

PANKAJ SHANKAR GAIKAR

Technical Architect | Mobile Architect | Staff iOS Engineer

Pune, Maharashtra, India

pankajs.gaikar@gmail.com | +91-9822662685

LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/pankajgaikar | GitHub: github.com/PankajGaikar

SUMMARY

Technical Architect and mobile engineering leader with 11+ years of experience designing, estimating, and delivering iOS, Android, Flutter, and cross-platform products. Led multidisciplinary teams of 2–16 engineers spanning mobile, React, Flutter, C++, SDK, backend API, and QA. Hands-on expertise in mobile architecture, API contracts, secure payments, offline synchronization, release governance, and reliability. Mentored 25+ junior engineers across mobile and SDK teams.

CORE SKILLS

- Mobile Architecture: SwiftUI, UIKit, MVVM, Clean Architecture, Redux, modular SDKs, Swift Package Manager
- Languages: Swift, Objective-C, Dart, JavaScript
- Platforms: iOS, watchOS, Android, Flutter, macOS
- Product Engineering: playback systems, DRM, push-to-talk, secure payments, offline synchronization, TV control
- Reliability and Delivery: Firebase Crashlytics, XCTest, Bitrise, Xcode Cloud, GitHub Actions, Jenkins, Fastlane, TestFlight
- Additional: Firebase, Combine, Core Data, SwiftData, HealthKit, WidgetKit, Mapbox, WebRTC, push notifications

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Technical Architect

R Systems International Limited (formerly Velotio Technologies) | Remote, Pune

June 2026 – Present

- Lead architecture and delivery for the Spreedly iOS checkout SDK with a six-engineer iOS and Android team, covering solution design, estimates, and pre-sales support.
- Designed the SDK as independent Core, Network, Security, Analytics, and UI modules, distributed through Swift Package Manager and CocoaPods.
- Built secure checkout flows for cards, Apple Pay, and Google Pay, including authenticated API requests, AES-GCM protection, secure value handling, and SSL pinning.
- Defined reusable checkout components, validation, theming, and API contracts that allow client applications to integrate without duplicating payment logic.
- Set architecture and release standards across mobile teams while mentoring engineers through design reviews, implementation planning, and production delivery.

Lead iOS Developer

Velotio Technologies (acquired by R Systems) | Remote, Pune

April 2023 – May 2026

- Owned architecture and hands-on delivery for Orion, a legacy push-to-talk platform spanning iOS, Android, backend APIs, and QA.
- Improved Orion iOS Firebase crash-free users from 80% to 100% and kept the application at 100% by resolving messaging, memory, and stability failures.
- Designed cross-platform push and messaging contracts for PTT and group events, aligning iOS APNs behavior with Android FCM payloads and backend delivery.
- Replaced Android's persistent sockets and background services with push-driven updates, removing the requirement for users to disable battery optimization.
- Introduced Bitrise and Xcode Cloud, adding automated builds, tests, signing, and release workflows to a project that previously had none.
- Used Firebase Remote Config for controlled feature rollout and coordinated release readiness across engineering and QA.
- Led WellSite Navigator's migration from legacy MVC toward MVVM-Clean architecture, separating domain, data, and presentation layers and eliminating frequent freezes.
- Modularized shared functionality into Swift packages, including a WellSite API package and design system, and introduced coordinator-based navigation.
- Defined offline synchronization, SQLite migrations, authentication, and repository boundaries so UI code no longer depended directly on networking or persistence.
- Upgraded Mapbox and reduced memory leaks and crashes across major navigation components.
- Architected a dynamic analytics SDK for Capillary Technologies, including customizable event tracking, server-driven ad serving, and remotely configurable UI.

Senior iOS Developer

TIDAL Music AS (acquired by Block, Inc.) | Oslo, Norway

February 2021 – March 2023

- Extracted TIDAL's playback engine from the main application into BoomBox, a Swift package responsible for playback and offline media downloads.
- Reduced playback-related crashes by 40% through architectural changes and improved error handling.
- Implemented DRM licensing controls for secure media access across devices.
- Migrated the Now Playing experience and related components from Objective-C to SwiftUI, removing major memory leaks.
- Created UtilityKit to centralize shared utilities and improve reuse across the application.

- Led development of the TIDAL Apple Watch application from inception, using SwiftUI and Redux; it reached 50,000+ active users and supported music control and offline playback.

Mobile Developer

Exium India Private Limited | Remote, India

September 2020 – January 2021

- Built the cross-platform user interface for Exium's VPN client across macOS, iOS, Android, and Windows using Flutter.
- Created a macOS distribution package using Objective-C and PackageMaker for enterprise installation.

iOS Developer

Media Magic Technologies | Pune, India

June 2015 – September 2020

- Developed and maintained the Play-Fi Network Player used by major OEMs, reaching 200,000+ downloads.
- Integrated Amazon Music, Apple Music, TIDAL, iHeartRadio, TuneIn, and SiriusXM through REST APIs and custom streaming protocols.
- Designed a reusable interface architecture that accelerated subsequent music-service integrations.
- Rewrote the PlayQueue module to improve playback reliability.
- Diagnosed memory leaks with Instruments and refactored legacy Objective-C code to reduce crashes.
- Built multimedia features using Google Maps SDK, Chromecast, Alexa, UPnP, FFmpeg, GStreamer, BLE, and REST APIs.
- Delivered a universal infrared-controller proof of concept for embedded devices using BLE and UART.
- Worked directly with US-based clients on requirements, solution design, estimates, and technical proposals.

INDEPENDENT APP DEVELOPMENT

- Myra: Universal TV Remote — privacy-first Wi-Fi remote for Android TV, Google TV, Samsung, LG, Fire TV, Roku, and other platforms, with keyboard, app launching, and Apple Watch control; 5,000+ active users.
- Marathi Hindi Compass — culturally localized compass for Hindi and Marathi speakers, with direction, location, Vastu, widgets, and Apple Watch support; 10,000+ active users.
- Ping — privacy-first iOS network diagnostics app for live ping, latency analysis, DNS lookup, traceroute, port scanning, Whois, and multi-host monitoring; 7,000+ active users.

EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Engineering, Computer Science — Pune University, 2011–2014
- Diploma in Computer Science — Maharashtra State Board, 2008–2011