

Summary

Creative geek with roots in the open source movement, an entrepreneurial mindset and a passion for delivering value by developing maintainable software.

At the age of seven (1989) Cies wrote his first lines of code in a LOGO-like language on an MSX (pre-PC). Two years later he attended a conference on an emerging new technology, the Internet, at the Erasmus University from which he would graduate 16 years later.

After being introduced to the open source movement in 1997, he taught himself a variety of skills including

system administration and programming (Bash, Python, Ruby & C++). By 2002 he got his pet project KTurtle—a zero-entry-barrier programming environment—included into KDE's *edu* module, and thereby almost every Linux distribution.

From 2003 to 2007 he studied at the Erasmus University Rotterdam and graduated in *Business and Computer Science* (one curriculum). After graduation he travelled Europe and Asia during a two year sabbatical, on which he “hustled” several IT gigs (see experiences below) to extend the journey.

Experience

Hoppinger

Head of Technology

ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS

Apr '12 – present

Hoppinger is an open source minded “full-service” internet agency. Reporting directly to the general director, Marijn Bom. In charge of drawing and carrying out the vision for the tech department consisting of 15 developers. Streamlined datacenter operations with Puppet, introduced Rails for custom web-app development and Capistrano for deployment automation. Intimately involved with the software architecture of all technically challenging projects.

HRO (Rotterdam University of Applied Science)

ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS

Guest Lecturer

Sep '12 – present

Introductory lecture on history of software development and open source for 1st year CS students.

Intellicap/ISTPL

MUMBAI, PUNE & HYDERABAD, INDIA

IT Consultant

Nov '08 – Feb '09

Intellicap is a social-sector advisory firm serving corporates, non-profits, development agencies and governments working in developing markets. Assessed their software development team and methodologies, trained their developers and build several web applications. One of those apps is [Mostfit](#), an open source MIS for [microcredit](#) lenders.

IT & Strategy Consultant

Jan '10 – Aug '11

Called in to solve several technical challenges and look at potential growth strategies for [Mostfit](#).

CTO

Oct '11 – Feb '12

Proudly joined the C-family of Intellicap's software division, ISTPL, to make [Mostfit](#) the nr.1 software solution for micro credit lenders around the globe. Contracts got terminated half a year later due to investment issues.

Zarafa

DELFT, THE NETHERLANDS

QA & Release Manager

Dec '09 – Jan '11

Zarafa might be the fastest growing open source product company in Europe, making a drop-in replacement for MS Exchange. Reported directly to the CEO, Brian Josef, and worked closely with the CTO, Steve Hardy. In charge of the 6 men strong QA department. Established test automation and continuous integration. Architected and implemented an all-integrated documentation and translation system that employed community effort. Got sent to India to analyse and streamline their outsourced operations.

Dharma Publishing

NEAR SAN FRANCISCO (CA), USA

IT Consultant

Nov '09 – Dec '09

Dharma Publishing, the worlds largest Buddhist publisher, is a non-profit, all-volunteer organisation that helps to preserve Tibetan Buddhism and culture. Built their [web shop](#), and moved their digital content sales to SaaS applications.

KDE	edu.kde.org/kturtle
Software Engineer	<i>Dec '03 – present</i>
KTurtle is an educational programming environment that simplifies learning the basics of programming. KTurtle is intended as a gift to future generations: a simple environment to get started with programming. In 2003 KTurtle got admitted to the KDE project.	
Truetopia Project	truetopiaproject.org
Initiator	<i>Nov '07 – Apr '10</i>
The Truetopia Project is an open source web application (Rails) to facilitate self-governing communities. It provides a workflow for collaborative problem identification and solution design.	
Dhurakij Pundit University International College	BANGKOK, THAILAND
Guest Lecturer	<i>Sep '09</i>
Invited by Dr. Pilun Piyasirivej and Mr. Michel Bauwens for two guest lectures: the open source movement and the semantic web.	
Opendream	BANGKOK, THAILAND
IT Consultant	<i>Aug '09 – Sep '09</i>
Architected and largely implemented an open source media sharing web service (REST api) that facilitates video uploads, transcoding and streaming. Coached their development team on system design, Ruby development (using Merb/Rails) and testing strategies such as TDD/BDD.	
Commuun	ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
Senior Visionary	<i>Jul '06 – Sep '09</i>
Set up the technical infrastructure, defined the core competences and created a brand together with Peter Duijnste (the proprietor of Commuun). Then collaborated on several web applications (all Rails apps) within the context of his company.	
Erasmus University Rotterdam	ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
Guest Lecturer	<i>Jul '06 – Jul '09</i>
Conducted a guest lecture on the phenomenon of open source, as part of the first year curriculum of <i>Computer Science & Economics</i> .	
The Health Agency	DELFT & ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
Software Engineer	<i>Jun '05 – Feb '06</i>
Worked on their CMS (written in Python and uses PostgreSQL, XML/XSLT and Twisted).	
Software Auditor	<i>Dec '06</i>
Assessed their Python/Zope/ZoDB-based web framework re-engineering project.	
<i>Please refer to my Linked-in profile for a more complete list of work experiences along with recommendations.</i>	

Education

Erasmus University Rotterdam	ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
Bachelor degree in Computer Science & Economics	<i>2004 – 2007</i>
Focused on the economics of open source, rapid application development (RAD) and the semantic web technology stack (RDF/RDFS, OWL and SPARQL). Picked up quite some Java skills along the way.	
Technical University Delft	DELFT, THE NETHERLANDS
Industrial Design Engineering (<i>discontinued</i>)	<i>2001 – 2002</i>
Libanon Lyceum	ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
VWO (pre-university secondary education)	<i>1994 – 2000</i>

Skills

Technical expertise: Software design and implementation, with(in) a team. Big fan of Agile methodologies (Scrum and Kanban), automated deployment (Capistrano) and continuous integration (Hudson/Jenkins). Enjoys writing Ruby/Python/Java/C++, yet flirts regularly with Haskell. Solid knowledge of web technologies: HTML+CSS, XML, RDF, REST, SOAP and JavaScript (mostly Angular and jQuery). Linux administration skills: Bash, Apache, MySQL, PostgreSQL, virtualization/cloud (Vagrant, OpenVZ, VMware, KVM, Xen and EC2), datacenter automation (Puppet and Chef).

Natural languages: Dutch (*mother tongue*), English (*full professional proficiency*), German (*limited working proficiency*), French (*elementary proficiency*) and Mandarin Chinese (*beginner*).

Interests

Non-exhaustive and in alphabetical order: art, Buddhism, cryptography, Go (board game), history, music, open source, philosophy, software engineering (methodologies), travel, typography (e.g. graphic design, L^AT_EX), UI/UX-design and vegetarian/vegan cooking.