Thomas Runte
Software Developer

Expert Software Architect & Founder with 30+ years of experience delivering mission-critical analytical support and telephony solutions for Tier-1 German corporations.

A high-seas navigator turned **Rust & AI Specialist**, I combine the strategic mindset of a former CEO with a deep-level technical mastery of **LLM-agnostic chatbot architectures (ConverZen)** and high-performance backend systems. Proven ability to remain calm in critical situations, solving complex problems with available resources under pressure.

Experience

09/2018-11/2020 — **Software developer for Balena**

System Migration: Engineered a remote OS installation solution capable of deploying over various Linux distributions and Windows flavors.

High-Performance Implementation: Developed the initial proof-of-concept in Bash before architecting the final, production-ready version in **Rust** for enhanced safety and performance

07-2018 — **Evaluation and Proof of Concept**

IoT & Real-time Data: Evaluated and implemented a **Socket.io/RabbitMQ** service to deliver real-time IoT events to mobile and web clients (Angular 6 / Cordova).

06-2018 — **Alexa skill development**

Developed a voice frontend for IoT devices using **Alexa Skills**, with a TypeScript/ES6 backend deployed on **AWS Lambda**.

1997-2016 — **Co-founder and CEO GIquadrat mbH**

Enterprise Solutions: Founded the company to develop high-stakes interactive telephony solutions for **IBM**.
Framework Architecture: Designed and maintained a custom framework for automated call center load testing and telephony applications.
Strategic Quality Assurance: Provided mission-critical testing services for major German institutions, including **Deutsche Telekom, Deutsche Bank, Allianz, Siemens, Citybank and Commerzbank**.
Leadership & Scale: Led the company through 15 years of evolving telecommunications standards, managing both the business strategy and technical roadmap.

1995-1997 — **Software Developer - IBM Deutschland Informationsysteme GmbH**

Leader of a project team of freelance developers with the objective of designing and implementing an interactive voice response system for IBM.

1993-1995 — **Software Developer dial marketing GmbH**

Designed and developed a system to build and run telephony based marketing applications.

Personal info

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Nationality
German
New Zealand Residence Class Visa

Skills
Software Architecture, Software Design, Project Management, Collaborative Team Work, Machine Learning / Deep Learning, Data Analysis / Reporting, Linux System Administration

Frameworks & Environments
Axum, Tokio, Next.js, Nodejs, Express, React-Native, Bootstrap, Swing, Require.js Alexa Skills, Angular, TensorFlow, .Net Core, ASP.NET

Programming Languages

Language	Level
Rust	●●●●●
C/C++	●●●●●
Java	●●●●●
Typescript	●●●●○
JavaScript	●●●●○
SQL	●●●●○
Python	●●●●○
C#	●●●●○
perl	●●●○○
PHP	●●●○○

Operating Systems
Linux, Windows 3.1-11, Android, macOS, OS/2

Applications
Git, Wordpress, Jenkins, Jest, Docker, cursor

Databases
Mysql, PostgreSQL, Sqlite, DB2, CouchDB

Languages

Language	Level	
German	●●●●●	native
English	●●●●●	excellent
French	●●○○○	
Spanish	●○○○○	

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Key Technical Projects

11/2025-Present	**ConverZen** (converzen.de)	

Tech Stack: Rust, Tokio, Axum, Candle, NextJs for UI's
Innovation: Developed a multi-tenant, LLM-agnostic chatbot server designed for high concurrency and low latency.
Integration: Successfully deployed an "empathetic" version of the chatbot into a commercial Next.js webshop (gaylynmorgan.com).

2018-   **gaylynmorgan.com**

Commercial webshop. Meanwhile completely redesigned in Next.js, featuring a ConverZen empathetic chatbot.

2014-2018   **Various Projects**

Development in JavaScript / Java / C++ using PostgreSQL React-Native on Linux / Android

2009-2015   **ArcheryScores (Android Application)**

Market Success: Achieved 10,000+ installs with a 4.2-star rating in the Google Play Store.
Full-Stack Mobile: Utilized Java on Linux/Android, C++, and PostgreSQL on the backend to create a high-performance tracking tool for athletes.

Certificates

12/2023	Introduction to TensorFlow for Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Deep Learning. View Certificate
05/2018	Machine Learning by Stanford University on Coursera. View Certificate
05/2018	Neural Networks and Deep Learning by deeplearning.ai on Coursera. View Certificate
06/2018	Improving Deep Neural Networks: Hyperparameter tuning, Regularization and Optimization by deeplearning.ai on Coursera. View Certificate
06/2018	Structuring Machine Learning Projects by deeplearning.ai on Coursera. View Certificate
08/2018	Convolutional Neural Networks by deeplearning.ai on Coursera. View Certificate

Education

1984	Albert Einstein Gymnasium, Buchholz i.d. Nordheide Abitur (German University entrance qualification)
1985-1988	Apprenticeship as an Industry Mechanic in Hamburg
1988 -1992	Technical Informatics at the TU Harburg. First diploma in Informatics for Engineers,Physics, Materials of Electronics
1992 -1997	Software Techniques at the FH Hamburg First diploma.

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Professional Re-Entry & Current Focus

After a high-stakes career as a CEO, I spent several years completing a circumnavigation of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. This period honed a unique set of "expeditionary" soft skills: absolute self-reliance, rapid problem-solving with limited resources, and maintaining composure in critical environments.

In 2014, my "addiction" to software development resurfaced, leading to a deep dive into modern full-stack and systems programming. Since 2018, I have specialized in **Rust** and **Machine Learning**, integrating AI-aided development processes into my workflow. I am currently architecting **ConverZent**, a proprietary chatbot solution, and am available for targeted contract engagements.

Core Interests & Attributes

Sailing (Ocean Circumnavigation): Mastered the art of environmental awareness and planning using multi-source information to navigate two oceans on my 46' vessel, *Qi*.

Traditional Archery: A practice in extreme focus, discipline, and maintaining a calm state under pressure to achieve a target.

Lifelong Developer: Actively programming since 1985 (Z80 assembler/Basic). I currently manage my own Linux server infrastructure hosting domains, web services

Global Perspective: Lived in Malaysia and Egypt as an adolescent; traveled extensively across South America, Asia, and the South Pacific.

Visual Storytelling: Documentation of global travels and reefs through digital photography and diving.