

# Chris Strandt

Founder | Technical Leader | Systems Architect  
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## Professional Summary

Technology leader with deep expertise in infrastructure, software development, and embedded systems. Proven track record of scaling organizations, complex hardware/software products, and building high-performing cross-functional teams. Passionate about solving hard problems, from cloud infrastructure to automotive systems, with hands-on skills in electronics, networking, mechanical design, and full-stack development.

## Professional Experience

### Power Gauge Pro LLC

*Founder & CEO | Current*

- Founded a product company building next-gen LCD digital dash systems for aftermarket automotive use
- Architected and managed development of an embedded system using NXP iMX8MP SoM with Yocto Linux
- Led the software design of a C++/Qt/QML application to visualize CANbus data on screen
- Created a cloud-based content marketplace using Laravel (PHP) with a REST API and Git integration
- Developed and managed ESP32-based sensor modules communicating over CANbus
- Designed Mechanical enclosure, including 3D printing, and CNC machining fabrication.
- Recruited and led a distributed engineering team (firmware, mobile, backend, frontend, hardware)

### Switchbox LLC

*Tech Manager*

- Led technical concept development projects, including a Datacenter UPS system, vehicle-mounted EV charger, and utility-scale battery backup packaging concept.
- Directed the development of an engine controller for a propane ICE program, covering both software and electrical harness design.
- Function as a project manager, creating essential documentation and deliverables, and managing engineering staff.

## Liquid Web Inc

Tenure: 13 Years

### *Senior Executive*

- Led due diligence and operations support for successful private equity acquisition (~\$225M sale)
- Delivered executive presentations and buyer materials, supported smooth leadership transition

### *Chief Operations Officer*

- Oversaw customer support, data centers, and 10 operations departments during hypergrowth from 7 to 450+ employees
- Deployed major operational tools like Zendesk and revamped employee development programs
- Contributed to \$57.1M revenue year (INC5000, 2013)

### *Director of Infrastructure*

- Constructed 3 datacenters in Lansing, MI, which enabled additional product expansion into dedicated server, and cloud infrastructure categories
- Designed and maintained core datacenter and network infrastructure
- Built monitoring and physical security systems, negotiated vendor contracts, led hiring and training
- Developed internal tools for IP tracking, network administration, PBX reporting, and facilities telemetry (UPS, cooling, etc.)

## Technical Skills

- **Software:** C++, Qt/QML, PHP, JSON, RESTful API, Git, Linux (admin/dev)
- **Embedded & IoT:** CANbus, Arduino, ADCs, I2C, LVDS
- **DevOps & Tooling:** GitHub Actions, Mender, MeshCentral, Shell scripting, CI/CD pipelines
- **Power System Design:** 480V 3 phase datacenter power infrastructure design, 2N+1. Transformers, Generators, Switchgear, UPS Systems, Power Distribution, and Cooling
- **Cloud & Infrastructure:** Server architecture, networking, compliance (SSAE16/SAS70), datacenter design

## Other Capabilities

- Spreadsheet modeling (financial, statistical, simulations)
- CAD: 2D/3D design with Fusion360, mechanical prototyping
- Rapid Prototyping: CO2 laser engraving, FDM 3D Printing, CNC Machining
- MIG & TIG welding, Plasma and Oxy-Acetylene cutting
- Network cabling (CAT5e/6, Single Mode and Multi Mode fiber optic)
- Rough carpentry, Plumbing, 12V/120V/240V electrical