

# Roch Vincent Grondin

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## SUMMARY

**Senior Engineering Manager** with 15+ years of experience in **Server-Side and Full-Stack development**. Currently leading high-impact, cross-functional mobile initiatives at **American Express** with \$1M+ revenue outcomes. Proven track record of mentoring engineers, optimizing developer experience, and building internal tools and leading and delivering platform-wide initiatives that accelerate engineering velocity and align technical execution with the organization's strategic goals.

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Languages: Kotlin, Java, JavaScript, TypeScript, Solidity (Base Bootcamp 2024)
- Backend: Spring, Ktor, Kafka, Postgres, MySQL, RabbitMQ, Redis, Splunk, OpenTelemetry, MongoDB
- Frontend: React, HTML/CSS, Bootstrap, AngularJS
- Testing & Quality: BDD/TDD, JUnit 5, Mockito, AssertK, MockK, WireMock, Jest, Gherkin DSL
- DevOps & Tooling: GitHub Actions, Docker, Jenkins, MermaidJS, Docusaurus, GitHub Copilot, OpenAPI / AsyncAPI
- APIs & Architecture: Backend for Frontend (BFF), Event-driven, Microservices, WebSockets, Server-Driven UI (SDUI), REST, Single Page App (SPA)
- Leadership: Agile/Scrum, Mentorship, Solution Design, Strategic Roadmap Alignment

## EXPERIENCE

### Senior Engineering Manager, Mobile / American Express

*August 2022 - Present (3 years and 6 months) / Remote*

#### Strategic Delivery & Leadership

- **Team Orchestration:** Lead a distributed team of 8 engineers, managing the full SDLC for Chat and Search domains while ensuring high team velocity and morale.
- **Cost Reduction:** Facilitated a 20% cost-per-chat reduction through the delivery of numerous Chat features and a streaming event-driven BFF handling 800K+ daily messages across 17 global markets.
- **Revenue Generation:** Led the Mobile implementation of Server-Driven UI for the Chat feature, enabling real-time configurable offers that generated \$1M+ in annual revenue.
- **Global Scale:** Directed the development of the Mobile Search feature, supporting 50K+ daily queries across 5 global markets with high availability (8 TPS).
- **Talent Development:** Mentored and promoted 2 engineers and coached an engineer through a performance improvement plan (PIP).

#### Platform Engineering & Innovation

- **Governance Tooling:** Single-handedly designed and launched the Architecture Checklist Review (ACR) system; scaled a team of 4 to expand the platform across the Mobile and Web organizations to streamline governance.
- **Framework Design:** Engineered a Kotlin DSL-based SDUI server-side framework; led a 7-engineer team to deliver a 10-screen POC, standardizing UI delivery patterns across the global mobile app.
- **Operational Visibility:** Built a GitHub Pages-hosted roadmap site using machine-readable Mermaid syntax; providing teams with instant insights into project timelines and engineer bandwidth and resource utilization while facilitating instant, self-service roadmap interrogation via VS Code Chat, bypassing the limitations of static charting platforms.
- **BFF Modernization:** Engineered a Kotlin-native POC for BFF development using Ktor, removing systemic friction in the API lifecycle and allowing engineers to focus on business logic rather than boilerplate.

### Senior Engineer I, Mobile Service Layer / American Express

*August 2021 - August 2022 (1 year) / New York City, NY (Remote)*

- **High-Throughput APIs:** Developed 30+ BFF APIs (Secondary Auth., MFA) handling up to 80 TPS. Migrated 5+ APIs from legacy systems to modern architectures.

- **Developer Productivity:** Spearheaded platform-wide DX initiatives, including IDE code templates and shared test fixtures, the integration of IntelliJ HTTP Client for local API testing—replacing Postman Enterprise to reduce context-switching and streamline the developer inner loop, and led the transition to JUnit 5.
- **Dependency Intelligence:** Designed a visualization tool surfacing 100+ libraries across Android, iOS, and Web, enabling proactive vulnerability tracking via Slack.
- **Systems Modernization:** Re-architected a legacy internal tools platform into a ReactJS SPA with Ktor REST APIs, significantly improving team velocity and empowering the team to deliver intuitive user experiences previously restricted by legacy constraints.

### Engineer III, Mobile Service Layer / American Express

October 2018 - August 2021 (2 years and 10 months) / New York City, NY

- **APIs:** Developed BFF APIs supporting core features like Lounge Finder and Paperless billing.
- **Legacy Transformation:** Migrated 12+ legacy SOAP Backend integrations to REST Backend APIs.
- **Quality Engineering:** Developed a Gherkin-style DSL into the internal regression testing frameworks to improve test readability and maintenance.
- **Talent Development:** Directed 2 interns in the design and implementation of a PII obfuscation engine.

### Software Architect / Spruce Finance

July 2017 - July 2018 (1 year) / New York City, NY (Remote)

- **Engineering Standards:** Defined architecture and coding standards for a distributed microservices ecosystem, authoring reference implementations that aligned development across multiple teams.
- Built Java/Spring RESTful APIs for external partner integrations and led the development of multiple features such as the Chat component and full audit trail for financing applications.

### Senior Software Engineer / Spruce Finance

April 2015 - July 2017 (2 years 4 months) / New York City, NY (Remote)

- **Monolith Decoupling:** Served as a primary contributor to the architectural shift from a legacy PHP monolith to a modern Microservices + ReactJS SPA ecosystem; designed and implemented foundational service patterns and RESTful APIs.
- **Financial Engineering:** Built calculation engines for Loan and PACE products, optimizing database performance and isolating business logic.
- **Systems Transformation:** Led a high-priority, 12-month migration of the core financing workflow from a monolithic PHP stack to a React and Microservices architecture; eliminated architectural bottlenecks and significantly reduced time-to-market for subsequent financial product launches.

### Software Engineer / Clean Power Finance

April 2011 - March 2015 (4 years) / San Francisco, CA

- Built a complete SaaS administrative system for financing configuration, significantly reducing paperwork and manual effort.
- Developed end-to-end features for the financing lifecycle, from lead generation to automated quotes and final funding.

## EDUCATION

- Master of Science in Computer Science / SUPINFO International University / 2011
- Baccalauréat in Science / Lycée Roland Garros, with honors / 2006

## CERTIFICATIONS

- Base Bootcamp (Smart Contract Development) / Base.org / 2024
- Harvard Leadership Edge - Data-Driven Decision Making / Harvard Business / 2022
- Management of IT / Dominican University of California / 2011
- Business Applications Development / Dominican University of California / 2009

## INTERNSHIPS

- **Software Engineer Intern** / Hinnoya / Java, JBoss, Portlet Development / 2010
- **Web Developer Intern** / Regioneo / PHP, Google Maps & Facebook API / 2009 - 2010
- **Software Engineer Intern** / Clean Power Finance / PHP, Zend Framework / 2009
- **Systems & ECM Intern** / Le Tampon City Hall / Nuxeo ECM, LDAP, Java / 2008
- **Junior Developer Intern** / Le Tampon City Hall / PHP/MySQL, Full Lifecycle / 2007