

TERRY J. VIRDELL

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DIRECTOR • SENIOR MANAGER • PRINCIPAL ARCHITECT • DATA ENGINEER

Healthcare Data Engineering | Cloud Data Platforms (AWS/Azure/Databricks/GCP) | IT Strategy & Governance
Interoperability & Compliance | Budget & Operations Management | Compliance (FHIR/FDA/SOC2)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Strategic Technology Director & Hands-On Architect with 15+ years of experience bridging the gap between organizational strategy and complex engineering execution. A 'Leader with a Heart' with a proven track record of managing **\$2.4M+ operational budgets**, leading diverse teams of **30+ staff (onshore/offshore)**, and maintaining a **98% retention rate** through inclusive mentorship. Simultaneously serves as a principal technical contributor with deep expertise in **Databricks Lakehouse, Python Automation, and HL7 FHIR/USCDI compliance**. Expert in establishing 'Zero-Fail' quality governance for massive datasets, having validated **20M+ healthcare records**, achieved **zero critical production defects** over 15 years, and secured **\$13M+ in annual cost avoidance**. Specializes in guiding organizations through digital transformation, vendor consolidation, and regulatory compliance (HIPAA/SOC2/FDA) while ensuring technology investments directly support mission goals.

CORE SKILLS

Healthcare Data, Medical Device & AI Compliance

- **Interoperability:** HL7 FHIR R4, USCDI v3, CMS Mandates (HTI-1), SMART on FHIR
- **Medical Device (FDA):** IEC 62304, ISO 14971 (Risk Mgmt.), 21 CFR Part 820, SaMD
- **Data Engineering:** ETL / ELT Pipelines, Data Ingestion, & Lakehouse Architecture
- **Privacy Engineering:** De-Identification, Synthetic Data Generation (Generative AI), SOC2, HIPAA
- **Payer/Provider Data:** Claims (X12 837/835), Clinical, PBM, & Clearinghouse Standards
- **AI & Automation:** Python, SQL, Red Gate, Postman AI, Cursor AI, Claude, Gemini, LLM-Assisted Dev

Executive Leadership, IT Operations & Cloud Platform

- **Strategic Leadership:** IT Strategy, Change Management, Emotional Intelligence (EQ), Negotiation
- **IT Operations (Ops):** Infrastructure & Hardware Oversight, Helpdesk/Service Delivery, Cybersecurity
- **Resource Management:** Budget Ownership (\$2.4M+), Vendor Negotiation, & Org Scaling
- **Cloud Architecture:** AWS, Azure, GCP, API Gateways, Databricks, IaC (Terraform)
- **DevSecOps:** CI/CD Pipelines, Docker/Kubernetes, Observability (DataDog/Elastic), Security Scanning
- **QA & Performance:** Test Automation Frameworks, Load/Stress Testing (50k+ Users)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

YOUR DATA HEALTH, Bellevue, WA

Principal Clinical Data Architect & Compliance Consultant

01/2026 - Present

- **Strategic Advisory:** Provide fractional CTO-level leadership for HealthTech startups, guiding architecture for **HTI-1, USCDI v3**, and CMS interoperability mandates. Prepare engineering teams for **investor diligence (Series A/B)** by auditing data integrity and scalability.
- **Compliance & Security Architecture:** Audit and remediate **ETL pipelines** and **FHIR resources** to ensure strict adherence to **HIPAA, Privacy Rule**, and **CMS compliance**. Design "Zero-Trust" privacy pipelines and **automated de-identification** protocols to protect PHI in cloud environments.
- **AI-Driven Innovation:** Serve as principal architect for rapid prototypes using **Python, GCP, and React**. Leverage **LLM-assisted development** (Cursor AI, Claude, Gemini) and **Postman AI** to build automated validation tools that accelerate time-to-market.

OPALA, Remote

Manager, Software Engineering & Data Quality, Principal Quality Engineer

09/2020 - 11/2025

- **Startup Scaling & Leadership:** As a founding technical leader, built the Quality Engineering and Data Validation capabilities from the ground up. Scaled the team and culture, establishing the 'QA Guild' to drive engineering excellence and defining **OKRs** that aligned technical execution with business goals.
- **Engineering Management:** Partnered cross-functionally to deliver high-volume APIs for major healthcare payers (Premera, Providence). Managed **technical debt**, resource allocation, and performance calibration for distributed engineering squads.
- **Cloud-Native Architecture:** Architected enterprise-grade test automation and data validation frameworks using **Python and Databricks Lakehouse** across **AWS and Azure**. Integrated modern tooling, including Postman AI, Inferno, Touchstone, and JIRA Xray, into the CI/CD pipeline.
- **Interoperability & Data Integrity:** Led the end-to-end validation of **FHIR-compliant ETL pipelines**, ensuring accuracy for **CMS-mandated Member Attribution, Payer-Provider Data Exchange**, and **Prior Auth** workflows.

- **Privacy Engineering:** Engineered **synthetic data solutions** to meet **SOC2 and HITRUST** requirements, enabling safe, rigorous testing of complex healthcare scenarios without exposing PHI.

PROVIDENCE ST. JOSEPH HEALTH / PROVIDENCE HEALTH & SERVICES, Renton, WA

Director, IS Applications & Services, QA & Automation (Software & Hardware) 11/2017 - 07/2020

- **Operational Oversight & IT Leadership, Hands-On, Mentor:** Directed a diverse department of **30+ staff** (managers, engineers, consultants), ensuring the reliability, security, and performance of enterprise-wide software and hardware infrastructure.
- **Budget & Vendor Management:** Controlled a **\$2.5M operational budget**, successfully driving cost-effectiveness by negotiating vendor contracts, consolidating toolsets, and optimizing external consultant spending.
- **System Reliability & Risk Management:** Architected an enterprise "Defect Prevention Governance" framework that secured **\$13M in annual cost avoidance**. This initiative drastically reduced production outages and safeguarded the integrity of critical patient/member data.
- **Organizational Change & User Support:** Led a massive digital transformation and training initiative, delivering technical upskilling to **1,300+ staff** (PMs, Analysts, Engineers). This program modernized the IT culture and improved service delivery standards across the organization. **Architected and developed** Power BI, Tableau, and custom UI dashboards, measuring success and showing improvements in testing, test plans, test cases, and risk scoring reports for ensuring project success and visibility.
- **Inclusion & Accessibility:** Pioneered the enterprise policy for **508 Compliance**, deploying automated tools to ensure all internal and external applications were accessible to users with disabilities, directly supporting the organization's mission of inclusivity.

Senior Manager, Quality Assurance & Testing (Software & Hardware) 10/2015 - 11/2017

- **Infrastructure & Hardware Oversight:** Managed the 'Software & Hardware' Testing Center of Excellence, ensuring the operational readiness of **225+ annual IT projects** ranging from clinical application updates to infrastructure upgrades.
- **Service Delivery Optimization:** Boosted project schedule completion rates and eliminated major production disruptions by standardizing IT protocols, serving as the backbone for reliable application delivery.
- **Medical Device & Imaging Validation:** Led validation for critical clinical hardware, including **remote telehealth robots, ER wireless stethoscopes, and FDA-regulated monitoring devices** (bedboards, cameras). Validated medical imaging software to prevent critical defects in patient scan storage.
- **Staff Leadership:** Maintained a **98% retention rate** during complex organizational changes by prioritizing mentorship, professional development, and culture-aligning technical teams with the organization's mission.

QA Manager, IS Business Process Manager, ICD-10 Testing Lead 06/2013 - 10/2015

- **Revenue Cycle Integrity:** Led end-to-end ICD-10 testing across Epic EMR and 18 downstream billing systems, validating **EDI 837 claims and 835 remittance** transactions to ensure financial compliance.
- **Process Automation:** Automated **10,000+ test cases**, saving **20,000+ manual hours** and ensuring zero revenue loss during the transition.

Amalga QA Manager & Clinical Data Analyst 09/2010 - 06/2013

- **Patient Safety & Clinical Logic:** Developed and validated real-time clinical alerting logic for **Sepsis Scoring, MEWS, and infection tracking**, directly contributing to patient safety initiatives.
- **Data Interoperability:** Consolidated HL7 and Meditech feeds into Amalga data platforms; this logic was later adopted into the Epic EMR standard.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

Expected July 2026: Founder Institute <https://www.fi.co>
February 2025: B.S. Business Administration – IT Management, Western Governors University, Salt Lake City, UT
June 2005: A.A.S. CIS & Business, Bellevue College, Bellevue, WA
Certifications: ISTQB CTAL-TM, ISTQB CTFL, Six Sigma Green Belt, Microsoft Certified Professional, Google Project Manager

COMMUNITY & LEADERSHIP

- Volunteer, Northwest Harvest & regional food banks
- Board Member, Beacon Hill Youth Soccer
- Coach, Seattle CYO Sports (Soccer, Basketball, Track)
- Providence 2019 Emilie Gamelin 'Values in Action – Excellence' Award
- Providence Accessibility Committee - Creator, Chair
- PTO Vice President – Beacon Hill Elementary