Howard Panton

Senior Lead Engineer, Frontend · AI engineering enablement and AI-native frontend

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SUMMARY

Senior frontend lead with eight years on M2A Media's cloud broadcast console. I started the codebase in 2019 and led it from Angular 8 to an Nx monorepo of 27 micro-frontends on Angular 22. I manage two developers and own code quality, the Jenkins release pipeline and automation, Before M2A I built a startup's Angular application as its only frontend engineer and managed a university web development team for ten years. Since May 2026 most of my delivery has run through Claude Code agents under guardrails I designed. Looking for a senior role designing agent workflows, skills and guardrails for an engineering team, or as an AI-native senior frontend engineer.

SELECTED RESULTS

- Started the team's shared Claude Code agent library (34 skills, 9 subagents; first commit mine, direction mine, most skills delegated to my team). Designed the unattended workflows: a three-day agent-run sprint whose 10 pull requests all merged after human review, and a bug-board sweep whose first 7 pull requests all merged within the week.
- Zero merges by agents. Hooks block pushes to protected branches, gate bypasses and edits to secrets, lockfiles and bot-managed config; the pre-push and CI gates live outside the agent, so they hold for any tool or model.
- Cut CI build preparation from 4–7 minutes to 6 seconds, the unit-test stage from 21 to 15 minutes, and scoped E2E runs to the domains a change can affect.
- Built the release-orchestration engine (273 of 275 commits, about half co-written with Claude): checksummed composition deploys, drift reports, rollback from an approved plan, promotion to approval prompt in 17 minutes.
- Rebuilt the pre-push quality gate (ESLint, sibling spec, 80% coverage) and directed the campaign that took statement coverage from 74% to 97%.
- Set up a per-release performance lab baseline with a user-facing "main data visible" metric and a regression rule that marks the build unstable; found and fixed a production analytics outage.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Lead Engineer, Frontend · M2A Media — March 2018 – present

M2A Media is an AWS-native cloud broadcast platform for live video contribution, transformation and distribution. The console is the multi-tenant web app operators use to schedule live events and to route, monitor, package and clip streams.

Leadership and agentic delivery (2026)

- Lead a team of two frontend developers; remit for code quality, CI/CD and automation across 27 module repositories.
- Wrote the agent workflows that run without supervision: unattended sprint runs, the opt-in bug-board sweep (assess → build → prove in a browser → PR → a person merges), browser QA, test planning, session handovers and ticket writing. 49 of the agent library's 160 commits are mine.
- Keep agent work trustworthy with evidence rules (coverage, lint and screenshots on every PR), mutation-tested contract assertions, predictions committed before measurements, and lessons written back into the owning skill.
- Proposed per-PR quality signals (blast-radius report of every repository calling a changed shared API, a complexity limit enforced on push, a changed-line scorecard) after two escaped regressions in shared contracts; an agent run delivered phase one in 2.5 hours and all five PRs merged.

The console (2019 – present)

- Started the cloud console from an empty repository in October 2019 (Angular 8, Storybook, Jest, Cypress, Nx) and led its architecture as it grew from 13 feature modules at the end of 2023 to 27 micro-frontends today.
- Owned the Angular upgrades from 8 to 20, including 16, 17 and 18 in one day with one version per commit, the Material component migration, TSLint to ESLint, Tailwind, Sentry, Auth0 login and semantic-release.
- Schedule, the busiest screen (live events across up to 1,000 sources): a quarter of its commits are mine, including the 2025 rendering pass and the main-data-visible performance mark.
- Routes: rebuilt the connection-line renderer as canvas and SVG variants with coalesced layout scheduling, debounced resize and scroll handling and collapsible destination groups.
- Designed the console's GA4 event tracking and event catalogue; diagnosed a configuration split that had left production analytics silent for weeks and cut stray development events from about 3,000 a week to 10.

Release pipeline and quality (2025 – 2026)

- Own the Jenkins pipeline (213 of its 255 commits since January 2026) and its 25-ticket, six-phase roadmap: content-hashed CI image, parallel unit-test buckets, impact-scoped E2E, composition deploys, drift reports, approved-plan rollback and release notices.
- Replaced seven stale automated security PRs with one tested upgrade; sized the RxJS 6 → 7 upgrade with a throwaway spike before committing the team.
- With a developer on my team, set up the lab performance baseline (production build, lab mocks, throttled network, cold cache, 9 page/scale cells) and turned it into a Jenkins job with a 5% / 100 ms regression rule.

First dashboard console (2018)

- Built M2A's first dashboard console from its first commit: 1,816 of its 1,865 commits, in Angular 6 with Angular Material, D3 and Chart.js.

EARLIER EXPERIENCE

Senior Frontend Engineer · Cobe.io — October 2015 – February 2018

Sole frontend engineer. Built the Cobe application, a data-visualisation tool for Kubernetes, in Angular. The startup closed in February 2018.

Web Development Manager · University of the Arts London — September 2005 – July 2015

- Led the university's web development team for ten years and moved it to agile working (stand-ups, sprints, pairing).
- Set up the build and continuous-integration pipeline (Gulp, Sass, Git, Travis CI), a style guide with a reusable component library, Selenium test suites and an EC2 staging server.
- Built an AngularJS single-page application and a content API for course data; set up site-wide Universal Analytics and Tag Manager; improved site performance by refactoring CSS, JavaScript and PHP.

EDUCATION

BA (Hons) Publishing, 2:1 · University of the Arts London, 1997 – 2000

SKILLS

AI engineering	Claude Code, skills, subagents, hooks, MCP servers, scheduled routines, session handovers, Claude Design	**Frontend**	Angular 8 → 22, TypeScript, RxJS, Signals, Nx, micro-frontends, Tailwind, Storybook, accessibility
Quality	Jest, Cypress, mutation testing, Puppeteer, Core Web Vitals, Sentry, GA4	**Delivery**	Jenkins / Groovy, Docker, semantic-release, AWS (S3, ECR, IAM, CloudFront, media services), Bitbucket, Jira, Confluence

Figures come from git history and my own project records as of November 2026. Work I delegated to my team is marked as such. Portfolio with charts and detail: on request.