

Antonio Almazzo

Independent engineering advisor to CTOs, VPs and Directors of Engineering at fintech and regulated-data companies

Redondo Beach, CA · info@antonioalmazzo.com · antonioalmazzo.com · linkedin.com/in/almazzo

Summary

I help engineering leaders at fintech and regulated-data companies find out what will break before a launch, and fix how their teams deliver. The first step is a fixed-fee Release Risk Diagnostic of two to three weeks. It ends in ranked risks with evidence, load numbers for the critical path and a 90-day plan. I also review engineering operating models and advise on where AI can remove work, starting with testing. Since 2007 I have worked in engineering at Google, Shopzilla, Ticketfly, the NFL, Intercontinental Exchange (ICE), Jump, Episource and Ford Credit. Built Ford Credit's Enterprise Testing organization across the US, Canada, Mexico, India and Europe and scaled it to three programs. Native Spanish speaker, working in English and Spanish with teams in the US and Mexico.

Skills

Advisory: release risk assessment, peak-load readiness, engineering operating models, cross-border US and Latin America teams

Testing and quality: consumer-driven contract testing (Pact), performance and load testing, CI/CD quality gates, test data management (Delphix, synthetic data), Playwright, Jira and Xray

Architecture and platform: microservices, API and event-driven architecture, replayable data pipelines, AWS, Terraform, GitHub Actions, observability (Dynatrace, OpenTelemetry, Grafana, New Relic), HIPAA and GDPR environments

AI-enabled delivery: agentic test generation, automated root-cause analysis, quality-gate automation

Experience

Lucent Labs LLC

Independent Engineering Advisor · Oct 2026 - Present · Redondo Beach, CA

Advisory for engineering leaders, remote or on site in the Los Angeles area by agreement.

- Release Risk Diagnostic (2 to 3 weeks, fixed fee): ranked release risks with evidence, load numbers for the critical path, a contract-testing and quality-gate gap map, a 90-day plan with owners and a one-page board summary.
- Engineering Operating Model Review (2 to 3 weeks, fixed fee): a current-state map from plan to release, ranked constraints, and a draft operating model with roles, governance and KPIs.
- Advisory retainer (3 to 6 months) and interim program assurance: a weekly working session with written priorities and a decision log, or a named assurance lead for one program.
- Load tests run only in a production-like environment, with masked or synthetic data. No production PII or PHI needed.

Ford Credit (Ford Motor Company)

Director of Enterprise Testing · Jan 2025 - Oct 2026 · Los Angeles, CA

The financing arm of Ford Motor Company. Figures as of September 30, 2026.

- Built Enterprise Testing from the ground up for a large-scale fintech modernization (a 30-year legacy and mainframe estate plus new vendor platforms), leading teams in the US, Canada, Mexico, India and Europe.
- Scaled Enterprise Testing to three programs in 2026 through enablement, not by owning teams' test suites. Authored the enterprise testing operating model: strategy, governance, roles, KPIs and accepted strategies for end-to-end, non-functional, performance, test data and AI-assisted testing.
- Turned test data into a service: stood up a test data management team, took synthetic data to general availability in August 2026, and cut fulfillment from 1 to 2 days to 3 to 4 hours per account (100+ orders in Q3 2026).
- Consolidated four automation frameworks into one AI-assisted Playwright platform (6 teams, 900+ tests), migrated 47 of 47 repositories to the enterprise GitHub standard, and built parallel test execution in house at no added license cost.
- Led an in-house AI test-generation agent into production: authoring time down 66% (about 60 to 20 minutes), about 302 engineering hours saved in Q3 2026, active users up from 8 to 38 across 7 teams.
- Put quality ahead of production: performance validation across 12 application teams with zero production impact, and 6 to 8 Jira and Xray dashboards that removed 10+ hours of manual reporting a week.

Independent consulting (a fraud-prevention software company)

Consultant, AWS and CI/CD · Feb 2024 - Jul 2024 · Remote, part time alongside Episource

- Built the reference pipeline that new Java microservices follow to AWS: GitHub Actions and Terraform, with resource naming conventions enforced in CI.

- Added code conventions (Google Java style, lint rules on pre-commit and pre-push), PR approvals through CODEOWNERS, and tracing with AWS X-Ray and CloudWatch.

Episource

Director of Engineering · Jul 2023 - Dec 2024 · Los Angeles, CA

A regulated healthcare data platform (HIPAA, GDPR) needed realistic test data in lower environments with no production PII or PHI reaching them.

- Implemented test data management with Delphix masking. Validation reports gave compliance evidence that no sensitive production data reached lower environments.
- Led enterprise Quality Engineering with a platform-plus-standards model that all product teams adopted, including CI/CD quality gates for code health, security, testing and production safety.
- Implemented contract testing with Pact and Pact Broker across distributed microservices and added OpenTelemetry and Grafana observability.

Jump

Head of B2B Engineering · Mar 2022 - Jul 2023 · Los Angeles, CA

A unified fan experience and ticketing platform for professional sports teams and venues needed a B2B engineering organization and a platform architecture from zero.

- Built and led the B2B engineering organization from zero and delivered the foundational platform architecture.
- Turned revenue goals into a technical roadmap with Product and Business. The team continues to run the platform.

Intercontinental Exchange (ICE)

Principal Software Engineer (promoted from Staff) · Aug 2017 - Mar 2022 · Pleasanton, CA

The streaming pipeline I built went to production and company network bandwidth use rose to 80%.

- Brought findings from lower environments to the incident room: a Windows server returning uncompressed payloads of about 1 MB. We turned on gzip and bandwidth use fell from 80% to 40%.
- Replaced a legacy .NET mortgage ingestion pipeline with cloud-native ingestion and enrichment feeding enterprise data lakes at high volume.
- Architected an event-driven data platform for AI products with replay and backfill, microservice orchestration and traceable model execution.

National Football League

Senior Manager, Software Engineering · Apr 2015 - Aug 2017 · Culver City, CA

nfl.com and the mobile apps (iOS and Android) were moving from a legacy system to a new microservices backend, and the engineering team was new to microservices.

- Led test engineering for NFL Media and introduced consumer-driven contract testing with JSON schema validation in CI.
- Load-tested the new backend to 200,000 requests per second in 2015, twice a 100,000 baseline from a 2014 test of the old platform, and scaled up the MySQL transactional store to sustain transactions.
- In year two, also led Fantasy Football engineering: moved it from vendor-managed hardware to the NFL data center, cutting hosting from about \$1M to \$100K a year (90%), with autoscaling for the Super Bowl and the draft.

Ticketfly

Performance Engineering Lead, promoted to Manager, Software Engineering · Oct 2011 - Mar 2015 · San Francisco Bay Area

More than 100,000 people queued for Burning Man's 2014 ticket sale, far more than the platform could serve at once.

- Led performance readiness: made the platform white-label on Burning Man's domain, worked out its limits and put Queue-it in front so 7,000 buyers could purchase at a time. The Associated Press reported 38,000 tickets sold out in 44 minutes.
- Established the QA function, added New Relic monitoring, ran SLA validation in CI and set up repeatable performance certification for marquee on-sales.

Earlier

Shopzilla, Software Developer, Jan 2009 - Oct 2011: scalable CPC and rev-share processing platform. **Google**, Software Development Engineer in Test, Nov 2007 - Dec 2008: AudioAds test automation and the early Selenium framework.

Education

Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey · M.S., Artificial Intelligence

Institute of Technology of Mexico · B.E., Computer Engineering

Leadership Essentials · Columbia Business School Executive Education · Nov 2021. **Languages:** English (full professional), Spanish (native)