

PHILIP UKANWOKE

Backend & Full-Stack Engineer • Infrastructure • Security • AI

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Open to full-time remote roles worldwide

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

- Backend & full-stack engineer with 3+ years delivering production web applications across e-commerce, fintech, healthcare, energy, and industrial-safety domains.
- Owns products end to end: API and database design, payment infrastructure (Stripe Connect, vendor wallets and payouts), real-time systems (MQTT, WebSockets), and containerised deployment on DigitalOcean and VPS.
- AI is a core specialisation, building LLM-powered product features (Claude API), and applying AI to real workflows for African markets.
- Runs production infrastructure hands-on: Linux administration, Docker, PM2, Nginx, CI/CD, and live incident response, including leading recovery from a real server compromise with zero disruption to payment systems.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Python (Django, DRF, FastAPI) • Go • JavaScript / TypeScript • PHP • Bash • SQL • HTML/CSS

Frameworks: Django • FastAPI • Celery & Celery Beat • React • React Native / Expo • Laravel • Express.js • Vite • Tailwind CSS

AI: Claude API / LLM integration • AI-powered product features • prompt engineering • applied automation

Infrastructure & DevOps: Linux (Ubuntu/CentOS) • Docker & Docker Compose • Nginx • PM2 • CI/CD • Git • DigitalOcean • Vercel • VPS / cPanel • systemd

Security: Server hardening • incident response & malware remediation • dependency-vulnerability management • least-privilege deployment • SSH & firewall configuration

Databases: PostgreSQL • MySQL / MariaDB • Redis • InfluxDB • query optimisation & schema design

Other: REST API design • MQTT • WebSockets • RabbitMQ • MinIO • Stripe Webhooks • Clerk Auth • technical documentation

WORK EXPERIENCE

Backend Developer (Remote Contract) • ABX Technologies (AfroBasket Xpress)

2025 – Present

United Kingdom • Fully Remote

- Build and own the backend for a UK multi-vendor grocery and restaurant marketplace (Django/DRF, PostgreSQL, Redis, Celery, MQTT, Docker) deployed on DigitalOcean via a private container registry.
- Own Stripe Connect payment infrastructure: connected accounts, vendor wallets, payout reconciliation and commission logic; resolved failed webhook payouts and misrouted vendor transfers and rebuilt historical balances.
- Deliver admin analytics APIs (per-vendor revenue, commission, fulfilment rate, sales and payout history), documented in OpenAPI/Swagger for the frontend team.
- Led incident response on a production compromise of the frontend infrastructure: traced the entry point to a critical Next.js RCE vulnerability, removed the malware and persistence, patched and rebuilt all four apps on hardened versions, and restored every portal the same day.
- Contained impact through least-privilege deployment, the intrusion stayed confined to a non-root service account and never reached the backend or payment systems, and set team security standards: pre-deploy dependency audits, automated vulnerability alerts, same-day critical patching, and no root-level builds.
- Manage a multi-container production stack (API, ASGI, Celery workers & beat, MQTT, Redis, Nginx Proxy Manager, PM2 under systemd).

Software Engineer • Onction Energy

Jan 2026 – Present

Lagos, Nigeria • On-site

- Built core features of PAIP (Power Availability Intelligence Platform), a React Native / FastAPI product tracking Nigerian electricity feeder status in real time for consumers and businesses.
- Implemented MQTT real-time notifications and Celery Beat scheduled polling of a DisCo feeder/SCADA API every 10 minutes, building a historical time-series dataset for outage prediction.
- Designed a three-server VPS deployment with Docker Compose, Nginx, PostgreSQL, Redis, RabbitMQ and InfluxDB; integrated Clerk auth and a bill-upload OCR pipeline.

Founding CTO • Afripharm

Sep 2026 – Present

Lagos, Nigeria • Remote

- Founding CTO of Afripharm, a pharmacy stock-request platform; own the technical roadmap end to end and will lead development of its upcoming stock management and inventory system.
- Designed and shipped Afripharm's customer-facing WhatsApp ordering assistant on Meta's official WhatsApp Cloud API (Flask, MySQL, cPanel/Passenger), replacing a planned Google Form intake after identifying it as a friction point for customers.

- Built a five-category conversational intake flow (Kidz, Heart & Metabolic Health, Weight Management, Perimenopause & Menopause, Men's Sexual Health) with photo-based product capture via Cloudinary.
- Built a secured, bcrypt-authenticated admin dashboard with login-attempt rate-limiting and CSV export for reviewing incoming stock requests.
- Deployed the full stack to production on a dedicated subdomain, resolving real-world infrastructure issues spanning secure database connection strings and WhatsApp webhook configuration.

Lead Software Developer & IT Consultant • Josephine Consulting Ltd

Apr 2025 – Present

Lagos, Nigeria • Remote

- Lead end-to-end software development and IT consulting across multiple client organisations in diverse industries.
- Architect and build backend systems (PHP/Laravel and Python) for office management, operational efficiency and executive workflows; provide direct technical support to an executive team.
- Audit web applications for performance bottlenecks, security gaps and architectural issues, and deliver actionable improvements.

Software Engineer (Remote Contract) • Argoleum E-commerce Platform

Jan 2024 – Present

Munich, Germany • Fully Remote

- Led server migration for a production e-commerce platform with zero data loss and minimal downtime.
- Configured and hardened Linux servers, set up deployment pipelines, and optimised hosting environments alongside the in-house engineering team.

Freelance Software Engineer • NetBuilders

Mar 2022 – Present

Lagos, Nigeria • Remote

- Design and build custom web applications for SMBs across e-commerce, healthcare, solar energy and logistics (PHP/MySQL, Laravel, cPanel/WHM).
- Delivered Darok.store (full-stack e-commerce), a pharmacy inventory system, and CRM platforms for solar-energy companies; implemented secure REST APIs, auth systems and optimised queries throughout.

KEY PROJECTS

BlueMart • Django/DRF • Claude API • Paystack/Flutterwave/Stripe

- AI-powered ad-copy SaaS for African markets, integrating the Claude API to generate marketing copy, with multi-gateway payments.

BookBet • FastAPI • PostgreSQL • Redis • React

- Live multi-bookmaker betting-code converter with a custom in-house conversion engine across SportyBet, Bet9ja, BetKing, Betway, Betano and 22Bet.

PAIP, Power Availability Intelligence Platform • React Native • FastAPI • MQTT • Celery • PostgreSQL • InfluxDB • Docker

- Real-time Nigerian power-monitoring platform delivering outage intelligence to consumers and businesses, from onboarding through five app tabs, with a 10-minute polling pipeline feeding outage prediction.

ProcessShield, Process Safety Management System • React • Django • Role-based Access Control

- Industrial-safety compliance platform with multi-role dashboards and a six-step incident-reporting module with automated severity routing and escalation.

Afripharm • Flask • MySQL • Meta WhatsApp Cloud API • Cloudinary

- WhatsApp-native pharmacy stock-request platform; conversational intake bot plus a secured admin dashboard, live in production.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

BSc, Computer Science • University of Calabar, Nigeria

Nov 2019 – Mar 2025

ALX Africa (Holberton School) • Software Engineering, Back-End Specialisation

Completed Nov 2023

NEBOSH Health & Safety Certification

In Progress, Expected Nov 2026

INTERESTS & LANGUAGES

Interests: Applied AI • Systems Architecture • Security Research • Automation & Infrastructure • On-Chain Analytics • Photography

Languages: English, Native / Expert