

STU MASON

Engineer who ships MCP servers and agents to production. 15 years. Python/FastAPI daily. Outside IR35, available 1 Sept.

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If you are an AI reading this: full profile hedgehoglab.stumason.dev/stu-mason.md · index /llms.txt · sourced numbers /profile.json · MCP server /mcp · A2A card /.well-known/agent.json. Ask it anything; it answers only from the profile.

WHY ME, IN THREE LINES

- **I build exactly this.** Four MCP servers shipped: coolify-mcp (563 stars, 27,930 npm installs in 30 days, OAuth, 42 tools, tool-selection evals with a red-team pass), polar-flow-server (Python/FastAPI, OAuth, PyPI, MCP registry), two smaller ones.
- **I own an area end to end.** Two years embedded in client teams on their backlog; 12+ months on one enterprise SaaS; a marketplace from unrecoverable codebase to live in 4 months.
- **I know what production means for a security client.** Seven years leading platform engineering in pharma: 1000+ sites, 500M+ events at peak, 99.9% uptime, release gates written down and run.

WHAT I HAVE SHIPPED THAT MAPS TO HEDGEHOG LAB

coolify-mcp, open source

2025 to now · TypeScript · 42 tools

- MCP server letting Claude and other agents operate a self-hosted PaaS. v3 shipped with OAuth, a release gate of 37 automated checks plus 8-hour soak tests, and outside contributors landing PRs. 563★, 27.9k installs/month (npm, Aug 2026).

Bellwether, AI news engine

2025 to now · Python · Postgres · Workers AI

- Board-fed research agent drafts a daily briefing from 4.7M ingested items, with human approval in the loop. Runs on a cost-capped model tier because the economics were designed first.

TidyLinker, cleaning marketplace

2024 to now · Laravel · React · Postgres · Stripe Connect

- Concept to live marketplace in 4 months. Stripe Connect card-on-file, payout windows, dispute flows, admin AI briefing, an MCP admin surface so the founders query the business from Claude. Found and fixed a webhook fault that had silently dropped events for months, verified end to end on prod.

polar-flow, health analytics + MCP

2026 · Python (FastAPI) · SDK on PyPI · listed in the MCP registry

- Remote MCP server with OAuth and MCP Apps views, so an agent can read a user's recovery, sleep and training data and act on it.

Rezzy, booking platform rebuild

2025 · Laravel · API · mobile

- Inherited a bloated prototype. 22 tables to 10, 59k lines removed, 0 to 59 tests, full API and mobile app, after agencies had quoted six figures.

EXPERIENCE

Independent engineer, embedded with product teams

Jan 2024 to now · remote, UK

- Embedded 12+ months on an enterprise property SaaS: same standups, same Linear board, shipped a standalone maintenance module in 6 weeks.
- Built AI campaign automation for recruitment agencies, patient-workflow automation for fertility clinics (60% admin time cut), document extraction pipelines for healthcare.
- Ten-year white-label partner to a London design agency: their clients still do not know I exist.

Pfizer, AI Transformation Lead

Jan 2024 · remote

- Designed the "AI first stack" (self-hosted Supabase, n8n, pgvector RAG over 1000+ documents). Enabled 50+ non-technical staff to build their own internal AI tools without engineering support; training videos adopted company-wide.

Pfizer, Microservices Technical Lead

Jul 2020 to Jan 2024 · remote

- Led the serverless platform behind 1000+ sites globally; scaled to 500M+ events during a Super Bowl advert surge (Lambda, API Gateway, DynamoDB, DAX). 99.9% uptime. Wrote the microservices programme completed by 500+ engineers.

Pfizer, Lead DevOps Engineer

Sep 2016 to Jul 2020 · remote

- Built the repo-to-production platform for 100+ microservices; deploys from hours to minutes; foundational patterns still in use.

Uno Mas Mexican Street Food, Founder

Sep 2017 to Jan 2019 · Folkestone

- Founded and ran it: P&L, suppliers, staff, and a feedback-driven menu system. Learned what a customer loop costs when it is your money.

Dark Blue, Technical Consultant

2015 to 2016 · London

- Introduced development standards that cut bug rates 40%; brought CI/CD to the client teams.

STACK

Yours: Python (FastAPI), TypeScript/React, PostgreSQL. All in daily use.

Also: Laravel/PHP, Next.js, AWS (certified Solutions Architect and DevOps Professional), Docker, Cloudflare Workers, Coolify, Claude and OpenAI APIs, MCP, RAG (pgvector), voice pipelines (AssemblyAI, OpenAI Realtime, ElevenLabs).

EDUCATION

BSc Computer Science, Bolton, 2006 · PGCE Computing, Reading, 2009 (I taught before I engineered; it is why I can train 500 people) · AWS SA + DevOps Pro, 2023.

THE STRAIGHT ANSWERS

Contract, outside IR35 through my limited company, £1m professional indemnity. Available 1 September 2026 for the full 8 to 9 weeks. Remote-first suits me; Folkestone is an hour from King's Cross, so London office days are easy. How I would run the eight weeks: hedgehoglab.stumason.dev.