

# A stalled AWS project shipped in 3 days, saving ~6 weeks of wasted build

Global financial services (anonymised) — Software Development Engineer (AWS)

A global bank had a working prototype stuck for months and a team about to spend six weeks fine-tuning a model they didn't need. In three on-site days I got the workload live, killed the unnecessary work, and left two of their engineers able to run and extend it themselves.

**3 days**

STALLED PROJECT →  
LIVE

**~6 wks**

WASTED BUILD  
AVOIDED

**£90k**

ESTIMATED COST  
SAVED

**1**

REUSABLE TEAM  
PLAYBOOK

## THE CHALLENGE

A global financial services customer had a working AWS proof-of-concept that had been stuck for months. It couldn't move forward: hardened networking missing, no infrastructure-as-code, no CI/CD, ambiguous data flows. The clock mattered. A delivery deadline was weeks away and the project was burning time.

## OUTCOME

The workload went from stuck-for-months to live in three days: hardened, in code, in CI, with the customer's own engineers fluent in every part. They passed their security review the following week. Cutting the unnecessary fine-tuning work saved roughly six weeks of build. Two engineers became the internal champions for the AI work that followed, and the leadership session fed directly into the next year's investment plan.

## STACK

AWS

Lambda

DynamoDB

Step Functions

Amazon Bedrock

Terraform