TANELI OTALA

Executive Manager, Technologist, Team Builder, Mentor, and Inventor

Home 408 773-9689 / Cell 408 480-7733   1915 Woodland Ave
taneli@otala.com   Santa Clara, CA 95050
                                                                                      http://pointyhair.com

Professional Achievements / Select highlights

Scalability, reliability

- Jaxtr/VPeng; scaled an international VoIP phone solution from 10k users, at 50% uptime to 10M users at 99.99% uptime, added social networking and international billing features
- Company was bought by an Indian company (Sabsebolo)

Business Development

- MySQL/CTO; Certified MySQL with Sun Microsystems; database engines; NoSQL datastores
- Company acquired by Sun Microsystems a month later

Database connectors, asynchronous results, Cloud

- AtomicLabs/CTO; designed and built multi-platform automated build & test platform, migrated the product to Cloud.
- Company was acquired by Splunk

Real-Time processing at volume, IoT

- SenSage/VPEng-CTO; I transitioned from VPeng (and hired my successor) to CTO to be able to concentrate on developing the RT product, while hiring developers for the new product.
- Company was acquired by Hexis

Modernization, performance, migrated to cloud, SQL to NoSQL, ML/AI, IoT

- Glassbeam/CTO; Old product required dedicated cluster and Vertica database per customer. I designed and built a shared-everything solution, using Scala/Akka, Map-Reduce, Spark-like architecture, NoSQL (Cassandra). I re-implemented a proprietary ETL language (SPL), so most developers did not need retraining. Finally, I added Coldlight Machine Learning platform for prediction.

Scalability, architecture, performance/reliability, cost-of-ownership optimization, ML/AI

- monARC/CTO; transformed a very brittle web site written in PHP, collecting patients medical information in HL7 FHIR format – I substituted it with Scala/Play/Akka site and MariaDB. I trained the team I inherited and hired a few more developers.I switched from Aptible (an AWS add-on) to native AWS system, with significant savings in TCO as well as better security. With the new web site, we were able to immediately acquire 1,600 new customers and 631,000 customers through a hospital. Using homegrown AI/ML we matched the patients to clinical studies.

People Management

- monARC; inherited 4, let go of 2, hired 6.
- Glassbeam; Indian: inherited 30, hired 6, transitioned/trained 3. Santa Clara: Hired 2.
- MySQL; Managed 86 people in 26 countries.
- Maintained connections with most people I have hired; who would-be potential candidates for hire.

Skills

- Scalability; designing for reliability, scalability, and security
- Multithreading and distributed computing using microservices
- Big data – developing solutions accounting for cost and efficiency.
- People – hiring, managing, leading, mentoring; growing teams from 1 to 110.
- Polyglot – almost any language and framework, including systems. Favorites are Scala with Akka and C++ with Boost; when applicable.
- Process and Innovation – VP Engineering or CTO, I do both, depending on context and company drive.
- Hands-on – Architecture, Design, Code reviews, Coding, DevOps, SysAdmin, Optimization, Systems design, Mentoring, Teaching – lead by example.
- Clouds and Containers – On-Premise (Xen, VMware, Kubernetes, Docker), Public cloud (AWS, Google Cloud), Private Cloud (IBM Softlayer), and Hybrid.
- Patents – recently awarded patent 9,830,368; Asynchronous parallel processing of log data – showing how scalable, fast, and parallel a system built with Scala and Akka can be. Collaborated on many more patents.

Select Work History

CTO	monARC BioNetworks, San Francisco, CA	2018-2019
CTO	Glassbeam, Santa Clara, CA & Bangalore, KA, India	2012-2017
CTO	Atomic Labs, Mountain View, CA	2008-2011
VP Eng	Jaxtr, Menlo Park, CA	2007-2008
CTO	MySQL, Cupertino, CA & Helsinki, Finland	2006-2006
VP Eng & CTO	Addamark/SenSage, San Francisco, CA	2002-2006
Sr Dir Eng	Oracle, Redwood Shores, CA	1999-2000
Founder / CEO	Otasoft, Oulu & Helsinki, Finland	1983-1994

Education

Oulu University, Oulu, Finland	EE, ME, CS
Oulun Lyseon lukio (college), Oulu, Finland	Magna Cum Laude

For complete work history, see https://www.linkedin.com/in/taneliotala/
For a complete resume, see http://pointyhair.com/resume
For a public portfolio, see https://github.com/tanelio