# 👤 CAREER PROFILE

**Pragmatic, hands-on solutions architect with 12 years of experience, specialised in building event-driven platforms for the banking industry, with a strong focus on compliance and regulatory solutions.**

As Director at KPMG Portugal, I lead a 20-person team that develops and delivers products to help banks meet demanding regulatory requirements from financial authorities. My work bridges technology and compliance, ensuring robust, scalable solutions in highly regulated environments.

## João Marques

Solutions Architect (Director Level)

# 💼 EXPERIENCE

| Solutions Architect (Senior Manager / Director) | 2020 - 2024 |
|---|---|
| KPMG Portugal, Lisbon | |

In 2020, I shifted my focus from IBM solutions to a more challenging role as an architect in an emerging area related to event-driven architectures. I spent a few months designing a new product at KPMG Portugal, and by the end of 2020, I was leading a team at a leading bank in Portugal to implement a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for event-driven architectures, using Kafka as the main technology. By the end of 2021, I began focusing solely on the design and development of this product and have been the lead architect since then. I have been responsible for the technical architecture, design, and development of the product, as well as the delivery of multiple projects in the banking industry using this technology. As a result of this work, I was promoted to Director in 2024. My main responsibilities include:

- Technical architecture design
- Supporting infrastructure and cloud architecture teams
- Product development and delivery
- Team leadership and mentoring
- CI/CD pipeline implementation and DevOps practices

## EDUCATION

**MSc in Biomedical Engineering**
Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade Técnica de Lisboa
2010 - 2011

**Future Challenges in Sciences and Technologies (Athens Programme)**
TELECOM ParisTech
2010

**BSc in Biomedical Engineering**
Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade Técnica de Lisboa
2006 - 2009

## LANGUAGES

Portuguese (Native)

English (C2 Level)

Spanish (C1 Level)

French (B1 Level)

- Security and compliance oversight

## Senior Advisor to Manager
2014 - 2020

KPMG Portugal, Lisbon

Managed the delivery of IBM BPM and IIB solutions in the banking industry in Europe and Angola. After KPMG Portugal acquired Safira in 2014, I continued to work with the IBM stack, both for process automation and integration solutions. Over time, I started managing small teams, and by 2020 I was managing client relationships and the delivery of multiple projects, dealing directly with C-level executives. My main responsibilities included:

- Client relationship management
- Project delivery management
- Team leadership and mentoring
- Business development and proposal writing
- Technical architecture design
- Stakeholder communication

## Software Developer to Software Engineer
2012 - 2014

Safira, Lisbon

Delivered IBM BPM solutions in the banking industry in Europe. Started as a Software Developer and progressed to Software Engineer in 2014. My main responsibilities included:

- Design and development of BPM solutions
- Integration with legacy systems
- Performance tuning and optimization
- Supporting and maintaining production systems
- Mentoring junior developers

**SKILLS**

**Architecture:** Event-Driven, Microservices, Cloud-Native

**Cloud:** Azure, OpenShift

**Programming:** Java, Javascript, Typescript

**Frameworks:** Spring Boot, Node.js, NestJS, Angular, NextJS, React

**Databases:** MongoDB, MSSQL, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Redis

**DevOps:** GitLab CI/CD, Docker, Kubernetes, Helm

# PROJECTS

Below are a few selected examples of projects I have worked on in the past few years. These projects showcase my expertise, leadership, and the impact of my work in delivering solutions for the banking and compliance sectors.

Event-Driven CoE @ Portuguese Retail Bank (2020 - 2021) - Led KPMG's 6-person team in partnership with the bank's architects to implement a fully event-driven Centre of Excellence, enabling the adoption of Kafka-based architectures on a private OpenShift cloud. Delivered five use cases to production in under a year, processing

over 1 million events per second. Leveraged technologies such as Kafka, Spring Boot, IBM CDC, and MongoDB to implement patterns like core banking offload and event-driven enablement for legacy applications. Overcame challenges in accessing core banking data (MIPS) by using CDC, significantly reducing mainframe resource consumption.

Sapphirus @ KPMG Portugal (2020 - Present) -
Designed and led the development of a cloud-ready, event-driven platform for compliance-based managed services, now used in approximately 10 client projects. The platform features highly configurable data models and rules, automated decision-making, document curation and extraction, and integration with third-party data sources. Built on top of Kafka using open source technologies. I currently lead a 30-person team to continue developing the product and delivering projects. The solution can reduce end-to-end process times by up to 75% with significant cost reduction.

Swiss Bank Merger (Sep 2023 - Present) -
Lead a 10-person team to deliver a migration and remediation process for millions of clients as part of the merger of two major Swiss banks. Built on top of Sapphirus, the solution manages complex customer remediation workflows and generates highly customized customer communications under strict regulatory requirements and tight timelines. This approach enabled rapid time-to-market and adaptability to the client's global operations, contributing to the project's ongoing success.