Simon Quick

Sydney, Australia
siquick@gmail.com
LinkedIn

SUMMARY

Applied AI engineer and platform architect specialising in production-grade agentic RAG systems for regulated enterprises. 15+ years' experience taking products from concept to production scale across startups, scale-ups, and global commerce leaders. I code daily while setting technical culture, mentoring engineers, and influencing product direction.

Key career highlights

– Built Clara, a Webby-nominated AI health companion, adopted by clinicians and patients across Australia.

– Architected and scaled an agentic AI platform used by Australian federal government and regulated healthcare, utilities, and education organisations, processing millions of queries annually with strict source-grounding and compliance guardrails.

– Founded Sound Shelter, a vinyl marketplace scaled to 100k users and 30+ record stores.

– Part-time CTO at Rebuilt, Australia's first self-service platform for verified Product Carbon Footprints.

– Founding engineer at Precept (Google DNI-funded misinformation detection).

– First APAC hire at HomeAway.com prior to its $4B acquisition by Expedia.

EXPERIENCE

Lead Engineer — *Pollen*

JAN 2022 - PRESENT / SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Lead architecture and delivery of enterprise-grade GenAI platforms for regulated Australian organisations across federal government and healthcare, shaping technical culture and AI strategy. Promoted from Senior Engineer to Lead in 2023.

Key achievements

Clara (Healthcare AI Companion)

Architected and built Clara (iOS, Android, Web), a Webby-nominated AI health companion serving 3.7M Australians.

– Designed secure, privacy-aware RAG architecture delivering evidence-based responses.

– Achieved 87% specialist approval and 90% recommendation rates.

– Featured in 9News, Sydney Morning Herald, and The Age.

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: Agentic RAG architectures, hybrid retrieval (full-text + vector), LLM orchestration, prompt design, evaluation loops, Langfuse, LlamaIndex, OpenAI, Anthropic, vector search.

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

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

WORKING RIGHTS

Australian citizen

Pollen AI (Enterprise Agentic AI Platform)

Architected and scaled a multi-tenant agentic AI platform adopted by the Australian federal government and regulated healthcare organisations, processing millions of queries annually.

- Designed hybrid retrieval and dynamic query orchestration with strict source-grounding and compliance guardrails.

- Implemented continuous evaluation and trace-level observability to improve accuracy and reduce hallucination.

- Established secure SaaS foundations (RBAC, multi-tenancy, IaC across AWS and GCP).

Rebuilt (Part-Time CTO)

Directed technical strategy and platform architecture for Australia's first self-service Product Carbon Footprint platform, enabling scalable and auditable carbon data workflows.

Broader contributions

- Built and mentored a high-performing engineering team delivering multi-million-dollar projects.

- Established AI-augmented engineering practices and evaluation standards to improve delivery velocity and code quality.

- Shaped technical & AI direction in collaboration with product and design.

- Established scalable infra with IaC (AWS, GCP, Vercel, EAS, Pulumi).

- Drove improvements to automated testing, CI/CD, and developer experience.

Tech stack: TypeScript, Python, React/Next.js, Node.js, Django, Prisma, Postgres, TailwindCSS, React Native/Expo, AWS, Google Cloud, Pulumi, RAG, LlamaIndex, 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