



DANILO GIACINTI

Full Stack Engineer · Senior PHP / Laravel Developer

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South Africa · Remote

SUMMARY

Full-stack engineer with **5 years building and running production PHP/Laravel systems as a sole engineer**. I specialise in modernising legacy codebases against live, revenue-carrying systems: layering modern Laravel over WordPress/WooCommerce back ends without downtime. I also work directly with non-technical clients, handling scoping, training, documentation, and technical escalation.

EXPERIENCE

Modatechs — Full Stack Engineer (Founder) 2022 – present · self-employed, remote
Independent engineering practice. I own the full lifecycle for every client: architecture, build, deployment, integrations, documentation, training, and ongoing support. The sole technical resource for non-technical business owners.

Stargas — headless LPG e-commerce platform stargas.co.za · sole developer

- **Modernised a legacy WordPress/WooCommerce platform without disrupting the live store:** layered a headless Laravel 12 frontend over it (REST v3 + Store API) with ~200 ms server response.
- **Own features end-to-end:** scope directly with the business owner, build, test, deploy, iterate. Examples: installation-package checkout flows and an automated voucher system with a scoped REST API.
- Refactored untested customer-facing pricing code **behind characterization tests, with zero regression in production**, reducing technical debt safely. Pest (unit/feature) and Playwright (E2E) coverage on critical paths.
- Dual payment gateways (PayFast, PayFlex BNPL) with **anti-forgery webhook verification; technical escalation point** for payment issues, from client-facing diagnosis through to provider-level resolution.
- MySQL against a live commerce catalogue: schema, query optimisation, and a 3-layer caching strategy.

Alfa Forni SA — pizza-oven storefront alfaovens.co.za

- Custom Laravel frontend over WooCommerce: responsive catalogue and checkout, ~1.5 s page loads.
- **Train the client's non-technical team** on their platform and act as their sole technical escalation point; I also run their Meta advertising.

Future Secured — precious-metals e-commerce futuresecured.co.za

- **Revamping and fixing an existing live WordPress/WooCommerce platform** (gold & silver coin trading): redesign, functionality repairs, and ongoing development.
- Set up and **trained the client's staff** to manage product listings independently.

Brooks Gym — gym website brooksgym.co.za

- Designed, built and launched solo: **Laravel back end, MySQL, Bootstrap front end, WordPress integration**. Mobile-first and SEO-optimised.

BACKEND

- PHP 8.2 · Laravel 12 (Blade, Eloquent, queues, migrations)
- REST API design & integration
- Python · Bash

FRONTEND

- JavaScript · Alpine.js
- HTML/CSS · Bootstrap · Tailwind · Vite
- Responsive UI owned end-to-end

DATABASE

- MySQL: schema design, query optimisation, indexing in production

LEGACY & PLATFORMS

- WordPress/WooCommerce internals (themes, plugins, REST)
- Legacy PHP modernisation on live systems

CLOUD & DEVOPS

- DigitalOcean (via Laravel Forge)
- AWS Route 53 · cPanel
- Docker · Git

INTEGRATIONS

- SAML 2.0 SSO (SP implementation, onelogin/php-saml) · OAuth2
- Payments: PayFast, PayFlex (OAuth2)
- Shipping · transactional email
- Meta & Google APIs · webhook security

WAYS OF WORKING

- Self-managed ticketing & briefs
- Sprint-style delivery with non-technical stakeholders
- Client training & documentation