

Jason "Jbear" Brower

Technical Product Owner · Co-founder

20+ years building products from prototype to revenue

🇺🇸 English (Native) 🇫🇮 Finnish (Basic)

What I'm Doing Now

Kirppishaku

Founder · since Jan 2026

A search platform for Finnish second-hand marketplaces. Built solo end-to-end with AI-assisted development (Python/FastAPI · Vue · Docker).

Visit site

https://kirppishaku.fi/

Founders of Oulu

Co-founder · since Jan 2026

Co-founded an Oulu founder community. Within month one: **5 events and seminars taught**. Revenue rolls forward into new founder initiatives.

Visit site

https://foundersofoulu.com/

Trusted Cofounder

Co-founder & Community Manager · since Dec 2025

Help founders connect with the teams they need. I run education, evangelism, and events that match builders with the right people.

Visit site

https://trustedcofounder.com/

Polar Bear Pitching

Official Ambassador · since Sep 2013

Long-running ambassador role for one of the most distinctive startup pitching events in the Nordics.

Visit site

https://polarbearpitching.com/

About Me

I'm a senior developer turned product owner. I bring product discovery and innovation management to teams that need both vertical and horizontal innovation — plus the speaking and voice-acting chops to translate that energy to product development, teams, and customers.

Linux has been my only OS for over 20 years, and I'm a long-time supporter of open source.

I enjoy building amazing products. It doesn't have to be new or customer-facing — I remember helping build a paint mixing machine, and with the right story in your heart you can find great joy in what you're building. I'm known to inspire my team, attach what we love to the product, and good vibes follow.

📧 encompass@gmail.com | 📱 +358 40 687 9999 | 📍 Pälli, Muhos, Finland (https://maps.app.goo.gl/Ezu6bxSrxnY373tS7)

LinkedIn
linkedin.com/in/encompass

GitHub
github.com/encompass

GitLab
gitlab.com/encompass1

Gravatar
gravatar.com/skunkyjay

Professional Experience

Founder
Kirppishaku | Jan 2026 - Present

Founded Kirppishaku, a search platform for Finnish second-hand marketplaces. Built solo end-to-end with AI-assisted development (Claude Code, Gemini): Python/FastAPI backend, mobile-first Vue/Tailwind frontend, SQLite, and Docker-based deployment to Hetzner with managed SSL.

RELATED LINKS

kirppishaku.fi
kirppishaku.fi

Entrepreneurship | Innovation Management | Negotiation | Product Owner | Product Discovery | User Experience | Mobile-First Design | Project Management | AI-Assisted Development | AI Integration | Python | FastAPI | Vue | Tailwind | Docker | Hetzner | SQLite | SSL/TLS Certificates | Javascript | HTML | CSS | Claude | Gemini

Co-founder
Founders of Oulu | Jan 2026 - Present

Co-founded Founders of Oulu, a community for startup founders in the Oulu region. Lead networking, community, and education. **Within the first month, landed and taught 5 events and seminars** — revenue is rolled forward into new and innovative ways for the association to create business.

RELATED LINKS

foundersofoulu.com
foundersofoulu.com

Networking | Public Speaking | Hosting | Teaching | Community Management | Entrepreneurship | Innovation Management | Project Management

Co-founder & Community Manager
Trusted Cofounder | Dec 2025 - Present

Co-founded Trusted Cofounder. As Community Manager, I educate, evangelize, and promote events and services that help founders connect with the teams they need to build and grow.

RELATED LINKS

trustedcofounder.com
www.trustedcofounder.com

Podcasting | Entrepreneurship | Negotiation | Networking | Public Speaking | Teaching | Hosting | Community Management | Innovation Management

Chief Technology Officer
Alvidiotech | Jan 2025 - Jan 2026

Led technology strategy and development. Drove **+€300/month in additional sales within the first month** of joining. Particular focus on Kimberlite, a B2B machine and website for second-hand products and stores — took it from paper prototype to first bills.
Modernized ageing point-of-sale machines with a tablet application, and designed the bridging hardware that lets it talk to them — built on an **RP2040** microcontroller.
Pitched investors, negotiated with customers, and presented product at booths and events.

Automation | Digital Fabrication | Embedded Systems | Legacy Modernization | Bash | Microcontrollers | PostgreSQL | React | RP2040 | AI Integration | Innovation Management | Mobile-First Design | Negotiation | Networking | Product Discovery | Project Management | Product Owner | Public Speaking | User Experience | Claude | FastAPI | Gemini | HTML | Javascript | Python | Tailwind

Official Ambassador
Polar Bear Pitching | Sep 2013 - Present

Official mascot. Build brand, morale, and help select and interview startups. Media forward roll with a lot of public appearance skills needed. One fun side project was developing the trophies for the winners.

RELATED LINKS

polarbearpitching.com
polarbearpitching.com

Film Acting | Voice Acting | Community Management | Entrepreneurship | Hosting | Networking | Public Speaking

Innovator and Developer
Roihuan Oy | Dec 2021 - Jun 2023

Grew and developed new products in partnership with large industries. Worked with **10+ clients** on next-generation product designs — including several high-pressure projects to set new direction and recover from difficult development situations.
Pohde: consolidated hundreds of separate services into a single regional health-care platform serving **thousands of citizens daily**.

Delivered ahead of schedule with a team of two.
Tosibox: took over a rebuild the team was about to abandon in favour of keeping the old site, reframed it around the Finnish folk story of the Red Fox, and shipped it. The relationship outlasted the engagement — Tosibox asked to keep working with me after I changed companies.

RELATED LINKS

pohde.fi
pohde.fi

tosibox.com
tosibox.com

High-Availability Systems | Typescript | WordPress CMS

Automation | Innovation Management | Project Management | Product Discovery | Bash | Javascript | PostgreSQL | React | Vue

Chief Technology Officer
Attractive Experiences Oy | Jan 2020 - Sep 2021

Created an AI that found user experience and accessibility issues in websites. **Led a small team of 3** — developing alongside the team and managing the project end-to-end.

Scrum | AWS

AI Integration | Automation | Digital Fabrication | Entrepreneurship | Innovation Management | Project Management | Networking | User Experience | Bash | HTML | PostgreSQL | Python | Vue

Chief Technology Officer
Kuulu Oy Digital Marketing | Feb 2019 - Dec 2019

Created digital marketing and financial automation solutions for both internal and external user. Created wordpress and hubspot websites for customers and did voice acting as well. Still do occasional voice acting as needed as a side hustle.

RELATED LINKS

kuulu.fi
kuulu.fi

Hubspot CMS

Automation | Networking | Voice Acting | User Experience | Bash | HTML | PostgreSQL | Python | Vue

Senior Developer
Industryhack | Oct 2016 - Jan 2023

Worked with developer community and industry leaders to create a platform improving the industryhack innovation process. Helped inspire development teams to come up with bold products for very large industry leaders. **Company eventually acquired by Spinverse.**

Django

Entrepreneurship | Networking | Public Speaking | CSS | HTML | PostgreSQL

Business Developer
Oulu Business School | May 2016 - Sep 2017

Worked with Avanto Accelerator on early stage ideas, taught technical courses in HTML, CSS, Python and Javascript to students and public.

Entrepreneurship | Public Speaking | Teaching | CSS | HTML | Javascript | Python

Architect and Senior Developer
elfGROUP Cyber Security | May 2015 - Oct 2016

Worked with ideas and developed products for large and small companies.
Developed deployment technologies and worked with a small team to create consistent releases according to specifications from the customer.

Bootstrap Flask

Scrum HTML Javascript Python

CEO, Developer
Encompass Solutions Oy | 2009 - Sep 2014

Helped startups progress by developing high-end platforms in the latest technologies faster and more affordably than competitors. Created a hackathon-style sales model to establish strong client relationships. Developed our own product InterestID — a conferencing networking tool that **connected thousands of people** at events — eventually sold to Yrittäjät.

Entrepreneurship Innovation Management Negotiation Scrum AWS HTML PostgreSQL Python

Chief Technical Officer
Minus Degree Mobile Oy | Apr 2013 - Aug 2014

Managed development team for mobile app with heavy web backend, created analytics and UI elements using Free Software. Managed a small team in creating the mobile front end for Melodigram.

Entrepreneurship Innovation Management Scrum AWS HTML Javascript PostgreSQL Python

Senior Software Developer / Product Owner
Codemate (now a Reaktor family company) | Mar 2011 - Jul 2012

Built **kaleva.fi** for Kaleva, the largest newspaper in Northern Finland, serving **thousands of concurrent readers**. **Migrated the legacy ColdFusion platform onto Django in pieces, under live traffic — never a full rewrite.** That backend and much of the front end are still running today.
Joined a team that was struggling and helped turn it around; a month in, the Head of Kaleva Digital thanked me for it.
Also glued systems together for other customers — I like making the whole work better than its parts.

RELATED LINKS

kaleva.fi
www.kaleva.fi

ColdFusion

Scrum High-Availability Systems Legacy Modernization Product Owner Project Management CSS Django HTML Javascript Python

Senior Software Developer
Xemec Oy | Oct 2009 - Feb 2011

Fullstack developer for an automated paint tinting machine. Handled all communication between the customer and the mixer.

Scrum CSS HTML Python

Backend Developer
Profoundic Technologies | Mar 2009 - Oct 2009

Subcontract work with KONE, on solutions that impacted all elevators, escalators, and sliding doors worldwide. **Replaced a slow Java packaging process with dynamically built Jython packages, taking release cadence from one update every three weeks to at least one a week** — modernized in place, never a full rewrite. When leaving, I also hired and trained the new employee.

Java Jython TCL

Scrum Legacy Modernization HTML Python

Webpage Developer

Queen Bee Radio | Jan 2005 - Jan 2011

Created the webpage for WGLR radio, a country radio station from Wisconsin. Built a simple chat room for the morning show. Developed many new concepts to bring more people to the site and radio station. The logo I designed for them is **still in use nearly 20 years later**.

RELATED LINKS

wglr.com
www.wglr.com

PHP

Innovation Management | Scrum | HTML | Javascript

Selected Projects

Polar Bear Badges

Builder · Founders of Oulu · Mar 2026 — present

Live-print event badges from any browser. Attendees edit their own info before check-in and scan each other's badges to connect — no more rummaging through stacks of pre-printed name tags.

Built for Founders of Oulu events. Removes the 1+ minute per attendee typically lost finding the right pre-printed badge at the door.

Kirppishaku

Founder · Independent · 2026 — present

A search platform for Finnish second-hand marketplaces — find listings across multiple kirppis sites in one place.

Solo-built end-to-end with AI-assisted development (Claude Code, Gemini). Shipped production v1 in months.

Visit site
https://kirppishaku.fi/

Kaleva.fi — Newspaper Platform

Developer · Codemate (now a Reaktor family company) · 2011 — 2012

The digital platform for the largest newspaper in Northern Finland, serving thousands of concurrent readers. The legacy ColdFusion stack was migrated onto Django in pieces, under live traffic, instead of being rewritten.

Shipped by a team that had been struggling. ***The backend and much of the front end are still running today****, more than a decade later.*

Visit site
https://www.kaleva.fi/

Tosibox.com — Site Rebuild

Innovator and Developer · Roihuan Oy · 2021 — 2023

A rebuild the team was ready to abandon in favour of keeping the old site. Reframed around the Finnish folk story of the Red Fox — with the product as the fox — which brought the team back to the work.

Shipped, and the relationship outlasted the engagement: ***Tosibox asked to keep working with me after I changed companies****.*

Visit site
https://tosibox.com/

Pohde — Regional Health Platform

Developer · Roihuan Oy · 2022 — 2023

Hundreds of separate municipal and hospital services consolidated behind one brand and one navigation model for the whole Northern Ostrobothnia region — every citizen's route into health care.

*Built by a team of two and delivered **ahead of schedule**. Serves thousands of citizens daily.*

Visit site
https://pohde.fi/

Education & Achievements

Bachelor of Business Information Technology
Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences | 2009

Haaga-Helia Linux Club
Founder and President | 2007 - 2009

Created the Haaga-Helia Linux Club, organized classes for real credits and conferences for students

Intern Developer
Participatory Culture Foundation | May 2008 - Nov 2008

Worked on Miro developer recruitment and development of Miro Guide and Player

Google Summer of Code
Ubuntu | 2008

Developed an application for teachers to grade and teach Python to students

Skills Breakdown

Programming & Scripting Languages

Bash | ColdFusion | Java | Javascript | Jython | PHP | Python | TCL | TypeScript

Frameworks & Tools

Bootstrap | Django | FastAPI | Flask | Hubspot CMS | Node | React | Tailwind | Vue | Web2py | WordPress CMS

Hardware & Embedded

Microcontrollers | Point of Sale Systems | RP2040

Databases

PostgreSQL | SQLite

DevOps & Infrastructure

AWS | Cloudflare Workers | DNS Management | Docker | Hetzner | Logging | Nginx | SSL/TLS Certificates

Document Development

CSS | HTML | Jinja | Markdown | PDF | SVG

Software Tools

Audacity | ffmpeg | Gimp | Git | Google Suite | Inkscape | OBS Studio | Office 365 | Trello | VS Code

AI Tools

ChatGPT | Claude | Claude CLI | Gemini | Gemma | Jan | Ollama | Vertex AI

General Expertise

AI-Assisted Development | AI Integration | Automation | Community Management | Digital Fabrication | Embedded Systems | Entrepreneurship | Film Acting | High-Availability Systems | Hosting | Innovation Management | Legacy Modernization | Mobile-First Design | Negotiation | Networking | Podcasting | Product Discovery | Product Owner | Project Management | Public Speaking | Scrum | Teaching | User Experience | Voice Acting

What People Say



Maja Terning
Specialist in Arctic Business, Business Oulu

"Jason is an exceptional developer and product owner. His unique approach to innovation has helped us achieve remarkable results."



Pekka Aarikallio
Investor, Q-Stock Founder

"Jason Brower, a pioneer in browser innovations, turning forks into startups and boldly stepping into lands where others haven't even dared to dream. The world needs more people like Jason - BIG HEART! ❤️"



Gleb Buligin
Super Fab Lab Oulu

"If people skills had a name, it would be Jason. I had the chance to work with him at Fab Lab, where I saw not only his ability to turn ideas into working prototypes, but also his natural talent for connecting with people effortlessly"



Viera Karam
Head of Polar Bear Pitching, Business Oulu

"Jason combines extensive experience in software and innovation with a proven ability to launch and grow multiple projects. His strength lies in solving complex problems with both strategic business understanding and creative thinking, making him a reliable and impactful contributor to any team."



Curtis Thomas
CEO, Trusted Cofounder

"Jason is the most people-centric person I know, equally at ease with a first-time student founder and a seasoned exec in the boardroom. It's the same instinct behind Trusted Cofounder and the podcast he hosts: read people clearly, draw them out, match them to what they actually need."



Tuomas Jomppanen
Startup Whisperer at Business Corner

"I've known Jason for years and he has been a force of nature ever since. He is friendly, helpful and extremely curious person. It also means he is always the first to know newest technologies and has the rare insight how to use them in the real world."

In the Media



Polar Bear Pitching Show Reel

Official 2026 show reel for Polar Bear Pitching.



Polar Bear Pitching

Watch Jason as the official mascot of Polar Bear Pitching.



Cave Digger 2

Trailer for Cave Digger 2 — voice acting work.



Polar Bear Pitching Highlights

Highlights from the world's coolest startup event.



Enter the Hero (feat. Jbear & Will Diesoon)

Lead vocals on a fun experiment in a genre best described as 1980s synth B-movie trailer.



Ginolis Automated Lateral Flow Device Assembly Solutions

Professional voice-over for Ginolis, showcasing their automated assembly solutions for lateral flow diagnostic devices.



Catch the Fish

Voice-over for an animated short — a fun, fast-turnaround project.



BBC Reel: The world's 'coolest' pitching contest

Polar Bear Pitching featured on BBC Reel — Oulu's annual startup competition in the frozen Baltic Sea.



AISpotter Video Analytics Service Introduction

Professional voice-over introducing AISpotter's video analytics service.