RESUME

Sean Canady

TECHNOLOGY OFFICER

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Location: Tampa, Florida

PROFILE

Thirty years leading strategy, architecture, AI, data, engineering, and security. Delivered at every level, from building IT operations at a growing software company to leading technology for NYL Direct, the direct-to-consumer business of New York Life. Developed leaders who went on to become a CIO, a CTO, and principal architects, with others moving into senior business leadership. Deep experience in life insurance and regulated financial services, where systems have to work every day.

22%

YEAR-OVER-YEAR THROUGHPUT GAIN

More business value delivered at NYL Direct, alongside new innovation and business capabilities

30+

YEARS LEADING TECHNOLOGY

From building IT operations to leading technology for a Fortune 100 insurer's direct business

$40M+

ACTIVE TECHNOLOGY PORTFOLIO

Spanning platforms, data, infrastructure, security, and AI

150+

TECHNOLOGY TEAM

Across architecture, data, infrastructure, security, and delivery

EXPERIENCE

New York Life Insurance Company

Technology Officer, NYL Direct Oct 2024 — Present

VP-level technology executive reporting to the Division CIO of NYL Direct, the direct-to-consumer business of New York Life (the largest U.S. mutual life insurer) and home of the AARP Life Insurance Program. Leads architecture, AI, data, business technology transformation, engineering enablement (agentic SDLC transformation), and technology strategy across a technology portfolio of more than $40M and a team of more than 150.

- Enabled NYL Direct to keep growing efficiently while the broader life insurance market stayed level or declined, on a near-flat technology budget
- Increased delivery throughput of business value by 22% year over year while expanding innovation and business enablement
- Won a 2026 Info-Tech Innovator of the Year award for the AI and data work led with the NYL Direct technology teams
- Created and leads the business AI transformation program: employee AI enablement with significant adoption across the organization, agentic enablement for targeted process transformation, and domain-level transformation redesigning entire functions for end-to-end growth and efficiency

- Moved engineering to a governance-first agentic development lifecycle: AI governance and responsible AI guardrails, agent workflows, a multi-platform AI reference architecture, and development standards for AI-assisted teams
- Led the hybrid compute strategy, moving most platforms to the cloud and each to a fit-for-purpose home
- Advanced modernization and new business capabilities while keeping the portfolio self-funded, with cybersecurity, infrastructure, and regulatory readiness part of every platform decision

CVP, Technology Architecture and Data Management Jun 2010 — Oct 2024

Led architecture and data management across a long stretch of modernization work, building standards, governance, and integration patterns that teams could use in practice.

- Built the enterprise architecture practice across application, data, integration, and infrastructure domains
- Led data management strategy across warehousing, governance, and analytics
- Set technology standards and governance adopted by delivery teams across the enterprise
- Led architecture for the modernization of core life insurance platforms while the business kept running
- Grew the architecture and data teams from 10 people to as many as 40 and led them through multi-year transformation and modernization initiatives
- Developed leaders who went on to CIO, CTO, and principal architect roles, with several moving into senior business leadership

AEGON

Integration Manager Aug 2009 — Jun 2010

- Led enterprise integration strategy and implementation built on insurance industry standards (ACORD), enabling agility and reuse across systems
- Brought event-driven architecture and real-time data delivery into production
- Directed SOA adoption and governance across distributed teams

Applications Architect Nov 2007 — Aug 2009

- Defined application architecture direction aligned to enterprise priorities
- Established the SOA standards later adopted across distributed teams
- Led architecture for platform implementation and legacy modernization
- Aligned business and technology teams on the architecture direction

Technical Manager, Middleware Dec 2000 — Nov 2007

- Ran the enterprise middleware platform behind the company's business-critical applications
- Led the middleware team through successive platform upgrades and migrations
- Established integration patterns and standards for distributed systems

ECI Software Solutions

Director of Information Systems Sep 1996 — May 2000

- Built IT operations and infrastructure from the ground up
- Built internal applications the business ran on, from database design to delivery
- Ran production operations that stayed stable, secure, and available as the company grew
- Built the technical foundation that carried the company through its growth and acquisition

Earlier roles

eCommerce Developer, TRADE'ex Electronic Commerce Systems, Inc. (1996) · Systems Administrator, Utility Partners (1995)

EDUCATION

Bachelor's in Information Systems
Eckerd College

CERTIFICATIONS

Google AI Professional Certificate
Google

SAFe (Scaled Agile Framework) Program Consultant (SPC)
Scaled Agile, Inc.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Technology Leadership · Enterprise Architecture · AI & Machine Learning Strategy · Digital Transformation · Data Strategy & Analytics · Integration Architecture · Life Insurance Domain