



# Sander Saarend

Software Engineer

## 👤 Profile

Experienced software engineer and generalist, with a passion for building teams where all are excited to create high quality software

## Details

Tartumaa

Estonia

+372 53036662

[sander@saarend.com](mailto:sander@saarend.com)

## Links

[GitHub](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

## Skills

TypeScript

Node.js

React

PostgreSQL

AWS

## 📁 Employment History

### Lead Software Engineer at Tai+, Remote

February 2023 — September 2023

Established principles and lightweight processes for the engineering team, hired engineers, set up infrastructure. Designed, built and went live with a working platform for truck-based cargo delivery (APIs + web UI + basic mobile app).

The project was high-risk from the beginning, and unfortunately, funding ran out before the business really got going, but I am still extremely proud of what the team was able to accomplish in a relatively short period of time.

Tech stack: TypeScript/Node.js/React/Postgres/AWS/Terraform

### Tech Lead at Bolt, Remote

April 2020 — February 2023

Lead a full-stack team working on services and applications mostly related to ride-hailing drivers. Responsible for technical designs, implementation, but also mentoring and growing other engineers in the team. Additionally conducted hundreds of software engineering interviews with potential candidates at Bolt.

Tech stack: TypeScript/Node.js/React/MySQL/AWS/Terraform

### Senior Software Engineer at Playtech, Tartu & Remote

August 2018 — April 2020

Worked on in-house software for orchestrating the large infrastructure at Playtech (a system similar to Terraform). Responsible for technical ownership of several key features, including building integrations with external tools like VMWare.

Tech stack: Python/TypeScript/React/Oracle

### Tech Lead at Reach-U, Tartu & Remote

November 2017 — March 2019

Assembled and lead a team building custom software for a variety of clients. Responsible for technical leadership and for mentoring other engineers. Changed the culture at the company by establishing teams which can leverage past experiences on future projects.

Tech stack: various different projects, but most commonly Java, TypeScript and PostgreSQL

## **Tech Lead at IT and Development Centre at the Estonian Ministry of the Interior, Remote**

October 2016 — November 2017

Lead a small team, designed and implemented services used by the entire Estonian population (exact details of this project are under NDA).

Tech stack: Java/TypeScript/React/PostgreSQL/PostGIS

## **Software Engineer at Nortal, Tartu & Remote**

June 2015 — September 2016

Worked on a legacy information system used in several hospitals. Main focus was on APIs and integrations.

Tech stack: Java/TypeScript/AngularJS/Oracle

## **Freelancer**

2012 — June 2015

Worked on a variety of projects for different clients, including small websites, blogs, and a custom discussion forum.

Tech stack: Python/Flask/JavaScript/jQuery/AngularJS/PostgreSQL

## **★ Extra**

### **Admin of lemm.ee**

I run the second most active Lemmy instance in the world, lemm.ee. Lemmy is an open source, federated alternative to Reddit. I also contribute code to various open source Lemmy projects.

My instance is considered one of the best performing ones by a large number of users. Since launching it, it has grown to a modest, but respectable ~10 million requests served daily.

Tech stack: Rust/TypeScript/React/PostgreSQL/Terraform

### **Partner at Eribyte**

I am an owning partner at a small software consultancy. We specialize in projects which require high technical competency, but at the same time are small in scope.

Over the past few years, we have grown to employ a dozen software engineers who are all working at Eribyte part-time, in addition to their main full-time job.

Initially, I was also working directly on several projects, but for the past few years, I have only been involved in an advisory role.

Tech stack: extremely varied, depends on client needs