

Ali Gharehgozloo

UI/UX Designer, Full Stack Developer, and IT Systems professional — a comprehensive record of experience across design, software development, IoT/R&D, and network infrastructure.

Mail ali@alircraft.site
Tel +90 533 865 85 93
Web alircraft.site
In [/in/aligharehgozloo](https://in.aligharehgozloo.com)
Loc Famagusta, Cyprus

Profile

UI/UX Designer and Full Stack Developer with a Software Engineering foundation and an unusually broad hands-on background — spanning digital product design, full-stack development (Django/DRF, Next.js/React), DevOps and production infrastructure, IoT/R&D hardware prototyping, network infrastructure, and smart-home/smart-building systems. I design and build digital products end-to-end, from research and wireframes through to production deployment, database tuning, and ongoing operations — and I've spent equal time in the physical world, with cabling, network security, and IoT hardware across five residential/commercial complexes in Cyprus. This document is a comprehensive record of that full history: every role, project, and technical credential, organised chronologically and by discipline. Based in Famagusta, Cyprus, available immediately.

Career Timeline — Overview

Sep 2021	Moved to Cyprus to begin studies in Software Engineering at Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU).
2021 – 2023	Smart Rasa Group — began in media/marketing design (social and print material, marketing film), then moved into infrastructure: cabling, network/security/CCTV across 5 complexes and dozens of residential and commercial sites, and smart-home network technician work for private villas and company clients.
2023 – 2024	Part-time, overlapping with studies — Assistant to the CEO of Smart Rasa Group (who teaches IoT at Cyprus International University, CIU); guest speaker at CIU ; R&D work building an in-house smart-home/smart-complex control hub; LoRaWAN and smart-city research in contact with WOM Technology, Dubai.
Aug 2024 – Jan 2026	Lead UI/UX Designer, Codetoproducts — owned UX/UI and full stack delivery across multiple shipped products, including the Biliyo marketplace app and a Cyprus tourism marketplace app (Technofest). Represented the company at AI Summit 25 and 26, the Cyprus Construction AI Hackathon, and Young Minds – Great Ideas Cyprus (GBYF).
Jan 2026 – Present	Left Codetoproducts to focus on independent work — full-stack development and DevOps for a confidential subscription media platform (Django/DRF, Next.js, Docker, PostgreSQL), a personal project reinventing how UI/UX is taught interactively, freelance design/development, and my graduation project PriceMate , which received an Outstanding Project distinction from EMU's Department of Computer Engineering.

Professional Experience

DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT

Lead UI/UX Designer & Full Stack Developer

Aug 2024 — Jan 2026

Codetoproducts · Cyprus

Owned UI/UX design and full stack implementation across multiple shipped web products in a startup environment, working directly in production code alongside engineering teams.

- Led UX/UI for a video streaming platform, from concept and wireframes through to a shipped interface.
- Led UI/UX end-to-end for Biliyo, a marketplace platform (see Projects section for full detail).
- Contributed to a Cyprus tourism marketplace app built for Technofest, a national technology exhibition.
- Represented Codetoproducts at public tech events: AI Summit 25 (presented Biliyo), AI Summit 26 (presented MARCS Coach), the Cyprus Construction AI Hackathon (team selected from hundreds of entries), and Young Minds – Great Ideas Cyprus at European University of Lefke (first year the competition ran in the TRNC).
- Built and maintained scalable Figma design systems adopted independently by the engineering team.
- Worked in an Agile workflow, translating product requirements into wireframes, prototypes, and production-ready React/Next.js interfaces.

Figma React Next.js Design Systems Agile

Freelance UI/UX Designer & Full Stack Developer

Jan 2026 — Present

Self-employed · Cyprus

Independent design and development work following departure from Codetoproducts.

- Full-stack development and DevOps for a confidential subscription media platform — Django/DRF backend, Next.js/React frontend, payments and subscription system, custom admin panel, and production infrastructure (see Projects section for full detail).
- Designed and shipped MARCS Coach (marcscoach.site), an AI coaching platform, under a two-week delivery window using an AI-augmented workflow.
- Developing a personal project reinventing how UI/UX is taught — an interactive platform where each design concept is demonstrated through direct interaction with the component itself, rather than static explanation.
- Completed PriceMate as a graduation project (full detail in Projects section) — received Outstanding Project distinction.

Django Next.js React PostgreSQL Docker Figma AI-Augmented Workflow

IT, INFRASTRUCTURE & R&D

Assistant to CEO (part-time) & R&D Contributor

2023 — 2024

Smart Rasa Group · Cyprus (overlapping with studies at EMU)

Part-time role alongside university studies, working directly with the CEO of Smart Rasa Group, who teaches the IoT course at Cyprus International University (CIU).

- Guest speaker at CIU — delivered a talk titled "Discovering IoT: The Starting Point to Smart Living."
- R&D: co-built an in-house, multi-purpose hardware control hub for smart-home devices and IoT infrastructure across smart complexes.

- Conducted LoRaWAN and smart-city equipment research in direct contact with WOM Technology, a technology company based in Dubai.

IoT LoRaWAN Hardware Prototyping R&D Python

Network Technician & Infrastructure Installer

2021 — 2023

Smart Rasa Group · Cyprus

Began in media/marketing design before transitioning into hands-on infrastructure work, which then overlapped with smart-home technician duties.

- Designed social and print marketing material and shot/edited marketing film (early role, before transitioning fully to infrastructure).
- Built the full cabling infrastructure for Isatis (a Smart Rasa B2B client) at their Iskele Orchard main office.
- Deployed network, access control, and CCTV systems across 5 residential/commercial complexes and dozens of individual sites — villas, houses, apartments, offices, and workshops.
- Worked as smart-home network technician for private villas and company clients, configuring and maintaining connected home systems.
- Configured MikroTik RouterOS: VLAN, DHCP/DNS, NAT/port forwarding, firewall rules, and bandwidth queues.

MikroTik RouterOS VLAN/DHCP/DNS CCTV Access Control Cabling Smart-Home Systems

PROJECTS — DETAILED

Selected Projects

PriceMate

Graduation Project

Crowdsourced grocery price-comparison Progressive Web App · Outstanding Project Distinction

- Designed and built a full-stack PWA enabling real-time grocery price comparison across multiple supermarket chains, with barcode scanning, store routing, and price history tracking.
- Architected a hybrid AI ingredient-safety pipeline: a deterministic server-side function evaluates allergen and nutritional thresholds before an LLM generates the user-facing response — reducing reliance on model judgment alone for safety-critical output.
- Built on AppWrite (Auth, Database, Storage, Realtime, Functions) with 11 collections and 4 serverless functions; implemented EN/TR localization.
- Two-layer offline architecture: PWA service-worker caching for UI assets, plus a local AppWrite DB cache for product data, with OpenFoodFacts as an external fallback only when online.
- Delivered as coursework for CMSE406/CMSE473 (Group 18), including a full software report with QFD/House of Quality and Ishikawa/fishbone diagrams, and IEEE-format references.
- Received Outstanding Project distinction, Department of Computer Engineering, Eastern Mediterranean University.**

React 19 Vite AppWrite Google Gemini (OpenRouter) OpenStreetMap/OSRM ZXing ExchangeRate-API

MARCS Coach

2026

marcscoach.site · Live · AI Coaching Platform

- AI-powered coaching platform delivering personalised answers shaped around a user's goals, blockers, and life context.
- Designed the marketing landing page end-to-end and consulted on the core AI coach web app interface.

- Delivered under a two-week timeline using an AI-augmented build workflow — moving quickly from concept to shipped product without skipping design fundamentals.
 - Presented at AI Summit 26 (Rauf Raif Denktaş Culture and Congress Center) and at Young Minds – Great Ideas Cyprus, European University of Lefke.
- Next.js

React

Figma

AI Integration

Confidential Client Project — Subscription Media Platform

Freelance / Contract

Full-stack development & DevOps · Production system

- Built and operate the backend (Django/DRF) and frontend (Next.js/React) for a subscription-based media platform end-to-end, spanning account management, content catalog, and a custom internal admin/staff panel with tiered role-based permissions.
- Designed the payments and subscription system, including promotions, revenue analytics split by revenue type and payer status, and active-subscriber tracking surfaced on an internal dashboard.
- Built an AI-assisted content-catalog tool that looks up structured metadata from an external API and uses an LLM to extract and fill in catalog fields, replacing an earlier web-search-based approach after it was blocked in production by a WAF.
- **Diagnosed a production incident involving object storage and re-architected the storage layer with a fail-safe safety gate that hard-blocks destructive delete/upload operations outside production, regardless of local configuration.**
- Integrated a messaging-bot-based account flow (passwordless reset, account linking, permanent audit trail) end-to-end across backend and frontend.
- Built a custom video player and streaming UI (adaptive playback, live-channel support) on the frontend.
- Owned DevOps: multi-service Docker Compose deployment, a custom-tuned database image, automated encrypted backups, and error/observability monitoring; fixed N+1 query patterns and re-tuned database configuration for production load.

Django

Django REST Framework

Next.js

React

PostgreSQL

Docker

JWT

Sentry

S3-compatible storage

Bot API

Biliyo

2024 — 2025

biliyo.app/landing · Marketplace Platform

- Marketplace web and mobile product, originally scoped for second-hand items, later pivoted toward a broader new-and-used marketplace.
- Led UI/UX across listings, search, profile, and transaction flows; conducted research and usability iteration.
- Built a scalable design system and clickable prototypes in Figma, adopted independently by the engineering team.
- Collaborated with engineers in Agile cycles as part of the Codetoproducts team.
- Presented at AI Summit 25, Rauf Raif Denktaş Culture and Congress Center — company booth/stand.

Figma

Design Systems

Prototyping

UX Research

Cyprus Tourism Marketplace App

2024 — 2025

Built for Technofest, a national technology exhibition

- Contributed to a marketplace app concept connecting tourists with local Cyprus experiences and services.
- Part of the Codetoproducts team's presence at Technofest, showcasing local Cyprus-built technology products.

Confidential Client Project — Subscription Media Platform

Freelance / Contract

Full-stack development & DevOps

- Built and operate the backend (Django/DRF) and frontend (Next.js/React) for a subscription-based media platform end-to-end, spanning account management, content catalog, and a custom internal admin/staff panel with tiered role-based permissions.
- Designed the payments and subscription system, including promotions, revenue analytics split by revenue type and payer status, and active-subscriber tracking surfaced on an internal dashboard.
- Built an AI-assisted content-catalog tool that looks up structured metadata from an external API and uses an LLM to extract and fill in catalog fields, replacing an earlier web-search-based approach after it was blocked in production by a WAF.
- **Diagnosed a production incident involving object storage and re-architected the storage layer with a fail-safe safety gate that hard-blocks destructive delete/upload operations outside production, regardless of local configuration.**
- Integrated a messaging-bot-based account flow (passwordless reset, account linking, permanent audit trail) end-to-end across backend and frontend.
- Built a custom video player and streaming UI (adaptive playback, live-channel support) on the frontend.
- Owned DevOps: multi-service Docker Compose deployment, a custom-tuned database image, automated encrypted backups, and error/observability monitoring; fixed N+1 query patterns and re-tuned database configuration for production load.

Django Django REST Framework Next.js React PostgreSQL Docker JWT Sentry S3-compatible storage
Bot API integration

Smart-Home & Smart-Complex Control Hub

2023 — 2024

R&D Prototype · Smart Rasa Group

- Co-developed an in-house, multi-purpose hardware hub controlling smart-home devices within a residence and IoT devices across a smart complex.
- Conducted parallel research into LoRaWAN protocols and smart-city equipment, in collaboration with WOM Technology (Dubai).

IoT LoRaWAN Embedded Systems Python

AliCraft Portfolio

2025 — Present

alcraft.site · Live · Designer & Builder

- Personal portfolio in a neo-brutalist maximalist direction — visual language designed from scratch.
- Built as a production Next.js site with motion design (Framer Motion) and a custom interaction layer.
- Working sandbox for new UI ideas and ongoing design experimentation.

Next.js React Tailwind Framer Motion TypeScript

EVENTS, SPEAKING & SKILLS

Events, Competitions & Speaking

Young Minds – Great Ideas Cyprus (GBYF)

May 8, 2026

European University of Lefke — first year the competition ran in the TRNC (15th edition overall)

Presented MARCS Coach. Connected directly with founders and executives from across Cyprus and Turkey.

AI Summit 26

2026

Rauf Raif Denktaş Culture and Congress Center

Presented MARCS Coach as part of the Codetoproducts team, with a company booth/stand.

Cyprus Construction AI Hackathon

2025

Team entry, with Alinex and Mohammad

Team selected from hundreds of entries. Concept: an AI concierge system identifying and engaging high-value clients across WhatsApp, Telegram, and Instagram, with human agents taking over once a high-value lead is identified — designed to lower contact latency and centralise multi-platform client data.

AI Summit 25

2025

Rauf Raif Denktaş Culture and Congress Center

Presented Biliyo as part of the Codetoproducts team, with a company booth/stand.

Guest Speaker — "Discovering IoT: The Starting Point to Smart Living"

2023 — 2024

Cyprus International University (CIU)

Delivered a talk on IoT fundamentals and smart-home/smart-living applications, connected to R&D work at Smart Rasa Group.

Technical Skills

Design

Figma · Adobe Photoshop · Design Systems · Prototyping · Wireframing · Visual & Interaction Design · UX Research · Usability Testing

Backend & Data

Django · Django REST Framework · PostgreSQL · AppWrite (Auth, DB, Storage, Realtime, Functions) · REST APIs · Serverless Functions · JWT Authentication · Query Optimisation · Python

AI & Integration

LLM Integration (Google Gemini via OpenRouter) · AI-Augmented Design & Development Workflows · Prompt Design · Claude, ChatGPT, Gemini (daily use)

Full Stack Development

React · Next.js · TypeScript · JavaScript · Tailwind CSS · Framer Motion · HTML/CSS · Vite

DevOps & Infrastructure

Docker · Docker Compose · Deployment & Environment Configuration · Automated Encrypted Backups · Sentry / Error Monitoring · S3-Compatible Object Storage · CI/CD Fundamentals · Git

Networking & IT

MikroTik RouterOS · VLAN/DHCP/DNS · NAT/Port Forwarding · Firewall Rules · Bandwidth Management · Access Control Systems · CCTV Installation & Management · AnyDesk (Remote Support)

IoT & Hardware

IoT/LoRaWAN Deployment · Embedded Systems (Python) · Smart-Home & Smart-Building Systems · Hardware Prototyping

Photography & Media

Photography (City & Guilds certified) · Videography · Adobe Lightroom · Video Editing · Marketing/Print Design

Workflow & Tools

Agile · Jira · Notion · Trello · Git

EDUCATION & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Education

B.Sc. Software Engineering

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Famagusta · Graduated 2026

Graduation project: PriceMate — Outstanding Project distinction, Department of Computer Engineering (CMSE406/CMSE473).

Certifications

Photography — City & Guilds

Formal photography qualification

Outstanding Project Distinction — PriceMate

Department of Computer Engineering, Eastern Mediterranean University (CMSE406/CMSE473)

Languages

English

Highly proficient

Persian

Native

Turkish

Conversational

Availability

Based in Famagusta, Cyprus. Available immediately for full-time roles across UI/UX design, full stack development, IT/network systems, or AI-augmented product work. Open to relocating internationally.