



Tibor Claassen

PRINCIPAL ENGINEER & TECHNICAL LEAD

SUMMARY

Principal Engineer and Technical Lead with 25+ years building software products end to end, from technical strategy to hands-on delivery.

Strong expertise in functional programming and event-driven systems, built on a broad engineering background spanning multiple stacks, industries, and product domains. Values clarity and an emergent design over applying a particular technology or ready-made solution. Optimises for change, which is crucial at a time when AI is constantly transforming what and how we build.

EXPERIENCE

Fractional CTO | [eHealth Africa GHM](#) | 2025

- Led the transition of an IoT cold-chain monitoring system to sustainable in-house ownership at a resource-constrained NGO.
- Worked hands-on across distributed AWS/Terraform infrastructure, Golang services, and Kafka Streams.
- Established a pragmatic technical strategy balancing system reliability with organisational capacity, including the Databricks platform migration, from cloud account setup to technical direction for the data engineers.

Principal Engineer | [pitch.com](#) | 2018–2024

- Hands-on development of Pitch's collaborative, local-first presentation app in ClojureScript on an event-driven architecture.
- Shaped company-wide technical strategy and established a modular frontend architecture that scaled with both the company and the product, sustaining a rapid deploy cadence under heavy concurrent development.
- Led high-impact initiatives: the AI slide generator, a full text-editor rewrite, and the canvas layout refactor.

Co-Founder & CTPO | [coreon.com](#) | 2012–2014

- Co-founded an enterprise B2B SaaS platform for multilingual knowledge management, owning full-stack architecture and product end to end.
- Combined modern web technology with linguistic data processing to serve enterprise customers in the language industry.

SKILLS

Technical Leadership Event-driven Systems Distributed Systems
Emergent Architecture Technical Strategy Full-stack Web Development
Product Engineering Functional Programming AI Integration

TECHNOLOGIES

Clojure TypeScript React Node Golang Python Kafka
GraphQL PostgreSQL Terraform AWS Docker

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STRENGTHS

Functional Programming Mindset

Designs with functional principles across the stack, from data model to UI: declarative, event-driven, immutable, composable, and easy to reason about.

Product-Driven Engineering

Aligns engineering with product and business, owning outcomes end to end and validating with evidence before committing to big bets.

Pragmatic Architect

Has a track record of driving complex technical initiatives to build systems that scale with the business, while remaining flexible, reliable, and maintainable.

LANGUAGES

English (*fluent*)

German (*native*)