James Allen Heifner

TECHNOLOGY // AUTOMATION // BUSINESS

Engineer and operating leader — writes the production code for the business he is accountable for.

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SUMMARY

Ran journal entry accounting for a national health system — 300+ facilities, 49 accountants — and personally wrote the deterministic Python automation that receives journal entries for the entire organization. No vendor engagement. No IT project request. The requirements were never gathered from anyone; they were already known, because the person writing the code was accountable for the close.

Twenty-eight years of building: enterprise ASP.NET/SQL applications the Commonwealth of Virginia ran in production for more than a decade, RPA fleets that removed 96+ hours of manual work a month at a single hospital, VBA applications and Excel add-ins, PowerShell and Power Platform workflows, and Trestle — a GPS progressive web application built end to end, including an offline vector map engine written without a mapping library.

The uncommon part is not the code. It is that the same person owns the ledger, the operation and the architecture, so nothing has to survive translation.

The current build is INTERLOCK: a close engine where the pipeline declares and the substrate runs, deliberately by composition rather than inheritance so a rule physically cannot reach the store and skip the audit trail. Fifteen tests hold the invariants. One of them found a rule holding state across runs, and another found that the population the whole ordering argument rests on had never actually contained the defect it argues about.

SELECTED ENGINEERING WORK

Enterprise Journal Entry Intake & Automation

Lifepoint Health · Python · in production

Standardized entry templates with deterministic Python automation underneath. Validates entry structure and supporting documentation at intake, routes for review and approval, and enforces the accounting logic it was designed around. Built solo, without vendor engagement or an IT project request; became the intake point for journal entries across 300+ facilities, removing hundreds of hours of manual preparation.

Agentic Journal Entry Preparation

independent build, in progress · Anthropic Claude API, Python

A multi-step agent pipeline taking the next layer of the work above: retrieve source data, apply accounting logic, draft the entry, validate structure and supporting documentation outside the model, and route for human review. Prompt and system-instruction design, tool calling and reasoning-chain iteration, with output validation before anything reaches a ledger.

Autonomous Trading Agent

independent build, running · PowerShell, Excel VBA, Alpaca API, Anthropic Claude API

An unattended trading system on a schedule. A scanner scores every watchlist stock on four deterministic signals; a model layer contributes commentary and classification but has no order authority whatsoever — position sizing and execution run against hard-coded risk limits. Full logging and decision audit trail, with an Excel front end a finance team could operate. Paper trading by design; live execution sits behind a human decision.

Commonwealth of Virginia Agency Systems

Northrop Grumman · ASP.NET/SQL · 10+ years in production

Full-lifecycle web applications for state agency account management and statewide outage tracking: data model, application layer, deployment and SME documentation for the VITA knowledge base. Used across 100+ agencies and still running more than ten years after release. Sole author.

Trestle

GPS progressive web application · deployed, in use, still in development · trestle.allenhbuilds.com

Browser-based PWA with live GPS instrumentation and full offline capability. Vector trail plotting rendered with zero mapping libraries; USGS National Map tile layers with local caching; waypoint logic with 80-metre proximity stamping; geotagged photo capture; Open-Meteo integration; Stripe donation flow; Android packaging. Ride data stays device-local unless exported.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ALLENHBUILDS

Sep 2026 — Present

Independent — Close Software & Finance Systems

Building the close-the-books software full time, and taking finance-systems and automation work that keeps the product inside real problems.

- Building INTERLOCK, a close engine: seven components on one substrate that load a population once, convert it at the door and report what will not convert, remove rows in a defensible order, never lose one, stamp a reason on every row that leaves, and validate after every stage rather than only at the end. Three built and running — the accounts payable accrual scrub, the contract labor accrual, and the substrate underneath both.
- The name is the argument. On a railroad an interlocking is the machinery that ties the signals and the switches together so that a route which would put two trains in the same place cannot be set — not a policy against setting it, machinery that will not move. That is the case for letting a close run unattended, and it is what these controls are built as.
- Backed by its own test suite, not by assertion: fifteen tests covering the balance invariant, atomicity, the audit trail and the rule order. One of them takes the guard off, runs the rules in the wrong order, and proves the accrual comes in light while every check still passes and the run still ties. A close that ties is not the same as a close that is right.
- Building an agentic journal entry pipeline on the Anthropic Claude API: retrieve source data, apply accounting logic, draft the entry, validate structure and support outside the model, route for human approval.
- Available for finance leadership, engineering and AI roles, and for fractional or contract finance-systems work.

LIFEPOINT HEALTH

2014 — Sep 2026

Interim Director, Journal Entry Accounting — Jul 2026 — Sep 2026

National health system. Corporate accounting and shared services. A nationwide transition was pulling accounting activity out of hundreds of facilities into one centralized group; templates, intake, review, approval and documentation standards did not exist at that scale.

- Owned journal entry accounting across 68 community hospitals, 70+ rehabilitation and behavioral health facilities, and 300+ total sites of care.
- Led 49 accountants through an active nationwide consolidation, including the eight hospitals acquired from ScionHealth in 2026.
- Wrote the standardized entry templates and the deterministic Python automation behind them. No vendor engagement. No IT project request.
- That system became the intake point for journal entries across the organization and removed hundreds of hours of manual preparation.
- Rebuilt intake, review and approval so entries arrived validated with documentation attached, cutting rework and post-close adjustments.
- Partnered directly with Corporate Controllership, Internal Audit and facility CFOs on policy alignment, control gaps and remediation.

Global Accountant — Apr 2026 — Jul 2026

- Closed the books for a multi-facility portfolio inside the newly formed centralized accounting group.
- Built the entry templates and review protocol adopted as the national standard. Promoted to Interim Director in three months.

Financial Analyst, Enterprise Analytics & Automation — Clinch Valley Medical Center · 2014 — 2026

- Analytics and systems resource to the CFO, Controller and department leadership at a 100+ bed acute care hospital.
- Took a full business day off month-end close at that facility through process redesign, batching logic and reconciliation automation.
- Deployed RPA automation removing 96+ hours of manual work per month at the facility, improving audit reliability through logged, deterministic execution.
- Owned reporting across 900+ national, local and individual partnerships: pricing, AR analysis, revenue validation and contract billing.
- Built enterprise dashboards, variance and productivity models, pharmacy expense-versus-revenue models and GL validation logic.
- Rebuilt payroll data by hand during the national Kronos outage and kept operations running on stopgap systems for weeks.

BURCH INDUSTRIAL GROUP / KNL HOLDINGS / KNL, INC. 2024 — 2025

Vice President of Operations — concurrent with the role above

- Ran three companies in right-of-way, vegetation management and construction as senior-most operator and de facto CFO, with full licensing authority and P&L ownership.
- Cut $228K in annual cost through asset restructuring, fleet consolidation and capital planning.
- Installed KPIs, telematics, standardized timekeeping and daily field reporting where no measurement existed.
- Wrote the multi-year financial models, cash-flow frameworks and capital acquisition plans used for loan readiness.
- Introduced LLM API calls into the field documentation workflow to rewrite work orders and completion reports, standardizing documentation quality across crews.

NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORPORATION Held DoD Top Secret clearance during employment 2008 — 2011

IT Analyst Lead / Software Developer / Critical Outage Coordinator — Commonwealth of Virginia account

- Designed, wrote and deployed ASP.NET/SQL applications for state agency account management and statewide outage tracking. They stayed in production more than ten years.
- Critical Outage Coordinator for the Commonwealth of Virginia — incident communications to 100+ agencies plus NCIS, VAI and state security offices.
- Managed multi-shift teams for 24/7 uptime and authored the SME documentation that standardized procedure statewide.

EARLIER CAREER

Store Manager — Verizon Wireless / A Wireless *2011 — 2014*
Ran the district's #1 store. Top 10% in the North East Region; sales management tools adopted district-wide.

Adjunct Professor, IT & Software Engineering — SVCC · UVA-Wise · Russell County Schools *2009 — 2011*
Taught Java, Visual Basic, .NET Framework, SQL, OOP and SDLC to college students and working professionals.

Senior Project Manager — National Services Associates *2003 — 2007*
Managed 1,600+ subcontractors nationwide; executed 6,000+ BP site installations in 90 days, a company record. Led national rebranding conversions: BankOne to Chase, MBNA to Bank of America, Cingular to AT&T.

Industrial Designer & Developer — ImagePoint *1998 — 2003*
National signage and architectural branding for McDonald's, Mercedes-Benz and Nissan. Built CGI prototyping that removed millions in manufacturing cost.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages Python · SQL · VBA · JavaScript · C# / .NET · Visual Basic · Java · PowerShell · HTML/CSS

Platforms & Frameworks ASP.NET / .NET Framework · progressive web apps · Oracle Cloud · Azure · SharePoint · Power Platform · Microsoft 365 · REST/JSON APIs · Stripe · geospatial tile services

LLM & agents Anthropic Claude API · prompt and system-instruction design · tool calling · multi-step orchestration · context management · retrieval-augmented generation · agent output evaluation · Model Context Protocol (studying the specification and integration patterns)

AI security Prompt injection and jailbreaking risk · sensitive-data handling in a healthcare environment · insecure tool execution · least-privilege tool and system access · secrets management · output validation before write-back · OWASP principles

Practice SDLC · requirements defined from operational ownership rather than interview · architecture and data modeling · validation and error handling · code review · technical documentation · production deployment and long-horizon support

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION

King University Bristol, TN
B.S., Business & Financial Administration, Summa Cum Laude

Southwest Virginia Community College Cedar Bluff, VA
A.A.S., Information Systems Technology, Summa Cum Laude

Lean Six Sigma Green Belt

Johns Hopkins Engineering | Certification programs in progress
Generative AI - 15-week program | Began October 2026
Agentic AI - 15-week program | Began October 2026