

ETTIENE WIUM

Tech Lead · Senior Backend / Software Engineer

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Production systems · data pipelines · APIs · cloud · AI-assisted engineering

COVER LETTER

I am applying as a Tech Lead and senior backend engineer - eight years in production, currently leading SAWIS BI. That system holds South African wine import, export, and domestic industry data. Each month we synchronise from a legacy Mapper pipeline into our MySQL database; some tables exceed two million rows. I do the majority of the backend, I coordinate a project manager, a senior frontend engineer, and a senior backend engineer, and I own planning, estimation, technical decisions, and delivery, including annual phases and the 2026 domestic-data work.

I like hard debugging: when a sync or import fails I follow the data, not the ticket title. On Indawo, when the host died I containerised the app with Docker and brought production back. I hold AWS DevOps Engineer Professional and I run Linux, Docker, and CI/CD in production. I use Cursor, Grok, Claude, and Codex every day as engineering tools - not as a substitute for owning the system.

I work globally remotely from Cape Town (SAST). Production languages today are PHP and SQL; I learn the house stack on the job.

Thank you. I would welcome a conversation.