

Rodney Ramdas

Engineering Director / Engineering Manager / IT Lead

Rotterdam, The Netherlands · Born 06-11-1974 (Dutch)

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Native Dutch speaker

Profile

Engineering leader with a unique blend of hands-on software expertise (Golang preferred), architectural skills, people development, and strategic product thinking. I build high-performing engineering organizations, create clarity and direction, and deliver impactful products across diverse domains: e-commerce, HR-tech, prop-tech, finance, and the built environment.

My leadership philosophy is simple: serve the needs of people and the business, build trust, and create an environment where developers thrive and technology meaningfully advances company goals. I move comfortably between coding, coaching, DevOps/infrastructure, architecture, and strategic leadership.

Core Strengths

- Engineering leadership & team building
- Technical strategy & roadmap definition
- Architecture & data platforms (DDD, data mesh, digital twins, LLM systems)
- Agile coaching & organizational change
- DevOps (GitHub Actions, Terraform/Bicep)
- Hands-on coding (Go, Python, TypeScript, Lisp dialects)
- Coaching, mentoring, career development
- Transforming complex ideas into functioning products

Professional Experience

Director, Digital Lab

Royal HaskoningDHV · 2017–Present

Founder and leader of the Digital Lab, a software innovation group within a purpose-driven engineering consultancy.

Highlights & Impact

- Founded and grew the Digital Lab from the ground up; recruited, onboarded, and coached 20+ developers, UX designers, and engineers.
- Built a high-trust culture with strong 1:1 coaching, career progression guidance, and technical leadership.
- Led development of **Kes** (Knowledge Expert System), a hybrid LLM + knowledge-model document generation platform.
 - Kes outperformed pure LLM baselines and expert consultants in independent tests.
 - Provided massive productivity gains for consultants across the company.
- Built a national-scale real-time water management system for all Dutch Water Boards, including a geospatial data API powering government decision-making.
- Delivered 15+ digital twin integrations for major infrastructure and environmental projects; work was shortlisted for a **Bentley Digital Engineering Award**.
- Championed Agile, Scrum, and modern engineering practices across the Lab.
- **Product Owner for the company-wide data platform (2024):**
 - Defined a vision using Domain-Driven Design + data mesh principles.
 - Delivered operational data products and platform components, moving from concept to production.
- Recognized for cross-functional leadership — bridging engineering, consultants, product, and strategy.

Senior Software Developer & Agile Coach

Coolblue · 2013–2017

Served as a nomadic integrator across multiple teams, improving engineering practices, data capabilities, and team cohesion.

Key Contributions

- Introduced Domain-Driven Design and modernized the Business Intelligence environment into an analytics-ready data lake.
- Improved data-driven decision-making by 40%.
- Reduced processing times by 50%.
- Strengthened developer culture by emphasizing ownership, craftsmanship, and clarity of impact.
- Supported teams as an agile coach, improving delivery flow and cross-team collaboration.

Earlier Roles

(Full details available upon request)

- **Founder**, Quantic Market Data Systems
- **Solution Designer**, ABN Amro
- **Solution Designer/Consultant**, Fortis Global Markets
- **Lead Developer**, Vedior Group
- **Software Developer** (Kyero.com, Port of Rotterdam, Gemeente Dordrecht, ABN AMRO Wholesale Banking)
- **Oracle Developer**, Worldcom
- **Sun Consultant** (Rabobank International, Lucent Technologies)
- **Sun System Administrator**, Shell International Exploration & Production

Selected Side Projects

- **Roadmap** — Lightweight hillchart-based roadmap tool inspired by 37signals' method. github.com/rramdas/roadmap
- **AudioPapers** — Converts academic PDFs into AI-generated audio. github.com/rramdas/audiopapers
- **Trigo** — Experimental triple-store graph database implementation. github.com/rramdas/trigo
- Active contributor to [LinkedIn Collaborative Articles](#)

Education & Certifications

- **Bachelor of Philosophy** — Erasmus University Rotterdam
- **Sonology** — Royal Dutch Conservatory
- DSI (Dutch Securities Institute) Certified
- ICMA Securities Operations Certified

Technical Proficiency

Category	Technologies
Programming	Go (preferred), Python, JavaScript/TypeScript, Lisp dialects (Racket, Clojure)
Frameworks	Ruby on Rails, Django
DevOps	GitHub Actions, Terraform, Bicep
Architecture	DDD, data mesh, distributed systems, knowledge models, digital twins
Other	Coaching, mentoring, agile delivery, technical writing, product leadership