

JAKE SNEDKER

Forward Deployed Engineer | Solutions Engineer | Applied AI

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Mechatronics engineer who walks into unfamiliar, messy systems, finds the bottleneck the incumbents have stopped noticing, and ships the tooling that removes it — **deterministically or with AI, whichever the problem actually wants**. Ten years building end-to-end: industrial engineering databases, automation pipelines, RAG assistants and multi-agent systems. Equally comfortable in front of the user as in the codebase — ran daily live technical sessions for 30+ people, taught 65 course students, and led a distributed team of 15–20.

SELECTED OUTCOMES

- **~85% effort reduction (~640 hours/project)** on an industrial engineering process at ThyssenKrupp — built with the user, adopted immediately
- **Led 15–20 people** (12 core, ~8 part-time) remotely across continents: planned the experiments, distributed the work, mentored all 20, and owned direction and scope
- **Built 70+ n8n workflows ranging from small four-node utilities and reusable sub-workflows to larger multi-stage systems; a handful reached real use** — orchestration, retries, idempotency, error handling and human-in-the-loop approval gates
- **Shipped an autonomous outreach agent** that runs daily unattended, with deterministic safety gates preventing it from contacting anyone on an unverified address

CORE COMPETENCIES

Discovery & delivery: bottleneck analysis, building alongside end users, phased delivery under real constraints

AI systems: multi-agent orchestration, RAG pipelines, LLM tool-use, human-in-the-loop design, prompt and context engineering

Automation: n8n, webhooks, API integration, idempotency and retry design, ingestion pipelines, Google Apps Script

Engineering: Python, FastAPI, MQL5, PineScript, VBA, C#/C++, SQL, Next.js/React (AI-assisted), Supabase, Docker, AWS EC2, Cloudflare

Customer-facing: daily live technical delivery, course and documentation authoring, stakeholder communication under pressure

FEATURED WORK

Snedker Automations — Applied AI & Automation

Founder | 2025 – present

- Built a RAG assistant with a routing orchestrator and four tool sub-workflows (knowledge retrieval, calendar booking, email drafting) — built to ~90% and deliberately not shipped over latency and booking-integrity concerns. Choosing not to ship a system with integrity problems was the right call and I stand by it.
- Built the onboarding funnel: prospect submits a site → crawler generates an FAQ corpus and improvement list → chunked for retrieval → trial link delivered.
- Built an Instagram publishing pipeline with AI caption generation matched to an existing voice and an Airtable human-approval gate — still the longest-running system I've built.
- Operate the infrastructure: Hostinger VPS, Cloudflare, self-hosted n8n.

Job Hunter — Autonomous Outreach Agent

Personal build | 2026

- Daily unattended agent: sources hiring signals, qualifies fit, identifies a decision-maker, verifies the contact route, and drafts a short human-reviewed email.
- **Deterministic safety layer** in Python gates every send: guessed addresses can never produce a draft, pattern-derived addresses require external verification, with per-run auditing and a hard daily ceiling.
- Explicitly not a bulk-email bot — the constraint is the design.

Mission Control — Cross-Project Command Centre

Personal build | 2026

- Next.js + FastAPI dashboard surfacing, for every active project, the single next action, progress, and current bottleneck.
- Built to solve a real problem: switching between projects without re-establishing context each time.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founder & Lead Systems Engineer — Zen Traders Academy

Remote (Germany) | 2023 – present

- Ran daily live technical sessions for a community of 45–50, 30+ attending daily.
- Designed and hand-wrote automated trading systems in MQL5 — no AI assistance until late 2025 — including one that passed both phases of live prop-firm evaluations.
- Now the vehicle for **Popper** (personal R&D): an AI research and falsification platform using 6–7 coordinated subagents to generate market hypotheses, attempt to destroy them statistically, and export survivors to PineScript and MQL5.

Project Lead — The Pip Side

Remote (Canada-based) | 2022 – November 2023

- Led 15–20 contributors building an automated trading system: planned the test programme, distributed work, trained and mentored the team, analysed results and owned direction and scope.
- Processed 150,000+ optimisation results per week; wrote Python filtering to reduce thousands of runs to the few worth acting on. Provisioned AWS EC2 for live testing.
- Authored two courses (~65 students) and a book alongside the engineering work.
- Held the team and a 70-person user community together through the company's closure, which I learned about mid-trip from another continent.

Engineering Intern → Electrical Engineering Assistant — ThyssenKrupp Engineering

Perth, Australia | July 2017 – February 2018

- Observed three project cycles, identified the recurring bottleneck the incumbent engineers had normalised, and was given scope to solve it — the internship was extended so the build could be finished.
- Designed and built an Excel/VBA cable-management database **with the eventual primary user**, shaping the interface around how the work was actually done.
- **Cut a recurring process from 2–3 engineers over 5–6 weeks to one engineer over ~2 weeks — roughly 640 hours and ~85% of the effort per project** (own measurement across four projects).
- Declined a two-year contract offer to travel.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Engineering (Honours) — Mechatronic Engineering

Curtin University, Perth, Western Australia | 2011–2017

Honours thesis (Distinction): *A Navigation System for Pedicle Screw Alignment in Spinal Surgery* — intraoperative guidance combining AR visualisation, electromagnetic positioning and medical imaging.

Also: Awarded the top-1% prize, Westpac Australian Mathematics Competition | Champion team (team leader), EFY engineering unit

ADDITIONAL

Languages: English (native), German (B1 certified, conversational B2), basic Spanish and Japanese. **Authorisation:** Australian citizen, EU resident with full right to work in Germany/EU.

Career note: On parental leave March 2025 – June 2026, during which the systems above were designed and built.

Beyond work: Four off-grid vehicle conversions built and lived in (Australia, New Zealand, Canada) · summited Kilimanjaro and Kinabalu · licensed skydiver · 30+ countries · three published books and 150+ podcast episodes on trading and performance psychology.