Amit Solanki

Technology Consultant · Architecture, Integrations & Platform Engineering · Hands-on Engineering Leadership

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SUMMARY

Technology consultant, about 20 years in backend, platform and integration work: architecture, delivery and leadership. From 2013 to 2026, US companies engaged me in senior roles (as a contractor until 2025, then on Checkmate's Indian payroll): Lead Software Architect at WeWork, CTO of TargetMobi, and at Checkmate from first engineering hire after the CTO to SVP of Engineering, leading its integrations organization throughout. I take on an architecture review, one hard integration, a zero-to-one build or ongoing leadership, and I still build: eight builds in twelve weeks after Checkmate.

130+ production integrations · **about 600 to 27,000+** restaurant locations as Checkmate grew · **1,400** locations in a day · **several dozen** hires

EXPERIENCE

Prayantr Technologies

Jul 2026 - Present · Agra, India (Remote)

Founder & Principal

- Independent practice since Jul 2026; clients engage me directly or through Prayantr (incorporated 2013); I do the work myself: architecture reviews, due diligence, integrations, builds, fractional CTO roles.

Checkmate - restaurant ordering and integration platform

Aug 2018 - Jul 2026 · New York, US (Remote)

Senior Vice President of Engineering (Jan 2026 - Jul 2026)

VP of Engineering (May 2022 - Jan 2026) · Director of Engineering (Feb 2020 - May 2022) · Head of Integrations (Aug 2018 - Feb 2020)

Led the integrations engineering organization: a Director of Engineering, a Senior Engineering Manager and a Project Manager reported to me, over two pods in India, the US, Vietnam, Kazakhstan, Pakistan and Armenia, alongside peer teams (voice AI, menus, direct ordering).

- Joined as Checkmate's first engineering hire after the CTO and grew the integrations engineering organization from a single developer into the team behind 130+ production integrations across 25+ POS and 30+ delivery platforms, as the network grew from about 600 to 27,000+ restaurant locations; hired several dozen engineers and mentored its core team of about 15.
- Led the team that built and ran Checkmate's developer marketplace: partners build to Checkmate's open API specification and submit test cases the sandbox approves or rejects automatically, then a final certification round with my team.
- Planned the company's single-day record launch, 1,400 locations for a global burger chain: failure scenarios mapped in advance with operations, pre- and post-launch QA checklists, manual support steps automated; rollouts of 1,000+ locations became routine for several national brands.
- For the same burger chain, led the NCR Aloha order-injection integration (orders land in the POS, no tablets or re-keying), its Canada and UK launches, and a ground-up rebuild for its next-generation POS.
- Guided my team building the enterprise menu pipeline that brought a multi-brand restaurant group's portfolio, running on Brink, Oracle Simphony and NCR Aloha, onto delivery through one architecture with brand-specific POS mapping at the edges; the team found the database bottleneck in brand-wide menu runs and drove the RDS upgrade; I spearheaded the Bulk Scheduler that operations use daily.
- As technical lead, co-built the on-premise Windows middleware (.NET) for POS systems that never go online, from Checkmate's first connector (Maitre'D) through Oracle Simphony, PixelPoint and SpeedLine (outbound polling only; eight years, no rewrite); built the .NET 8 service that cut a global fried-chicken brand's menu-board price propagation from over 24 hours to under one (lab and pilot stores); and led the two-person team behind the Android agent that prints delivery orders on Clover terminals at 100+ locations, retired by one backend change once Clover shipped a print API.
- Led my team's build of Checkmate's first Lightspeed POS integration, for a premium burger franchise, then a parallel K Series integration with both running at once; connected the brand to Uber Eats, DoorDash and Grubhub, then Deliveroo for one of Checkmate's early international accounts.
- For an iconic slider chain, integrated a proprietary in-house POS with triple-nested modifiers through custom parsing, rolled it out store by store across a metro market and adapted it for ghost kitchens.
- Ran the RFPs that won Checkmate's contracts with three national restaurant brands, writing the proof-of-concept integration for each brand myself, and was technical lead in other enterprise sales cycles; held the integrations organization to zero-downtime releases, with on-call and escalation through Squadcast.

WeWork

Jun 2013 - Mar 2018 · New York, US (Remote)

Lead Software Architect

Led Vinsol's offshore team on the WeWork account from Feb 2012 (a Vinsol client); kept on directly from Jun 2013.

- Led WeWork's first offshore engineering team, building WeConnect, WeWork's first member platform, a social network connecting members; built infrastructure that supported WeWork's international expansion.
- Integrated the external systems behind WeWork's locations into the member portal and the operations tools: QuickBooks invoicing, Kisi smart locks (Rooms v1, the booking product I co-built), S2 keycards, Qtrak package tracking, PaperCut printing, Splash events and Zendesk; built usage billing and the APIs other internal systems consumed.
- Architected ID, WeWork's identity service, with the new on-site team, and its provisioning and guest-registration APIs.
- Wrote the automated test suites for WeWork's entire platform (Cucumber, Webrat, Selenium), including cross-service tests.

TargetMobi Jun 2013 - Jul 2018 · Remote

Chief Technology Officer (part-time, concurrent with WeWork)

- Owned an SMS survey and CRM platform (Rails 4.2, MySQL) for research institutions, NGOs and health programs in the US and Uganda, from shortly after its initial development to its final release: two SMS gateways (Plivo US, Tropo Uganda) behind one interface, a patient-reminder vertical. Clients: UW Madison Dept. of Family Medicine and World Vision Uganda.

Vinsol - India's first Ruby on Rails company Feb 2007 - May 2013 · New Delhi, India

Software Engineer, then Team Leader (from May 2010)

- Started on Ruby on Rails in its 1.x days (2007), one of the early Rails developers in India; spearheaded the development of Rails applications, including white-labeled solutions.
- Led a team of 8 developers, from Feb 2012 as the offshore team on the WeWork account (see WeWork); mentored and trained junior developers, and owned deployment, production monitoring and testing practice (Capistrano, RSpec).

IIT Kanpur - Project Associate, audio compression research (MATLAB) Aug 2006 - Feb 2007

INDEPENDENT ENGINEERING PROJECTS

Eight builds in twelve weeks after Checkmate (Jul-Oct 2026): I set the architecture, engineering rules, acceptance criteria and design decisions; AI coding agents wrote the code under those rules, with CI enforcing them. **Every build can be demoed live.**

Platestead - multi-POS restaurant commerce · Rails/Spree, PostgreSQL Aug-Sep 2026

Sandbox-validated with Square and Clover; two demo restaurants, no real merchant yet

- One codebase with a separate deployment and database per restaurant brand on one shared server, and a provider-neutral POS core whose Square and Clover adapters absorb the real differences (token lifetimes, webhook authentication).
- Idempotent order push (Square idempotency keys; on Clover, lookup-and-adopt under a per-order PostgreSQL advisory lock); a failed production cutover was rolled back by the runbook in 18 minutes with no data change.

case study · platestead.com · five open-source Spree gems (spree_square, spree_doordash, spree_uber_direct and others)

Keepford - AI phone receptionist for home services · Python/FastAPI, Retell, Twilio Sep 2026

Live demo line (fictional business, no customers)

- The voice model holds the conversation; code makes the decisions that matter: on a life-safety report the phone system, not the model, speaks the approved script and ends the call, and a job is confirmed only after the calendar write succeeds.
- Real-call acceptance testing (one tester): 20 of 23 scenarios passed and 3 could not be run; about 1,200 automated tests.

case study · keepford.com

MCP Server - AI access to commerce data · Rails, Doorkeeper OAuth, PostgreSQL Aug-Oct 2026

Live read-only demo over 99,441 anonymized Olist orders; 9 tools behind OAuth with PKCE

- To check whether an AI's answers about the data are true, built an evaluation harness around an independent oracle (plain Ruby over the raw CSVs) with answers committed before any agent run: it found 9 correctness defects in the tools, including a join fan-out, canceled orders counted as sales and revenue credited to the wrong seller.
- After the fixes, canonical questions went from 5 of 35 to 35 of 35 correct, and an AI client matched the pre-registered answers in 45 of 45 answers (15 questions, 3 runs, one model, one client).

case study · github.com/amitkssolanki/mcp-server

Also built

- **clicksend 1.2.0** · Ruby gem · Oct 2026 · released on RubyGems: revived a 2014 gem I co-wrote as an SMS client that never repeats an ambiguous send automatically; 675 specs, 50 contract tests against the vendor's OpenAPI files. case study
- **WhatsApp Commerce V2** · Rails · Aug-Oct 2026 · verified on real Meta traffic (one test customer, the author): rebuilt after V1's logs showed every delivery-status webhook discarded; webhooks are stored with their job in one transaction and processed idempotently; replies use an outbox that never resends an ambiguous send automatically; 1,112 tests. case study
- **AI Restaurant Receptionist** · Rails, Vapi · Jul-Oct 2026 · deployed demo, no customers: Rails owns the voice order through a confirmation gate that refused a premature submit on the first production call; 472 tests. case study
- **Fieldnote** · Rails, React/TypeScript, Gemini · Sep-Oct 2026 · prototype, fictional answers: the model only proposes, code decides, and the server enforces a safety pause, tested by an adversarial evaluation I directed. case study
- **Vrinda House** · Rails, Kamal · Sep-Oct 2026 · demo, fictional hotel: an LLM turns guest inquiries into facts that each quote the guest (simulated in the demo); a Ruby engine with a 16-constraint validator decides what can be fulfilled. case study

SKILLS

Leadership & architecture: org scaling, hiring and mentoring, managing managers across distributed teams
Backend & platform: Ruby on Rails (primary, since 2007), PostgreSQL, Redis, background jobs, AWS; Python (Keepford)
Integrations & commerce: NCR Aloha, Brink, Oracle Simphony, Square, Clover, DoorDash, Uber Direct, WhatsApp Cloud API
AI systems & automation: deterministic control around LLMs, voice agents, MCP, RAG (pgvector), directing AI coding agents
Testing & reliability: contract and oracle-based testing, zero-downtime releases, on-call (Squadcast), Kamal, Sentry

EDUCATION

C-DAC, Noida · PG Diploma, Embedded Systems & VLSI Design, 2006
Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra · M.S. Physics (Electronics), 2004-2006
Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra · B.S. Physics (Hons.), Director's Medal, 2001-2004