

Nicolas Filzi

Fractional CTO & Product Engineer

One AI-enabled senior operator. Stack-agnostic, tool-agnostic, AI-augmented engineering from strategy to production code — for startups, scale-ups and non-tech businesses.

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10+

Years shipping

Production systems since 2016

10+

Clients served

Startups to hospitals

3.5y

Longest engagement

Platform built & run end to end

8y

Teaching engineers

Le Wagon · 10+ cities

PROFILE

I've been turning ideas into production systems for over a decade — backends, platforms, APIs, AI pipelines. **The kind of code that runs businesses, not just demos.**

Along the way I spent 8 years teaching engineers at Le Wagon across Amsterdam, Tokyo, Nantes and Copenhagen. Teaching thousands of students to think about data, architecture and product didn't make me less of a builder — it made me a sharper one.

Today I work as a fractional CTO and product engineer for teams that need senior firepower without the agency overhead or the full-time ramp-up. I **embed in your team — to untangle your problems and bring your ideas to life.**

EXPERTISE

BACKEND & DATA

Ruby on Rails · Python · PostgreSQL · APIs · Data modeling · Real-time systems

FRONTEND & MOBILE

JavaScript · TypeScript · React · React Native · Expo · Tailwind · Stimulus

AI / LLM

LLM pipelines · AI agents · LLM search & enrichment · Workflow automation

LEADERSHIP

Fractional CTO · Architecture · Code review · Mentoring & pairing · Vendor management

HOW I CAN HELP

Build

Full-stack product engineering — features, infrastructure, integrations, AI/LLM pipelines.

Lead

Fractional CTO — architecture, hiring, process, technical direction.

Lead + Build

Both roles, one person — technical direction and the strongest builder on the project.

Solve

Scoped engagements — audits, architecture reviews, rescue missions, second opinions.

SELECTED WORK

High Stickers

LEAD

~3 yrs

Rebuilt a 10-year e-commerce platform so well the founder became its top code contributor.

30k users migrated

10k orders preserved

Rails · Stripe · Pennylane

PAJ by Imparato

LEAD + BUILD

Ongoing

Shaped a theatre-discovery platform from zero — product, architecture, AI-powered search, a team of 4.

787 classification dims

500+ plays enriched

Rails · React · Mistral AI

Iris Galerie

LEAD + BUILD

Ongoing

API tech lead connecting ERP, mobile and desktop systems across 150+ points of sale worldwide.

56% of API commits

12-16 people coordinated

150+ galleries

Koudetat

BUILD

2 yrs

From concept to streaming platform as part-time CTO — product and tech strategy in one seat.

Part-time CTO

Streaming platform built

Server → front end

SELECTED WORK — CONTINUED

Plancton by Pimpant

LEAD

3.5 yrs

1,000+ personalised kids' science magazines shipped monthly — owned the platform end to end.

1,000+ magazines / mo

3.5-yr engagement

Mentored a junior dev

CHU Nantes · Astreinte Vitale

BUILD

Delivered

Replaced paper call sheets and manual phone cascades for hospital emergency teams.

24/7 critical coverage

Public healthcare

Reliability-first

Guest Suite

SOLVE

Delivered

A CEO's fast-moving ideas shipped as production tools every two weeks — no overhead.

2-week max turnaround

Production tools

SaaS

Asmodee

BUILD

Delivered

Daily intelligence on every crowdfunding campaign in the market — raw data to dashboards a team acts on.

BI platform built

Daily dashboards

Non-technical readers

WHAT CLIENTS SAY

“

While he may have had the highest hourly rate I've ever paid, he ended up costing me the least overall, due to his speed and effectiveness.

Emmanuel · CEO @ High Stickers

“

He gets it quickly. He delivers quickly. And he delivers quality.

Thomas · CEO @ Guest Suite

“

His blend of business vision and coding talent makes him a key asset to any team.

Valentin · CEO @ Koudetat

VENTURES & TEACHING

Founder

pepline.ai — my own SaaS: lead-facing AI agents that retire the contact form. They interview inbound prospects, qualify them against your rules, and hand back a scoped brief — in beta.

Co-founder

stellaire.studio — a Nantes startup studio taking founders from idea to market. I bring the product & tech side, from idea validation through MVP and go-to-market.

2016–2022

Lead teacher, Le Wagon — bootcamp instructor and curriculum contributor across 10+ cities worldwide. Thousands of engineers taught.

2019–2021

Le Wagon franchise co-owner — Nantes & Rennes — ran the franchise: B2C growth (workshops, events, paid marketing) and partnerships with schools, businesses & incubators. Grew earnings 50%+ two years running, then sold it back to Le Wagon HQ.

Since 2016

Shipping in production — backends, APIs, e-commerce, mobile and AI pipelines for startups, scale-ups, hospitals and non-tech businesses.

HOW I WORK



Building the wrong thing well is the most expensive mistake in tech — business context first, architecture second.



You'll see progress every week, not every quarter. Scope tight, ship real, measure, iterate.



You're paying for judgment, not just execution — I'll flag the risk no one's talking about.



You own everything at the end — code, infrastructure, docs. Built for your autonomy, not dependency.

The full picture.

Get a product engineer on founder mode — not an agency, not a body shop.

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