ISLAM ABDELZAHER

Senior Full-Stack Engineer | React · Next.js · TypeScript · Node.js · PostgreSQL · Generative AI

Alexandria, Egypt (Open to relocation: UK / EU / UAE | Visa sponsorship required) | +20 106 256 0203
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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Full-Stack Engineer with 10 years of professional experience shipping enterprise web applications for government ministries and commercial clients. Since August 2025 I have been the sole engineer on 4 live production platforms at VentureX, delivering every layer end-to-end — PostgreSQL schema, Supabase backend, React/Next.js frontend, and production infrastructure on Vercel, Railway, and Cloudflare — and a full-stack engineer on the KFCRIS Strategic Performance Management System. Independently built and launched a further 2 full-stack products. Prior to that, 6 years as Senior Frontend Engineer at a 100+ person regional consultancy delivering government platforms, including the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP) national IP search platform. My strongest skill is shipping complete, working products. I use Claude Code, Cursor, and GitHub Copilot as daily production tools with deliberate validation workflows. I also build LLM-powered products: a retrieval-augmented generation (RAG) proof of concept for Hakawati, a bilingual AI museum guide (OpenAI embeddings, pgvector), and Job Hunter Agent, an autonomous job-application agent (Claude API, headless-browser automation) — both grounded in source data, with guardrails against invented facts. Seeking a Senior Full-Stack or Senior Software Engineer role in the UK, EU, or UAE. Open to remote, hybrid, or relocation opportunities.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Frontend: React.js, Next.js (App Router, SSR, SSG, ISR, React Server Components), TypeScript (strict), JavaScript ES2022+, Redux, Zustand, TanStack Query, React Native

UI & Design: Tailwind CSS, SCSS/SASS, Radix UI, Lucide, Responsive Design, WCAG 2.1 Accessibility, Web performance optimization, Core Web Vitals (LCP, CLS, INP), Lighthouse

Data Viz: D3.js, Chart.js, Recharts — interactive dashboards and real-time data interfaces

Backend: Node.js, Express.js, NestJS, RESTful APIs, Supabase (Auth, Realtime, RLS, Storage), PostgreSQL, Neon (serverless PostgreSQL), Prisma ORM, PocketBase, JWT, OAuth, High-volume API services at scale, Low-latency distributed systems, Performance benchmarking of large-scale systems

CMS: Strapi (Headless CMS) — content modelling, custom API extensions, multi-locale

Testing: Jest, React Testing Library (unit and integration), Playwright (headed E2E, headless browser automation on serverless) — GitHub Actions CI pipeline

DevOps & Cloud: Docker, Docker Compose, Container-orchestrated platforms, CI/CD (GitHub Actions, GitLab, Jenkins), Vercel (serverless functions, cron jobs), Railway, Cloudflare (DNS, Workers, Pages, Firewall Rules), CDN and edge caching, AWS (S3, CloudFront), Google Cloud (GCP), SSL/TLS, Observability and instrumentation

AI & Tooling: Generative AI and LLM application development (Anthropic Claude API, Claude Agent SDK, OpenAI API), AI-powered features in web applications, Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) and LLM chatbots, Embeddings and vector search (pgvector, HNSW, cosine similarity), Prompt engineering with structured JSON outputs, AI agents and agentic workflows, MCP servers, LLM guardrails and hallucination checks, RAG evaluation, AI-assisted development (Claude Code, Cursor, GitHub Copilot) with output validation and review guardrails

Tooling: Vite, Webpack, ESLint, Prettier, Husky, Conventional Commits, Semantic Versioning, Figma, Adobe XD

Domains: Government and public sector (ministries, national IP authority), Financial products, E-commerce and multi-role marketplaces, Organisational performance management (KPIs)

Ways of Working: Cross-functional delivery with UX, QA, DevOps and product, Feature planning and backlog refinement, Delivery process improvement (removing waste), Turning new product ideas into reliable production software, Keeping current with modern engineering practices

Languages: Arabic (Native) | English (Professional working proficiency)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Full-Stack Engineer
Aug 2025 - Present

VentureX | Remote

- Sole engineer on 4 live production platforms (Irthna, OneFarm, Bunn Khawlan, theventurex.com) — delivering every layer end-to-end with no backend team: PostgreSQL schema design, Supabase backend (Auth, RLS, Realtime, Storage), Next.js App Router frontend, and production deployment.
- Full-stack engineer, with other contributors, on the KFCRIS Strategic Performance Management System since Feb 2026 — Next.js and Supabase platform for tracking organisational KPIs, with RBAC across 5 role levels, custom permission matrices, and audit logging.
- Designed and implemented multi-role RBAC systems, milestone-based transactional workflows, real-time data flows, file upload pipelines, and role-specific dashboards across platforms with varying complexity — from 2-role e-commerce to 5-role marketplace.
- Built and deployed the VentureX company platform (theventurex.com) — full-stack Next.js and Railway application with Vercel hosting, Vercel Analytics, and Tailwind CSS.
- Managed full infrastructure across all projects: Cloudflare DNS, Workers, Firewall Rules, SSL provisioning, Railway backend services, and Vercel deployments.
- Applied structured AI-assisted workflows using Claude Code and Cursor — explicit context scoping, output validation, and review guardrails on every PR.
- Built the retrieval-augmented generation (RAG) proof of concept for Hakawati, a bilingual (Arabic/English) AI museum guide: OpenAI embeddings stored in pgvector (HNSW, cosine) on Supabase, locale-filtered semantic search behind row-level security, cited answers that abstain when evidence is weak, incremental content-hash ingestion, and an evaluation script for retrieval and answer quality.

Founder & Lead Developer
Apr 2025 - Present

islamz.me | Remote

- Designed and shipped 2 independent full-stack products end-to-end — TurathCheck and BarberGo — without external backend support. Full details in Live Portfolio below.

Senior Frontend Engineer
Feb 2019 - Apr 2025

eSpace For Software Development | Alexandria, Egypt

- Led frontend engineering on 10+ enterprise projects across 6 years at a 100+ person regional software consultancy, serving government ministries and private sector clients in Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and the UAE.
- Rebuilt the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP) national IP search platform in Next.js: ISR, image optimisation, lazy loading, and code splitting cut load time from ~6s to ~3.5s — contributing to a 25% increase in daily search activity per client analytics.
- Built a shared TypeScript component library with Storybook documentation adopted across all active projects, reducing per-project UI boilerplate by ~20%.
- Introduced Playwright headed E2E tests and Jest/React Testing Library unit tests into CI pipeline, reducing production regression rate on the SAIP platform by ~40%.

Frontend Developer
Nov 2015 - Jan 2019

eSpace For Software Development | Alexandria, Egypt

- Built user-facing features in HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and React across multiple client projects within a supervised delivery team on government and enterprise contracts.
- Collaborated with UI/UX designers to implement Figma and Adobe XD designs into responsive, cross-browser-compatible interfaces.

LIVE PORTFOLIO — 7 FULL-STACK PROJECTS

Job Hunter Agent — Autonomous AI job-application agent. Collects roles daily from LinkedIn's public search and company job boards, scores each one requirement by requirement against a verified profile, writes a tailored PDF CV and cover letter grounded in real experience and GitHub evidence (a deterministic guard blocks invented names and numbers), aligns keywords to each ad for ATS, and fills and submits Greenhouse application forms with headless Chromium on Vercel. Stack: Next.js, TypeScript, Claude API (Opus, Haiku), Claude Agent SDK, Prisma, PostgreSQL (Neon), Playwright, Headless Chromium, Vercel Cron, React PDF, next-intl, Zod, Vitest. Solo: product, architecture and engineering.

irthna.co — Bilingual (AR/EN) crowdfunding platform for cultural heritage restoration. Project submission workflows, milestone-based fund release, verified restorer profiles, donor management. Stack: Next.js App Router, TypeScript, Supabase (Auth, RLS, Realtime, Storage), PostgreSQL, Vercel, Cloudflare. Sole engineer.

onefarmproject.com — Multi-role agricultural marketplace for Jordan (farmers, buyers, service providers, carriers, operators). 5-role RBAC, PostgreSQL data model designed from scratch, real-time inventory, order routing. Beta launch with early access users. Stack: Next.js, TypeScript, PostgreSQL, Supabase. Sole engineer.

yemencoffee.co — E-commerce platform for premium single-origin Yemeni coffee. Product catalogue, wholesale enquiry flow, subscription system. Stack: Next.js, Strapi headless CMS, TypeScript, Vercel. Sole engineer.

theventurex.com — VentureX company platform — full-stack corporate website and digital presence. Stack: Next.js, React, Tailwind CSS, Railway (backend services), Vercel, Vercel Analytics. Sole engineer.

turathcheck.vercel.app — Saudi cultural heritage database cataloguing 369 sites across 13 regions — tier classification (1–5), field assessment reports, interactive map, advanced filtering, Arabic RTL. Stack: Next.js, Supabase, PostgreSQL. Independent project.

barbergo.islamz.me — On-demand barber booking platform for Alexandria. Real-time availability, barber onboarding and vetting, booking engine, review system. Stack: Next.js, Supabase Realtime, PostgreSQL. Independent project.

GOVERNMENT PLATFORM HIGHLIGHTS

Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property — National IP Search Platform (SAIP) | eSpace, May – Jul 2023

- Public-facing government platform for trademark and patent search, used by legal professionals and businesses across Saudi Arabia.
- Led performance engineering: Lighthouse score from ~55 to ~90 via ISR, image optimisation, lazy loading, and eliminating render-blocking resources.
- WCAG 2.1 accessibility audit and remediation — full compliance achieved for all interactive components.

KFCRIS — Strategic Performance Management System | VentureX, Feb 2026 – Present

- Enterprise KPI tracking platform for the King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies (Saudi government research centre).
- Full-stack Next.js + Supabase + PostgreSQL, built with other contributors. 5-role RBAC, custom permission matrices, audit logging, and real-time dashboard updates.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Business Administration — Alexandria University, Egypt | 2016

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Availability: Immediate | **Work Authorization:** Requires employer-sponsored visa for UK/EU opportunities | **Location:** Alexandria, Egypt | Open to relocation (UK, EU, UAE) | **Work Preference:** Remote, Hybrid, or Relocation