



Benjamin Benjamin

Enterprise Solution Architect

👤 Profile

Experienced, self-motivated, results-driven, transformation IT professional with with over 20 years industry experience specializing in **Digital Transformation**, Enterprise Architecture, **Technology Strategy** and **Software Delivery** of major projects across multiple industries internationally. With exceptional leadership capabilities in executing major initiatives coupled with experience in coaching and building high performing teams that enable business to solve complex problems.

🏢 Employment History

Delivery Manager at Discovery, Johannesburg

June 2021

- Delivery Manager for North American biggest insurance company, John Hancock & Manual life
- Ensuring that all delivery meets our partner markets and expectations are managed
- Responsible for incident management, tracking and escalations
- Provide leadership to engineering and product teams
- Building and sizing product roadmaps
- Successfully deliver complex high profile features in a fully cloud based environment
- Providing Capex and Opex costing for project planning and delivery
- Technical Process improvement
- Enable teams to deliver as part of a portfolio and actively identify and manage dependencies and obstacles

Snr Manager Technology Strategy and Advisory at Accenture, Johannesburg

February 2020 — December 2020

- Leverage strategies and provide vision for emerging technologies to boosting adoption, usage and increased engagement for their core and non-core products and services.
- South African Financial Institution, Bench-marking and optimization of Delivery Value Chain
- Crafted and communicated the as-is state and benchmark across digital channels
- Documented As-is, Current State and To-Be Architecture towards a digital omnichannel Architecture
- Architecture Governance and Policy formulation
- Participated in assessing High Level Operating Model and related roles

Details

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Expertise

IT Vision and Strategy

IT Operating Model for Digital

Enterprise Architecture

Digital Transformation

Agile Methodologies and processes

Design-led thinking

Links

[LinkedIn](#)

Hobbies

Mountain Biking, Playing Squash and a keen interest in anthropology

- Crafted IT Strategy and Road map and Identified Strategic Technology opportunities

Technology Strategist at Equal Experts, Johannesburg

March 2019 — February 2020

UK's largest retailer(John Lewis)

JL was loosing £1 million a month on a product and a total loss of 30% revenue year on year

- Conducted a deep dive analysis of the current UK retail landscape its competitors and understanding the modern customer
- Organize the business requirements into an actionable IT Strategies
- Optimizing the pricing models to remain competitive in the online and digital market place
- Conducted ethnographic interviews and research to determine customer feedback and behavior
- Back office flow and system integration and delivery tracking for online purchases
- Strategic look at cost reduction from a system perspective by sun setting legacy systems and migration into Google cloud
- Advised with the Architecture transformation from legacy monolith to a micro-services architecture using google cloud "As Is" - "To - Be" Road mapping

Lead Architect and Strategy at Barclays , Johannesburg

November 2017 — 2019

ABSA Barclays

RoA (Rest of Africa) had a stated vision of achieving a sub-40% (forty percent) cost to income ratio, whilst reaching a R45 billion (forty-five billion rand) per annum top-line revenue and to On-board a Million new banking customers

IT & Strategy

- Provide and craft the vision of the future- state architecture that supports a new digital banking across the African Continent.
- Developed a process-driven road map, architecture vision that will support the new business strategy.
- Analyzing the end-to-end Core banking system and its associated applications to enhance business capabilities across Africa.
- Developed a multi-year technology road map to achieve business objectives by applying capability-based modeling and driving standardization and rationalization of applications
- Advocate and support the IT strategy. Focus heavily on research and development, following emerging technology trends.
- Participate in creating and governing the Architecture Review Board, review various infrastructure and Solution Architecture designs that alignment with the overall Future State Vision and architecture..

Software Engineering Manager at ABSA, Johannesburg

February 2016 — 2017

Key Achievements:

- Transformed the IT development organization into a customer-facing partner with the business, raising the level of collaboration and trust as I established the pivotal roles of Business Relationship Managers and drove rigor in portfolio management, project execution, and solutions delivery
- Drove the project delivery for building a new banking network, allowing engineers to access cloud based resources for innovation and faster software delivery
- Partnered and accelerated vendor integration by optimizing process and automation flows
- Provided a pragmatic DevOps coaching for product teams, attempting to solve business challenges
- Reduced project cycle time by 50%, accelerated Dev-Ops adoption and increased customer engagement by 5%
- Aligned with the PMO and automated Technology Governance process to create visibility and increase velocity
- Established an engineering culture that focused on driving engineering practices to enable the organization in using TDD, CI, CD, Agile, Dev-Ops principles.
- Investigating and experimenting with modern technologies to better improve delivery

Delivery Manager at Multichoice, Johannesburg

September 2014 — February 2016

Responsible for guiding the planning, tracking and day-to-day activities of web development teams, I was involved in a program valued at a 1 billion Rand.

- As a manager responsible for two products teams, we built a customer portal and DSTV Self Service, I modernized and identified process changes that increased the the velocity of the development and removed major impediments, by significantly reducing time to market by 30%
- Standardized and synchronize the Agile practice across the teams in the program
- Crafted a cross functional teams to be hyper-productive by instilling software engineering practices such as Test Driven Development and continuous integration

Application & Solution Architect at First Rand Bank, Johannesburg

June 2010 — November 2013

- Responsible for application strategy and road map, while looking after the application design, architecture and supervising the implementation and functionality of company web applications development.
- Automated the non-tax reporting from excel to web based workflow system saving the organizations time on reporting
- Created and implemented the TOGAF application portfolio in order to track the life cycle of applications, analyze licenses and upgrades

- Contract negotiations with Vendors locally and abroad
- Created and reviewed policies on SLA's and licensing of applications across the bank.
- Implemented application standards for custom applications and off the shelf systems.
- Reduced costs by analyzing duplication of applications by using TOGAF's Application list.
- Cooperatively worked with project, business, data, development, and infrastructure resources to deliver applications solutions for solving business problems such a two-factor authentication solution for the Bank.

Application Developer at Financial Intelligence Centre, Johannesburg

December 2008 — May 2010

- .NET Framework (3.5), ASP.NET C#,
- SharePoint 2007 and K2.Net Integration
- K2 Workflow Development using .NET framework 3.0
- nHibernate Mappings
- SQL Server 2005
- Involved in Technical Design and JAD Sessions,
- TFS Administrator.

Software Developer at Group 5, Johannesburg

June 2006 — November 2008

- Business Intelligence and Reporting Services (SQL 2005)
- Service oriented Maintain and Develop Internal sites VB.NET and C#
- Implementation of Share point portal, developing
- Intranet sites. Working with Office 2007 suite, SharePoint portal, SharePoint Designer.

Software Developer at Accenture, Johannesburg

2004 — 2006

- Development of reference Data Store(RDS) and time Data Store system(TDS) for building JSE Trading Platform C#.NET and SQL Server, ADO.NET.
- Exposure to the teams consulting force as an active team member, Business requirements gathering and system design.

Enterprise Architect at African Bank, Johannesburg

March 2022

African Bank is in the process of entering the business banking market with the concept of platform-based banking or Business Banking as a Platform(BPaaS), in order to service their business banking clients which will enable a standard for 3rd party vendors and Fintech's to develop and build services and products on behalf of the banking customers, while allowing African bank to provide unified banking services.

BCOMM Honors Information Technology, University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg

January 2017 — November 2019

Major Subjects: Enterprise Architecture, IT Management, Project Management and Research Methodology

Thesis: **Critical challenges organizations face in the adoption of agile software development principles while trying to improve product delivery**

Courses

Business Leadership, University of Stellenbosch Business School

November 2010

TOGAF , The Open Group

June 2011

ITIL, Pink Elephant

February 2010 — February 2010

Agile Scrum Master, Scrum Alliance

November 2014

COBIT , Pink Elephant

April 2010 — April 2010

References

Brain Leke from McKinsey

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