ARICK BULAKALI

Senior Product Engineer | AI Product Engineer | TypeScript, Rust, React, AI integrations
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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Product Engineer with eight years building products: two in UX/UI design, then six in fullstack development, with TypeScript, React, Next.js, React Native, NestJS and Rust. I design the products I build and take them from Figma to code, CI/CD and the app stores.

I build AI into web and mobile products: LLM integrations shipped in production apps, AI-powered collaboration features at Ever Technologies, and AI job dictation for the HIÜRD marketplace with Claude, LangChain and LangGraph. On the side, I am writing Ferrum CMS, a local-first CMS in Rust. Open to Rust, full-stack and AI engineering roles.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Languages:** TypeScript, JavaScript, Rust
- **Frontend:** React, Next.js, Angular, Vue.js, WordPress, Tailwind CSS, SCSS, Framer Motion
- **Mobile:** React Native, Expo, EAS, Maestro
- **Backend:** NestJS, Node.js, Express, REST APIs, PostgreSQL
- **Rust:** Actix Web, Axum, Tokio, Serde, Diesel, Leptos, WebAssembly
- **AI:** Claude, LangChain, LangGraph, OpenAI API, Microsoft Copilot, LLM integrations, AI workflows, AI training pipelines
- **Cloud, DevOps and tools:** Docker, GitHub Actions, Vercel, AWS (EC2, S3), DigitalOcean, Git, Electron, Tauri (exploring)
- **Testing:** Jest, Cypress, Rust unit tests, property-based testing
- **Design:** Figma, wireframing, prototyping, web design, UX flows, design systems

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Product Engineer
Ever Technologies · Remote · *Oct 2023 – Present* · also Full-stack Designer until Nov 2025

- Principal contributor to the web app of Ever Teams, an open source, AI-powered collaboration platform, in a large TypeScript monorepo (Next.js and NestJS): complex React and Next.js interfaces used in production.
- Designed reusable UI architecture and shared component libraries, led frontend performance refactoring and took part in architecture decisions.
- Delivered AI-powered collaboration features and productivity workflows, integrated AI training logic into backend features and developed Rust-based internal APIs with Actix Web.
- Contributed to Ever Gauzy, the open source platform behind Ever Teams: report, permission and performance fixes in its NestJS API.
- Developed and maintained the Ever.team and Ever.tech corporate platforms with Next.js, TypeScript and Strapi CMS, working closely with product managers, designers and backend engineers.

UX/UI Designer
Upperz · Remote · *Oct 2024 – Dec 2024*

- Prototyped and designed the web interfaces of Upperz's developer tools and SaaS platforms in Figma.
- Shaped the user experience around the values and principles of Upperz products.

UX/UI Designer
Channzo Alkebulan · *Aug 2023 – Oct 2023*

- Prototyped and designed the web interfaces of Channzo Alkebulan projects in Figma, then the rendering in React.

Full-Stack Designer
Zabibu · Remote · *Mar 2023 – Sep 2023*

- Built a tutoring platform with Angular and NestJS, with a focus on modular and maintainable design.
- Design work in Figma.

Software Engineer
Salicon RDC · Remote · *Jul 2022 – Aug 2023*

- Designed the saliconrdc.org interface in Figma for member and donation management, then built it.

- Developed the donation flow and member experience with Laravel and Tailwind.
- Initiated the transition of backend features to Rust for critical performance.

UX/UI Designer
Wikimedia RDC · *Jan 2023 – Mar 2023*

- Prototyped and designed the website of Wikimedia RDC, an association that promotes free culture around Wikipedia and its sister projects, in Figma, then the rendering in WordPress.
- Worked closely with the Wikimedia RDC team on its needs and objectives.

Full-Stack Developer
Cryptnail · Goma, DR Congo · *Aug 2021 – Mar 2023*

- Built fullstack features with React and Laravel and created internal CLI tools in Rust.

Web Developer
BongobTrust · Remote · *Apr 2020 – Dec 2021*

- Designed the bongobtrust.org website in Figma, then built it with Laravel and Tailwind CSS, with its admin platform, CMS management and multilingual features, for an NGO.
- Database management.

SELECTED PROJECTS

HIÜRD
Product Engineer (contract) for HIURD LLC · hiurd.com · *Sep 2025 – Present*

- Local services marketplace on iOS, Android and the web: built the React Native and TypeScript app, designed its mobile screens with the product stakeholders, maintained the Next.js site.
- Owned the mobile CI/CD and store release pipeline end to end: EAS builds, GitHub Actions workflows, Maestro tests on emulators, publishing on iOS and Android.
- Added AI job dictation with Claude, LangChain and LangGraph. Case study: ndekocode.dev/projects/hiurd

Ferrum CMS
Author and sole developer · *In progress since Sep 2026*

- A local-first, file-driven CMS in Rust: three-way merge sync engine, TOML schemas, JSON content and a CLI. Case study: ndekocode.dev/projects/ferrum-cms

Also built

- **Memnox:** React and TypeScript interfaces for AI-assisted workflows, on an AI platform with project memory.
- **AI Training Pipeline** (personal): modular Rust system for distributed model training.
- **Rust API Boilerplate** (personal): authentication-ready Actix Web server with PostgreSQL and JWT.
- **Leptos Dashboard** (personal): SSR and SPA dashboard with Leptos and Tailwind CSS.

OPEN SOURCE

Merged pull requests since October 2023 (github.com/NdekoCode): Ever Teams (Recoil to Jotai migration, core layer, React Query, workspace switcher, layout refactor, i18next), Ever Gauzy (time log reports, dashboard speed, team manager permissions), strapi-plugin-cookie-manager and ui-layouts.

WRITING

Six articles on Rust, TypeScript and mobile CI/CD at ndekocode.dev/blog, also on medium.com/@ndekocode and dev.to/ndekocode.

EDUCATION

- Kadea Academy, Diploma in Web Development (2021 – 2022)
- ULPGL Goma, Computer Engineering, three years of study (2018 – 2021)
- College Saint Paul, High School Diploma, Chemistry-Biology: physics, mathematics, statistics, probability (2012 – 2018)

LANGUAGES

French: Native · English: Professional · Swahili: Fluent