategy and frameworks, especially in the area of developing responsible and trustworthy AI.

ADDITIONAL INFO

Member of techUK's Data Analytics and AI Leadership Committee.

Founder of Cisco's Aspire mentoring programme for underachieving children.

Founder of Cisco's Machine Learning for Young Women programme.

Co-Author of the UCL paper Towards Algorithm Auditing: A Survey on Managing Legal, Ethical and Technological Risks of AI and ML.

Author of more than two dozen patents, with more on the way.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Cisco » Principal Engineer
2013 - Present

In my role in the Emerging Technologies and Incubation group at Cisco, I develop initiatives which capitalize on new market opportunities unlocked by technological advancements.

I lead development teams, collaborating closely with domain experts to transform early market possibilities into tangible, operational systems. Leading by example, I spend much of my time writing cloud native applications and coding across the development stack.

As a key aspect of my role, I perform technical evaluations on a range of platforms, technologies and companies. Then present complex choices in simple ways to key decision makers, inside and outside of the company.

Additionally, I am part of Cisco's Responsible AI team - helping to shape Cisco's ethical AI development framework.

My responsibilities include technical advisor to our Government Affairs group. Here, I represent Cisco in various forums, engaging in dialogue with legislators and regulators advocating for responsible AI practices.

Working with our university team, I also assist with our academic engagement programmes, focusing both on skills and research. I am part of a group which approves Cisco's research grants, with my focus specifically on responsible AI studies.

NDS » Technical Director
1998 - 2013

NDS was a leading supplier of enabling technology for the digital television industry.

I worked in engineering and leadership roles on all aspects of the software stack from highly performant and available server-side components to content delivery infrastructure to consumer facing websites and set-top-box programme guides.

Other Employment
1988 - 1998

Thompson Reuters » Senior Software Engineer
ASTA » Software Engineer
ICL / STC » Junior Software Engineer
IBM » Junior Software Engineer