

# JOHN WANTZ JR.

## AI SYSTEMS ARCHITECT | APPLIED AI PLATFORM LEAD

Agentic systems | Local and private AI | Enterprise search | Governance | Deployment

Austin, TX | [wantzjt@gmail.com](mailto:wantzjt@gmail.com) | 949.903.8603 | [Portfolio](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [GitHub](#)

**Technical AI systems leader who architects and ships governed AI platforms across local devices, customer-controlled infrastructure, cloud services, and enterprise workflows.** Combines agent architecture, model orchestration, retrieval and search, privacy controls, evaluation, technical product definition, and AI-native engineering workflows. Best suited to AI Systems Architect, Enterprise AI Solutions, Forward-Deployed AI, Applied AI Platform, and technical AI implementation roles where architecture, governance, and system outcomes matter.

### SELECTED ALIGNMENT

- Architecting TARX as an operating system for controlled AI: persistent operating state, governed agents, model routing, approved capabilities, private memory, evidence, and deployment across desktop, on-prem, cloud, and dedicated hardware.
- Translated enterprise search, legal research, insurance support, financial advice, and marketplace workflows into AI system requirements, evaluation criteria, governance controls, and launch paths.
- Works across executives, engineering, design, security, privacy, legal, vendors, and operators to move AI from ambiguous use case to tested system, documented process, and production-ready operating model.

### TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES

**AI systems architecture** - Agent runtimes, orchestration, tool use, persistent context, memory, model routing, human-in-the-loop controls

**Governance and operations** - Policy enforcement, permissions, auditability, evidence, privacy boundaries, monitoring concepts, AI inventory patterns, operational controls

**AI-native engineering** - Architecture-first development with coding agents; code inspection, test definition, debugging, integration direction, and technical release oversight

**Search and knowledge** - Enterprise search, RAG, vector retrieval, knowledge workflows, taxonomy, information architecture, source grounding

**Implementation and validation** - Requirements, system flows, prompt systems, model evaluation, acceptance criteria, QA, troubleshooting, release validation, deployment documentation

**Platforms and domains** - Local LLMs, cloud LLMs, NVIDIA ecosystem, Palantir-oriented deployments, Voiceflow, Dialogflow CX, desktop/web runtimes, regulated enterprise systems

### SELECTED EXPERIENCE

#### TARX | Founder / AI Systems Architect | Nov 2023 - Present

- Architected a local-first AI operating system designed to run governed agents across personal computers, enterprise infrastructure, scaled compute, and connected machines.
- Defined platform architecture for agent execution, model routing, persistent operating state, private memory, approved capabilities, task control, human approval, and evidence-backed actions.
- Directed AI-native implementation across desktop, web, runtime services, model integrations, retrieval workflows, enterprise demos, and release candidates; translated architecture into requirements, tests, debugging paths, and implementation priorities.
- Designed enterprise control patterns spanning identity, permissions, policy, privacy, observability, model evaluation, QA, auditability, and customer-controlled deployment.
- Evaluated local and hosted models, RAG/vector approaches, prompt behavior, fine-tuning tradeoffs, infrastructure, hardware, performance, cost, and security against concrete user and enterprise workflows.

#### LexisNexis | Principal AI Experiences / AI Systems and Product Strategy | Jul 2022 - Jul 2023

- Helped launch LexisNexis AI following global transformation work consolidating 110+ products into a smaller SaaS platform stack.
- Translated legal research, authoring, content, and enterprise search workflows into system requirements, model behavior expectations, source-grounding and trust patterns, taxonomy, user flows, and evaluation priorities.
- Aligned product, engineering, UX, research, business, security, and legal stakeholders around AI readiness, data boundaries, governance, launch constraints, and scalable platform capabilities.

## **State Farm | Conversational AI Research Consultant | Aug 2023 - Nov 2023**

- Researched and shaped IVR and conversational AI strategy for support and agent workflows, including Voiceflow architecture, use-case definition, vendor evaluation, response review, and adoption planning.
- Developed governance recommendations, implementation paths, operational controls, workforce impact analysis, and financial framing for AI-assisted insurance workflows in a regulated environment.
- Connected business requirements to prompt and model decisions, testing needs, compliance guardrails, technical documentation, and cross-functional implementation planning.

## **Charles Schwab | Sr. Manager UX, Conversational AI and Mobile | Dec 2019 - Jul 2021**

- Contributed to digital advice, robo-advisory, thematic investing, ETF discovery, asset bundling, Schwab Assistant NLP, and emerging mobile platform strategy.
- Supported Schwab / TD Ameritrade integration through offering maps, semantic systems, product rationalization, information architecture, and cross-platform customer journeys.
- Presented AI, NLP, mobile, and platform direction to senior leadership and board liaisons, translating regulated financial requirements into implementation priorities and experience quality standards.

## **Target | Sr. Lead, Retail Innovation Experiences | Apr 2016 - Jun 2017**

- Led Target+ marketplace strategy spanning seller onboarding and churn prediction, taxonomy, data flows, admin workflows, marketplace economics, prototyping, and enterprise validation.
- Directed cross-functional research, design, and engineering work and presented AI, automation, voice, payments, AR, acquisition, and investment opportunities supporting Target+ 1.0, two acquisitions, and three investments.

## **Comrse (acquired) | CEO / Co-Founder | Feb 2012 - Mar 2016**

- Built a venture-backed commerce technology company through acquisition, leading product, design, engineering, partnerships, operations, capital strategy, and platform direction.
- Partnered with Twitter and Pinterest on native commerce and simplified checkout integrations; co-authored IP for attribute-based checkout technology.

## **AT&T / MyANumber | Technical Lead, Identity Protocols | May 2010 - Jan 2012**

- Co-invented the MSSI protocol licensed for AT&T NumberSync, turning multi-device identity and communication continuity into an award-winning platform capability.
- Led research, service design, data-flow architecture, OEM requirements, and partner specifications adopted by Samsung, LG, and Apple.

## **TECHNICAL OPERATING MODEL**

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**Architecture-first, AI-native implementation.** Defines system boundaries, components, data and control flows, requirements, permission models, acceptance criteria, and evaluation plans; uses coding agents and modern AI development tools to accelerate implementation; inspects outputs, directs integrations, troubleshoots failures, and validates behavior with engineering teams. Technical depth is centered on complete AI systems, enterprise implementation, and the operational layer required to move AI into controlled production workflows.

## **SELECTED SYSTEMS AND TECHNICAL PROOF**

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- TARX AI runtime and controlled-agent operating system; LexisNexis AI and enterprise search transformation; State Farm IVR and conversational AI strategy; Schwab NLP and digital advice; Target+ marketplace; AT&T NumberSync.
- Public technical proof includes GitHub repositories, product demos, architecture materials, and two published patents.

## **PATENTS / IP**

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[US20150278931A1](#) - Attribute-based Commerce Checkout

[US20160119469](#) - Multi-Device Session Identity (MSSI)

## **EDUCATION AND RECOGNITION**

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Guest Instructor, Master's Program, University of Washington | AI/ML Program, University of Texas | Sociology coursework, Whatcom College