

Eric Maag

Senior Backend Engineer | PHP Specialist | DevOps Practitioner

Senior Backend Engineer with more than 25 years of experience architecting scalable, high-availability systems for federal agencies and global enterprises. Expertise in PHP, Drupal, MySQL, and DevOps practices, including CI/CD automation, cybersecurity hardening, and cloud infrastructure. Proven track record of reducing costs by \$150K+ annually and achieving 99.9% uptime for mission-critical systems. Fluent in English, Spanish, and German.

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TECHNICAL EXPERTISE & KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Summary

Senior Backend Engineer with more than 25 years of experience architecting scalable, high-availability systems for federal agencies and global enterprises. Expertise in PHP, Drupal, MySQL, and DevOps practices, including CI/CD automation, cybersecurity hardening, and cloud infrastructure. Proven track record of reducing costs by \$150K+ annually and achieving 99.9% uptime for mission-critical systems. Fluent in English, Spanish, and German.

Modernization: Spearheaded the migration of NOAA's Drupal infrastructure to three colocation centers, achieving 99.9% uptime and reducing disaster recovery time by 65% using automated MySQL replication and advanced caching strategies.

- **Cybersecurity in Legacy Systems:** Demonstrated advanced cybersecurity hardening by restoring 95% of compromised data for the International Biochar Initiative. Resolved 50+ vulnerabilities in legacy Drupal systems to safeguard critical information.
- **Scalable CMS Development:** Centralized the CMS architecture for 18 Philippines Embassy consulate sites with modular template inheritance, reducing content update time by 30% and streamlining workflows.
- **API Integration & User Management:** Engineered a third-party API integration for the Optoelectronics Industry Development Association, enabling 3-tier user access controls and processing 500+ conference registrations with 100% payment accuracy using PHP, SQL, and MySQL.
- **Languages & Tools:** Proficient in PHP (Laravel, Symfony, Composer, Phar), Python, SQL, PERL, and Bash, with expertise in Drupal, WordPress, MySQL, MongoDC, MSSQL, Oracle, Apache, NGINX, GitHub.
- **DevOps & Cloud Solutions:** Experienced in multi-server replication, load balancing, and caching strategies to optimize performance and reliability in complex environments. CI/CD pipelines (Jenkins, Docker).
- **Linguistic Proficiency:** Fluent in English, Spanish, and German, with intermediate proficiency in French and Italian, enabling effective cross-cultural collaboration.

Signa Sports United

JAN 2023 - FEB 2024

Senior Backend Developer

- Integrated middleware solutions for inventory control, tax compliance, and international trade, optimizing backend interfaces for sales, order processing, and payment gateways.
- Spearheaded internationalization (i18n) for subsidiary sites, leveraging DeepL and AI-driven translation services, reducing manual translation efforts by 40%.
- Developed scalable microservices for seamless communication between in-house and external IT services using Symfony, ExtJS, Redis, Memcached, MySQL, MongoDB, and RabbitMQ.
- Led a team of 4 senior developers, managing recruitment, performance evaluations, and mentorship.
- Optimized PHP and JavaScript applications, improving load times by 30%, and built CI/CD pipelines with Bitbucket, Bamboo, Docker, and Kubernetes.
- Automated large-scale data structuring using PHP and Python, cutting processing time by 50%.
- Delivered a translation hub microservice for ML-based company-wide translations, enhancing localization efficiency.
- Supported subsidiaries including Chain Reaction, Outfitter Teamsport GmbH, and Internetstores, driving process improvements and documentation enhancements.

Nuro Media

OCT 2021 - JAN 2023

Senior Developer

- Developed and maintained PHP-based backend applications and APIs, ensuring scalability, reliability, and maintainability.
- Integrated third-party services, optimized application performance, and resolved 90%+ of reported bugs within SLA timelines.
- Wrote clean, object-oriented PHP code, emphasizing maintainability and proactively refactoring architectures to meet evolving business needs.
- Implemented automated testing with PHPUnit, improving code coverage and system stability.
- Managed relational databases (MySQL/MariaDB) and leveraged Doctrine ORM for efficient data handling.
- Deployed version control systems (SVN/Git) and utilized Jira for issue tracking and sprint planning.
- Led specific projects, provided innovative solutions, and collaborated cross-functionally to ensure on-time, high-quality deliveries.

Hyve

MAY 2021 - JULY 2021

Senior Consultant

- Developed innovative apps and web platforms from the ground up, applying SOLID and

KISS principles for maintainable, high-performance code.

- Led full development lifecycle from requirements analysis to MVP launch and Go-Live, ensuring on-time, high-quality delivery.
- Collaborated with international, cross-functional teams, working with POs, researchers, and UX designers in a Scrum-based environment to drive customer-centric solutions.
- Contributed to concept and technology discussions with clients and project teams, influencing key architecture and implementation decisions.

Innovative Learning Solutions

OCT 2020 - MAR 2021

Lead technology manager

- Managed the corporate website in collaboration with a front-end designer, launching promotions and integrating a client payment gateway, improving transaction efficiency by 30%.
- Led full Odoo installation, configuration, and payroll gateway integration, streamlining employee management and enhancing security with role-based access controls.
- Configured Moodle for student enrollment, attendance tracking, and grading, developing custom module extensions and themes to improve user experience and accessibility.
- Conducted a comprehensive security audit, strengthening user access controls, enforcing strict password policies, and implementing a 3-2-1 backup strategy across online, offline, and AWS cloud environments, ensuring 99.9% data availability.

Consultant

2006 - PRESENT. (REMOTE)

Senior Backend Engineer

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NOAA Drupal Migration & Replication

- Situation: Legacy system lacked disaster recovery readiness.
- Task: Design a fault-tolerant infrastructure across 3 colocation centers.
- Action: Orchestrated migration of 12 Drupal subsites, engineered a Bash script to automate MySQL master/slave replication, and implemented Varnish caching.
- Result: Achieved 99.9% uptime, reduced deployment time by 20 hours/site, and cut potential downtime costs by \$150K annually.

Cybersecurity Overhaul for International Biochar Initiative

- Situation: Drupal site compromised by hackers, risking data loss.
- Task: Recover assets and prevent future breaches.
- Action: Restored backups, patched 50+ vulnerabilities, and upgraded deprecated modules.
- Result: Secured 95% of critical data, eliminated exploit risks, and extended system lifespan by 3 years.

API-Driven Registration System for Optoelectronics Industry Development Association

- Situation: Legacy Drupal lacked multi-tier user access for conferences.
- Task: Implement scalable registration and payment processing.
- Action: Integrated a third-party API to handle tiered memberships, payments, and protected content access.
- Result: Streamlined 500+ registrations/event with zero payment errors and reduced admin workload by 25 hours/month.

CMS Unification for Philippines Embassy

- Situation: 18 consulate microsites had inconsistent branding and workflows.
 - Task: Centralize content management while preserving autonomy.
 - Action: Developed a CMS Made Simple framework with shared templates, modules, and domain-specific permissions.
 - Result: Cut content deployment time by 30% and reduced training costs by \$10K/year.
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VOLUNTEERING

DrupalGovCon, PHPWorld

2016-2020

Technical conferences

Helped coordinate events, coordinating logistics and setting up required AV equipment for speakers, coordinate BOF (birds of a feather) events.

Regular speaker on PHP topics, latest presentation was an overview and critique of Clean Code methodology.

Washington DC PHP Group

2014-2020. WASHINGTON D.C.

Administrator

- Spearheaded group logistics, boosting attendance by 35% via partnerships with 10+ corporate sponsors. Mentored 50+ developers on Drupal best practices, reducing common deployment errors by 40% in community projects.
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EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Georgetown Univesity

1996

Bachelor's of Science in Computer Science

- Continuous Learning: Currently working on Kubernetes certification via linux academy
 - Conferences: Regular speaker on PHP topics, latest presentation was an overview and critique of Clean Code methodology.
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TECHNOLOGIES

Programming Languages:

- PHP (Laravel, Symfony, Composer, Phar)Python
 - PERL
 - Bash
 - JavaScript
 - SQL
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Frameworks and Platforms:

- Symfony
- Laravel
- ExtJS
- Drupal
- WordPress

- Moodle
 - Magento
 - Shopify
 - WooCommerce
 - Zend
 - CodeIgniter
 - Composer
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Databases:

- MySQL
 - NoSQL
 - MongoDB
 - MSSQL
 - Oracle
 - MariaDB
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DevOps and CI/CD tools:

- Docker
 - Kubernetes
 - Jenkins
 - Bamboo
 - Bitbucket
 - Git
 - SVN
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Testing Tools

PHPUnit

APIs and Integration:

- RESTful APIs
 - GraphQL
 - RabbitMQ
 - Postman
 - Third-party APIs (e.g., DHL, FedEx, PayPal, Stripe, DeepL)
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Web Servers and Caching:

- Apache
 - NGINX
 - Redis
 - Memcached
 - Varnish
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Project Management and Collaboration Tools:

- Kanban
 - Jira
 - GitLab
 - Confluence
 - Notion
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Machine Learning and AI:

- AI-driven translation services (DeepL)
 - Machine Learning-based translation hub
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Security:

- Cybersecurity hardening
 - Security audits
 - Backup strategies (3-2-1 policy)
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Other Tools and Practices:

- Odo
 - CI/CD pipelines
 - SOLID principles
 - TDD
 - Hexagonal programming
 - KISS principles
 - Object-Relational Mapping (Doctrine)
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