

Steven Liemberg

Backend Developer

✉ stevenliemberg@gmail.com ☎ [+31623897044](tel:+31623897044) 📍 Groningen, NL 🌐 <https://www.stevenliemberg.nl>

Summary

Backend Developer with deep expertise in PHP/Laravel and strong front-end skills. I made a deliberate pivot from communications to product development driven by a passion for taking ideas from concept to production and delivering tangible user value. I thrive in end-to-end projects and am eager to leverage cutting-edge tools, including AI, to create smarter solutions.

Experience

Soly Hybrid
Senior Back-End Developer Apr 2022 – Present (3 years and 9 months)

- Backend architecture and long-term technical strategy for a fast-growing solar energy platform using Laravel (PHP)
- Designed and implemented scalable microservices and complex features supporting multi-country expansion and rebranding across 5+ markets
- Drove modernization of legacy codebase: phased out Symfony components and unified architecture on Laravel + Angular stack
- Mentor junior and mid-level developers, conduct in-depth code reviews, and enforce development best practices
- Built and maintained internal developer tooling
- Collaborate closely with product owners, frontend (Angular) team, designers, and external API partners to deliver high-quality features at scale
- Occasionally contribute to WordPress ecosystem (ACF + Sage/Bedrock/Acorn) for marketing and landing pages

Technologies: Laravel, PHP 8+, MySQL, Angular, REST APIs, Git, Linux/Nginx,

WeBlog Media B.V. (acquired part of Pijper Media) Groningen, Netherlands
Medior Developer Jul 2019 – Mar 2022 (2 years and 9 months)

- Core member of 5-person dev team building marketing and content tools + maintaining high-traffic magazine websites (Panorama, Grazia, Playboy, Nieuwe Revu, etc.)
- Designed and developed dashboards, admin panels, and user-facing features in Laravel and Vue.js
- Integrated 15+ external platforms and APIs (payment, analytics, advertising)
- Significantly improved page load times and Core Web Vitals scores across portfolio through caching, lazy loading, and database optimization
- Post-acquisition (May 2020): took ownership of custom Laravel CMS and multiple WordPress installations

Technologies: PHP, Laravel, WordPress, Vue.js, Vuex, Bootstrap, MySQL, GitLab CI/CD, Laravel Forge/Envoyer, Sentry, Nginx

Hificorner.nl & Butterstreet 21 (sister companies) Groningen, Netherlands
Full-Stack Web Developer Mar 2017 – Sep 2018 (1 year and 7 months)

- Built and maintained multiple Lightspeed e-commerce webshops in high-end audio sector
- Developed custom modules: advanced product configurator, VIP subscription system, flash-sale engine with real-time stock and countdown
 - Led migration of several customer shops from Magento 1 to Lightspeed
 - Integrated with external inventory systems and price comparison platforms (Tweakers Pricewatch)

Technologies: Lightspeed (Retail & HQ), PHP, JavaScript, MySQL, REST APIs, jQuery

Freelance / Short-term Contracts (selected)

Groningen, Netherlands

Developer

2013 – 2019

- Contributed to a SaaS debt-collection platform
- Developed interactive booking system with map integration (Camping Stadspark)
- Created voter-matching tool for municipality elections (Westerwold)
- Delivered custom CSV product importer for e-commerce clients (PromoCat)

Technologies: PHP, Laravel/Symfony components, vanilla JavaScript, MySQL

Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert/Core: PHP, Laravel, MySQL, REST APIs, Git, Linux, NGINX • Front-End/Frameworks: Angular, Vue.js, JavaScript, Bootstrap, Tailwind • CI/CD/DevOps: Gitlab CI/CD, Sentry, Laravel Forge/Envoyer • Familiar/Other: Alpine, Livewire, Fusion 360, Affinity designer, Davinci Resolve 	
Education	<p>NHL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities and societies: Minor concepting, Minor ondernemen, Minor crossmedia, Mjuks • Co-founded and organized “Alter Ego” festival for emerging artists: developed concept, branding, PR, sponsorships, and website • Created complete branding and go-to-market strategy for streetwear brand AK47 (research, visual identity, marketing plan) • Designed and executed viral marketing campaign for social platform Mindz.com • Led promotional campaign for “Kinder Kampeer Dagen” (project management, web design, illustration, print) • Directed Mjuks online video magazine: video editing, audio post-production, workflow optimization, team coordination • Delivered campaigns and designs for Leeuwarder Bioscopen, Dierenpark Emmen, Veilig Verkeer Nederland, and Exposure 08 festival • 6 month Internship at Strawberry Fields agency in Groningen. <p>H.N. Werkman College</p>	<p>Communication & Multimedia Design (Bachelor) 2007 - 2013</p> <p>Havo 2001 - 2007</p> <p>Profile: Cultuur & Maatschappij. subjects: Subjects: Dutch, English, German, Mathematics B1 and 2, Art History, Arts & Crafts, Economics, Physical Education.</p>