

Amit Solanki

Technology Consultant & Fractional CTO · Founder, Prayantr Technologies ·
Rails since v1.0 · ex-SVP Engineering @ Checkmate · ex-WeWork Lead
Architect

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Agra, India · Remote (IST, flexible US/EU hours)

SUMMARY

Fractional CTO and technical advisor with two decades in Rails - one of the first Rails developers in India (v1.0), founder of a principal-led engineering consultancy since 2013, and the engineer who grew Checkmate's integrations organization from a single developer into the team behind 130+ production integrations, serving 20,000+ restaurant locations. Stays hands-on: recent independent builds include a deployed commerce platform released as five Rails gems, and Keepford, an AI phone receptionist where application code, not the model, makes the decisions that matter - treating AI as a fast, literal collaborator that needs a clear spec and a critical reviewer.

EXPERIENCE

Prayantr Technologies

Jul 2013 - Present · Agra, India (Remote)

Founder & Principal

- Run a principal-led engineering consultancy: fractional CTO engagements, technical advisory, integration engineering, and 0→1 product builds for client companies - sole technical owner on every engagement, requirements through delivery.

Checkmate

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

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

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

- Grew the integrations engineering organization from a single developer into the team behind 130+ production integrations across 25+ POS and 30+ delivery platforms, serving 20,000+ restaurant locations.
- Streamlined the launch process into repeatable onboarding infrastructure, including a single-day record of 1,400 locations.
- Set the technical bar for zero-downtime releases across the platform; technical lead in enterprise "superbrand" sales cycles.

RECENT INDEPENDENT BUILDS (AI-DIRECTED)

Keepford - AI Phone Receptionist · Python/FastAPI, Retell, Twilio

Sep 2026 · keepford.com (live demo)

Independent build on a live demo line (fictional business). The model holds the conversation; application code makes the decisions that matter: the phone system, not the model, reads the approved script on classified life-safety calls and ends them, and bookings use per-call slot references, confirmed only after the calendar write succeeds. Real-call acceptance testing (one tester): 20 of 23 scenarios passed, 3 could not be run; about 1,200 automated tests. Built with Python (Keepford); primary stack Ruby on Rails. I set the architecture, rules and acceptance criteria and ran the real-call testing; an AI coding agent wrote the code under those rules, with CI enforcing them.

First-Party Restaurant Ordering Platform - Square POS, Two Courier Networks

Aug 2026 · live

Rails/Spree platform where Square stays source of truth for the menu: webhook-driven catalog sync with idempotency and version checks, and orders pushed back as paid kitchen tickets via Square's external-payment API. DoorDash Drive and Uber Direct each implement Spree's shipping-calculator interface, quoting head-to-head at checkout and dispatching automatically. Five integration engines released as versioned, MIT-licensed gems; deployed via Kamal.

localtable.amitsolanki.com (live) · gems: spree_square, spree_doordash, spree_uber_direct, spree_menu_chat, spree_loyalty

MCP Server for a Live Commerce Store

Aug 2026

Rails + Doorkeeper OAuth 2.1 server (PKCE, dynamic client registration) exposing an 11-tool MCP interface over a Spree store seeded with 100,000 real orders. Verifying writes against Postgres rather than the chat transcript surfaced a silent 33-row data-loss bug and a SQL join fan-out inflating my own revenue reports by 42x.

github.com/amitkssolanki/mcp-server · amitsolanki.com/writing/mcp-server-spree-commerce/

Voice AI Restaurant Receptionist (learning prototype)

Jul-Aug 2026

Rails backend behind a Vapi phone-ordering agent that took a full order over a real test call; a "read the real cart back before finalizing" safeguard caught the assistant claiming an item was added when it wasn't.

github.com/amitkssolanki/ai-receptionist · amitsolanki.com/writing/voice-ai-restaurant-receptionist/

Also (Aug 2026): menuconform, an Apache-2.0 toolkit testing restaurant menus against the Universal Commerce Protocol's catalog schema (analysis published to the UCP discussions), and a WhatsApp Catalog + Cart integration.

github.com/amitkssolanki/menuconform · github.com/amitkssolanki/whatsapp-integration

SKILLS

Rails / Ruby: v1.0-present, ActiveRecord, PostgreSQL, Redis, background & batch processing, RSpec/Cucumber/Selenium

Integrations & auth: OAuth 2.1 (Doorkeeper, PKCE, dynamic client registration), webhook-driven APIs, integration architecture

Leadership: org design & scaling, hiring & mentorship, enterprise technical sales, zero-downtime release engineering

Product ownership: requirements → UX → decomposition → build → ship, no dedicated PM

AI systems & AI-directed development: deterministic control around LLMs (decisions and side effects in application code), voice systems on Retell with Twilio call control, real-call acceptance testing, agent tool design (MCP), retrieval-grounded RAG (pgvector), spec-first decomposition, reviewing AI-generated code for correctness & security

E-commerce & POS: Spree Commerce, Square Orders/Catalog API, DoorDash Drive & Uber Direct dispatch, WhatsApp Cloud API, webhook-driven POS/catalog sync

Infrastructure: AWS (RDS), container deploys with Kamal, feature-flagged rollouts (Flipper), production monitoring (Sentry)

EARLIER EXPERIENCE

WeWork Feb 2012 - Mar 2018 · New York, US (Remote)

Lead Software Architect

- Built WeConnect, the first version of WeWork's member platform, while leading WeWork's first offshore engineering team - the engineering seed that grew into the company's full platform organization.
- Co-built Rooms v1 (room booking + Kisi smart-lock integration) and owned Spaceman, WeWork's billing/space-ops backbone (QuickBooks, S2, Qtrak).
- Shipped the member-facing app suite (guest registration, printing, move-out payments, event RSVPs) and authored the cross-service integration test suite.

TargetMobi Jun 2013 - Jul 2018 (concurrent, part-time) · Remote

Chief Technology Officer

- Technical leader for an SMS CRM/survey platform (Rails 4.2, MySQL) serving research institutions, NGOs, and healthcare programs across the US and Uganda - joined after initial development and owned it end-to-end through its final release.

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

Software Engineer → Team Leader

- One of the first Rails developers in India, starting on Rails 1.0; spearheaded the development of Ruby on Rails applications, including white-labeled solutions.
- Led a team of 4-8 developers and mentored and trained junior developers; owned deployment and production monitoring (Capistrano, God, Monit) and testing practice (RSpec, Cucumber, Selenium, JMeter).

Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur Aug 2006 - Feb 2007 · Kanpur, India

Project Associate

- Researched advanced audio compression algorithms in MATLAB, targeting formats superior to MP3.

EDUCATION

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Noida	PG Diploma, Embedded Systems & VLSI Design	2006
Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra	M.S. Physics (Electronics)	2004-2006
Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra - Director's Medal, highest marks	B.S. Physics (Hons.)	2001-2004

References and additional case studies (Checkmate integrations org, WeWork platform build-out) available at amitsolanki.com/work/