KIRSTEN TANAKA

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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Data engineer focused on reliable pipelines and numbers the business can trust.
- Experience across 3 employers, most recently as Data Platform Engineer at Nimbus Energy.
- Enjoy turning messy source data into clean, documented models.
- Known for clear communication with colleagues and for following work through to the end.

EDUCATION

University of Leeds — **Leeds**

BSc Mathematics and Statistics — *2018*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Nimbus Energy — **Chicago, IL**

Data Platform Engineer — *Nov 2024 – Present*

- Ran fortnightly office hours for analysts with data questions.
- Built a self-serve dataset catalogue so analysts could find tables without asking.
- Worked with analysts to define one set of customer metrics used across the business.
- Partnered with security to mask personal data in non-production copies.
- Rebuilt the nightly sales models so finance had numbers by 7am instead of midday.

Bluefin Retail — **Chicago, IL**

Analytics Engineer — *Feb 2023 – Oct 2024*

- Built a cost dashboard that showed each team what its queries cost.
- Set up access controls so sensitive tables were only visible to approved roles.
- Rewrote slow transformation jobs and cut nightly runtime from five hours to ninety minutes.
- Introduced data quality checks that caught bad supplier feeds before they reached dashboards.

Sable Logistics Tech — **Chicago, IL**

BI Developer — *Apr 2021 – Jan 2023*

- Cut warehouse compute cost by 35% by partitioning large tables and removing unused models.
- Created a backfill process that reloaded three years of history in a weekend.
- Built batch and streaming pipelines feeding the company's reporting layer for 51 business teams.

PROJECTS

Public transport delays dashboard (side project)

- Planned and delivered it alongside day-to-day work, with a written plan and agreed success measures.
- Shared the results with the wider team and kept the documentation up to date.

Kaggle: retail demand forecasting

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- Shared the results with the wider team and kept the documentation up to date.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages & tools: Kafka
General: SQL, Git, Looker, Data modelling
Languages: English (Fluent), German (B2)

Python Airflow

CERTIFICATIONS

- Google Cloud Digital Leader
- Data Engineering Fundamentals (online)

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Volunteer at a local food bank twice a month.
- Organiser of a monthly running club with around 30 members.

REFERENCE

Gavin Wright
Engineering Manager, Corvid Media
Contact: gavin@example.com