IT Infrastructure Consultancy

Dan Davies, director of VisibleHand Ltd

Consistent track record in designing IT architectures to match business needs.

## Contact details

Email: [info@visiblehand.co.uk](mailto:info@visiblehand.co.uk) Operating address: Belsize Park, London NW3

Mobile: 07341 662 079 Full trading and working rights in the UK.

## Overview

Available from 27th August for business to business (B2B) engagements such as Infrastructure Solutions Architecture, IT Infrastructure Consultancy.

Studying since early July (Azure Architect course, design exam AZ-301 and Google Cloud Architecture). Project rate indication £600+ per day.

## Previous clients

**Year Client Type of project**

2019 Avanade Advisory (Accenture) IT Infrastructure Consultancy

2017-2019 Deutsche Bank Technology Architecture

2015-2016 Deutsche Bank Infrastructure Architecture

2014-2015 ICBC (Standard Bank) Infrastructure Solutions Design

2014 Tokio-Marine (Kiln) Implementation (VMware)

2012-2013 MS Amlin plc Infrastructure Architecture

2011-2012 Calyx Managed Services Technical Leadership

2009-2011 NSPCC, Age UK Architecture & Tech Leadership

**Year Employer Role description**

2007-2008 VISA UK Technical Architecture

2006-2007 NHS Projects Engineering

2003-2005 The LTA Systems Administration

2001-2002 Experian (QAS) 3rd line & Projects Engineer

2000-2001 RBS Royal Bank of Scotland Graduate Project Manager

1997-1999 Fujitsu-ICL Graduate Business Analyst

## Business competencies

**Technical:** Cloud infrastructure services (mainly Azure), stateless compute (container) hosting, VMware vSphere, AD, Wintel, datacentre infrastructure & migrations, application performance improvement, availability/resilience/DR.

**Solutions Architecture:** Stakeholder engagement, requirements analysis, solution overview / high-level design (HLD), work breakdown structure (WBS).

**Enterprise Architecture:** IT strategy, solution assurance & Architecture governance.

**Consultancy/TDA skills:** client-facing, translating between technical staff and non-tech managers, presentations to senior management, clear diagrams and written documentation.

## Certifications

# Recent training courses: GCP Architect, TOGAF 9.2 update, CompTIA Security+,.

# **Cloud** Azure Architect Design AZ-301, Azure Architect Technologies AZ-300

# **TOGAF** v8 Enterprise Architecture, certified CID 6893

# **PRINCE2** Project management certified ID P2R/607117

# **ITIL**v2 Foundation certified ID OB4LON5204

# **VMware** - vSphere 6.0, 5.5, 5.1 VCP-DCV, VCP ID VMW-00479479Z-00141072

# **Microsoft** - MCITP 2008, MCSE + Exchange 2003/2000/NT4 ID 1767121

# **HP** - APS Proliant & Blades 2001-2012, ID UV0044051578

## Director profile: academic background

1993-7 Master’s degree in Manufacturing Systems Engineering and Management, BEng MEng (2:1) Hons from Warwick University (UK). One academic year at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (USA).

Specialisms: Lean Manufacturing, Quality (TQM), Workflow Management.

Project Management and IS/IT strategy at Warwick Business School.

## Previous client references

1. Selected references available on uk.linkedin.com/in/dandavies
2. Name upon application, Enterprise Architect, Deutsche Bank
3. Name upon application, Head of Infrastructure Architecture, ICBC Standard
4. Name upon application, Lead architect, Charityshare Ltd (now at AIG)

## Client engagement history

\*\*\* Study period Jul-Aug 2019 \*\*\*

### Avanade Advisory (an Accenture company), IT Consultancy. March 2019 to June 2019

IT strategy consulting, working at CTO level. Small teams, rapid assessment of IT current state and future state recommendations across *all* IT functions. Personal specialism in Enterprise Architecture, IT Governance, Infrastructure Architecture and Service Management.

Projects -

* UK CNI telecoms client - 6 weeks current state assessment and presentation. Successfully lead to further engagement with the client for specific projects.
* Major global medical supplies and manufacturing client (US/UK base) – global IT function current state review and future state recommendations, 5 weeks.

### Deutsche Bank, Infrastructure Solutions Architect April 2017 to Feb 2019

CTO Infrastructure Services, Solutions Architecture and Solutions Assurance projects.

Key deliverables -

* Member of multi-disciplinary architect team to create the future state solution for hosting existing DB PaaS solutions on public cloud (Azure IaaS/PaaS).
* Negotiation and definition of the future-state operating model between the IaaS and PaaS support teams (DevOps), in terms of ITIL processes.
* Author of blueprint for hybrid cloud IaaS solution tuned for DB's Docker container platform ('Fabric PaaS' Red Hat Openshift: Kubernetes, Docker, Ansible). Liaison with 3rd party key delivery partner.

Key improvements: infrastructure technology stack simplification; platform cost reduction; reduction in operations tooling; roadmap compliance; API-driven operations.

* On-premise IaaS Cloud solution (DXC external supplier). Requirements analysis for tech refresh of virtual compute platform such as hypervisor hosting.

Tech stack: HP blades, SAN/NAS storage, VMware ESX & SRM. Introduction of 'Lego bricks' compute for interoperability between general purpose IaaS VMs and Fabric PaaS hosting.

* Governance – creation of solutions assurance process within major infrastructure programme delivery. Documentation for project stage gates, entry/exit criteria and template artefacts. Integration with enterprise architecture, project & programme governance, security function. Liaison with key stakeholders for solution assurance: security, tech risk & compliance.

\*\*\* Study period & property renovation Nov 2016 - March 2017 \*\*\*

### Deutsche Bank, Solutions Consultancy (Infrastructure) Oct 2015 to Oct 2016

Project: High level review, from Applications perspective, of the entire server and datacentre estate of DB business unit (Global Markets) focusing on physical and OS obsolescence (50,000+ datacentre configuration items).

Key deliverables -

* Questionnaire design and 100+ SME/Application Architect interviews for the Windows /RHEL (Linux) /Solaris application estate, recommendations for remediation to preferred platforms on internal IaaS, PaaS, VM private cloud or revert to physical.
* Using AWS or Azure platforms as benchmarks for high-level cloud modelling based on '12 Factor App' principles:
  + Automation and scaling techniques (Infrastructure as code)
  + Availability - HA & DR, load balancing and queuing/messaging
  + Security/encryption (e.g. PKI, IPSEC, SSL/TLS)
  + Code deployment, route to live, segregation of environments
  + Migration strategy, Operations management
* Estate management high-level operations (NAR data consistency).

### Standard Bank (Global Markets), Infrastructure Solution Design June 2014 to July 2015

Engagement outline: Infrastructure requirements & scope definition; developing solutions; brokering discussions between senior stakeholders; liaison with project managers; internal technical staff internal and third party vendors. QA team reviewer.

Key deliverables -

* Designed the infrastructure platform logical solution for the de-merger of Standard Bank International from SBG due to new ownership by ICBC bank. Design for entity separation via migration of users, applications and supporting platform infrastructure.
* SDLC environment segregation - high level design and migration strategy due to regulatory, operational and information security requirements. Running workshops to define requirements and technical solutions.
* Guidance and creation of operating model and template artefacts for the newly formed Infrastructure Solution Architecture function.
* Application refresh and re-platform projects such as Reuters Dealtracker; introduction of Bloomberg Vault.

### Tokio-Marine Kiln, VMware Technical Delivery April 2014 to June 2014

Project: Hands-on delivery of VMware vSphere infrastructure upgrade (From ESX 4.0/4.1 to ESX 5.5) and storage migration, 60 ESX Hosts, Cisco UCS compute, NetApp Flexpod target storage.

### Amlin Insurance plc, Infrastructure Architecture Jan 2012 to Feb 2014

Project - Client-facing project work via the managed service provider, Eurodata. Due to positive feedback from the client on the initial DR design project my contract was extended to a ‘rolling’ status and I had multiple work streams within Amlin IT.

### Calyx Managed Services Ltd, Infrastructure Delivery Leadership Oct 2011 to Jan 2012

### NSPCC + Age UK, Infrastructure Architecture & Tech Leadership Jan 2009 to June 2011

Projects – technical engagements with the 'in-sourced' IT service provider. Initially involved with the NSPCC Helplines project providing technical leadership for remediating the virtual infrastructure environments (Prod/DR, Dev, Training). Further projects addressed increasing virtualisation of the multi-tenant estate.

### VISA Inc. (CEMEA Region), Technical Architect Sept 2007 to Jan 2008

Security and monitoring project due to the need for US Sarbanes–Oxley Act (SOx) compliance. Translating business requirements into specifications for technical implementation by systems administration teams (Active Directory, ADAM, SQL, single sign-on). Solution overview for integration with preferred US solution: Intellitactics.

### NHS (National Patient Safety Agency), Projects/3rd line Engineer Nov 2006 to June 2007

### The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA), Principal Systems Administrator Nov 2003 to Oct 2005

### QAS Ltd (now Experian), Senior IT Analyst / 3rd line support Feb 2001 to Oct 2002

### RBS Cards, Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Graduate Project Manager Jan 2000 to Jan 2001

### Fujitsu-ICL plc, Graduate Business Analyst Jul 1997 to Aug 1999