Simon Nordberg

Expert generalist: engineering, product & operations



Entrepreneurship

Hackerman AB, Founder

Dec 2016 - Present

Gomorron Östersund, Co-founder& partner

Jan 2017 - Nov 2020

Brightn AB, Co-founder & CTO
Jun 2014 - Apr 2019

Education

Master of Science, Computing Science

Umeå University, 1999 - 2004

Fun facts

Outdoor aficionado

Happiest outside, I spend my free time running, skiing and mountainbiking.

Non-fiction book worm

Love to read and learn; science, philosophy, psychology, medicine, arts, economics etc.

Beer brewer

Hoppy NEIPAs are my favorite.

What I do

Expert generalist with 20+ years building products from engineering and product perspectives. I've scaled platform organizations at Spotify, operated as CTO at Urb-it, and co-founded multiple companies. I stay close to technical decisions rather than managing from a distance, believe in incremental improvement over rewrites, and care about how all the pieces connect: vision, strategy, execution, and the people who make it happen.

Experience

U' Umain, Technical Director

May 2025 - current

○ Volvo Cars, Product Manager (contract)

Jan 2024 - Dec 2024

Wolters Kluwer, Architect (contract)

Mar 2023 - Sep 2023

Spotify

May 2019 - Sep 2022

Principal Product Manager

Jan 2022 - Sep 2022

Senior Product Manager

May 2019 - Jan 2022

ATG, Product Manager (contract)

Mar 2018 - Apr 2019

Sysarb, Advisor (contract)

Feb 2018 - Jun 2019

rb-it Urb-it

Jun 2015 - Jun 2017

CTO (interim, contract)

Jan 2017 - Jun 2017

Product Manager (contract)

May 2016 - Jan 2017

Software Engineer & Architect (contract)

Jun 2015 - May 2016

Adeprimo, Software Engineer & Architect

Nov 2008 - Jun 2014

^{IbiTec} Ibitec, Software Engineer & Architect

Nov 2007 - Nov 2008

Roxen Internet Software, Software Engineer

Aug 2006 - Nov 2007

Exsitec, Technical Consultant

May 2004 - Aug 2006

Ericsson, Master's Thesis

May 2003 - Sep 2003

W UKD Distans, Head Teacher

Dec 1999 - Mar 2003

Utfors, NOC Technician

May 2000 - Aug 2002

Companies and roles I'm interested in

I'm particularly interested in 20-150 person scale-ups that have found product-market fit but are facing the challenges of scaling, where what got you here won't necessarily get you further. This is my sweet spot, as I enjoy tackling the complexities that come with growth. While I'm more focused on the work than on specific titles (which often mean different things in different companies), they can be useful for framing broad areas of responsibility. These are the kinds of roles I'm most drawn to.

Engineering/product leadership roles

Leading engineering or product organizations, managing multiple teams while staying close to technical and product decisions, not just operating as a distant people manager. Roles include CTO, VP/Head of Engineering, or CPO.

Senior technical staff roles

High-impact technical work solving the most critical problems blocking growth. Lead the technical vision and architecture for cross-cutting systems, facilitate architectural decisions, and ensure scalability, reliability, and alignment with business goals. Roles include Staff/Principal Engineer or Chief Architect.

Both categories require understanding and influence of the entire system, including people, product, and technology, rather than the parts in isolation.

How I work

I believe in incremental progress over grand rewrites, staying close to the actual work rather than managing from a distance, and understanding how all the pieces fit together.

Compound over rewrite

I make systems incrementally better rather than starting over. Small improvements in architecture, processes, operations, and teams compound into lasting change.

Stay close

I remain connected to the work itself rather than managing from a distance. Understanding details matters for making good decisions and maintaining technical credibility.

See the whole

I care about how vision, strategy, execution, working product, culture, and people connect. Understanding the complete system matters more than optimizing any single part.

Experience, in more detail



U Umain, Technical Director

May 2025 - current Gothenburg, Stockholm Lead technical direction across client projects while establishing Umain's Gothenburg office. Define technical vision and architecture for digital product consultancy work spanning multiple industries. Drive solution design balancing innovation, scalability, security, and sustainability. Act as technical interface with clients, translating business needs into executable strategies. Build and mentor development teams as part of Umain's expansion into new markets. Guide multidisciplinary agile teams through complex delivery challenges.

Tech stack: GCP, Next.js, Golang

Contract, Jan 2024 - current Gothenburg, Stockholm, Remote Led a team building a declarative infrastructure platform, enabling a unified approach to managing platform resources and improving the developer experience. Drove product strategy for a new department and coached platform leaders on fostering an effective product development culture for infrastructure and platform teams. Worked across multiple teams to align technical and strategic initiatives.

Tech stack: Azure, AWS, Kubernetes, Java, .NET Core

Wolters Kluwer, Architect (contract)

Contract, Mar 2023 - Sep 2023 Gothenburg, Remote Supported the leadership team across CTO, Architecture, and Operations domains. Led technology strategy, org design, and process improvements to enhance delivery and technical excellence. Defined architecture principles, patterns, and governance for the next-generation web platform. Improved reliability, performance, observability, and incident management for operational resilience.

Tech stack: Azure, C#, .NET Core

Spotify, Principal Product Manager

Full-time, Jan 2022 - Sep 2022 New York, Stockholm, Remote Led the Cloud Storage Product Area, managing a portfolio of storage and database solutions that enabled Spotify's R&D teams to build and deploy stateful workloads at scale. Managed a global team of senior product managers, driving developer productivity while balancing reliability, performance, and cost.

Also served as strategy lead for company-wide platform productivity and business continuity initiatives, impacting all developers.

Tech stack: GCP, AWS, Bigtable, Cassandra, Elasticsearch, Java, Python, Kubernetes

Spotify, Senior Product Manager Full-time, May 2019 - Jan 2022

Full-time, May 2019 - Jan 2022 New York, Stockholm, Remote Managed storage and database platform teams, driving improvements in developer productivity, reliability, performance, and cost. Additionally contributed to teams focused on configuration management and backend service foundations, enhancing developer experience for backend engineers.

Tech stack: GCP, AWS, Bigtable, Cassandra, Elasticsearch, Java, Python, Kubernetes

ATG, Product Manager (contract)

Contract, Mar 2018 - Apr 2019 Stockholm Led the productization of cloud and messaging services to enhance developer productivity and operational efficiency. Defined product strategy, roadmap, compliance, and quality assurance.

Established a governance model for AWS access, providing teams with SSO, aggregated billing, logging, policy enforcement, auditing, and VPN connectivity. Designed and developed an Infrastructure-as-Code framework (Python) for self-service provisioning and application-level messaging configuration on the Solace platform.

Tech stack: AWS, Kubernetes, Networking, Solace (Appliance & VMR), Python, Golang, SAN

Sysarb, Advisor (contract)

Contract, Feb 2018 - Jun 2019 Arboga, Stockholm, Remote Advised on product and technology strategy as part of the management team, supporting Sysarb's vision of achieving workplace equality for its customers.

Tech stack: AWS, Azure, .NET

Urb-it, CTO (contract)

Contract, Jan 2017 - Jun 2017 Stockholm Led engineering, product management, UX, system integration, and test teams. Served on the executive team, driving product and company strategy.

Tech stack: iOS, Android, JavaScript, .NET, AWS, Azure

urb-it Urb-it, Product Manager (contract)

Contract, May 2016 - Jan 2017 Stockholm Managed a suite of four native mobile apps (iOS & Android) for consumers, merchants, and couriers. Led two development teams, one co-located and one distributed across two continents, to drive product development and delivery.

Tech stack: iOS, Android, Objective-C, Swift, Java, Kotlin

Urb-it, Software Engineer & Architect (contract)

Contract, Jun 2015 - May 2016 Stockholm Designed and developed three iOS apps for customers, merchants, and couriers, ensuring scalability and a seamless user experience.

Tech stack: Objective-C, Swift, Storyboard, MVVM

Adeprimo, Software Engineer & Architect

Full-time, Nov 2008 - Jun 2014 Östersund Established and evolved development and architectural best practices across internal and client projects. Led software engineering efforts across diverse industries, including media, ecommerce, and tourism. Acted as a team lead and agile advocate, driving the company's transition to more effective product development methodologies.

Tech stack: Java, Objective-C, Scala, Python, Ruby, MongoDB, RabbitMQ, JavaScript, Linux, AWS

Ibitec, Software Engineer & Architect

Full-time, Nov 2007 - Nov 2008 Linköping, Stockholm Specialized in enterprise Java applications on JBoss and WebSphere, delivering solutions for government, military, and insurance clients. Established architectural guidelines within the company and served as an instructor for Sun Microsystems' Enterprise Java courses (FJ-310, SL-351).

Tech stack: Java, JavaScript, J2EE, JavaEE, WebSphere, MySQL, Oracle, Linux, Scrum, RUP

Roxen Internet Software, Developer

Full-time, Aug 2006 - Nov 2007 Linköping Developed features for Roxen Editorial Portal, a web-based multichannel publishing tool for the media industry.

Tech stack: Pike, C, Linux, MySQL, XSLT, Scrum

Exsitec, Technical Consultant

Full-time, May 2004 - Aug 2006 Linköping, Stockholm Designed and implemented custom solutions for Movex ERP, from integrations to full application suites. Gained deep expertise in the IBM iSeries platform through consultancy and training on Linux on iSeries, iSeries LPAR, and SQL.

Tech stack: Java, JavaScript, iSeries, OS/400, DB2, Movex

Ericsson, Master's ThesisFull-time, May 2003 - Sep 2003
Stockholm

Master's thesis entitled 3G IPv6 Node Emulator. Designed and implemented a Gateway GPRS Support Node (GGSN) with IPv6 support for 3G end-to-end terminal testing. Developed in C/C++ and Python on *BSD, Linux, and Solaris, including modifications to the FreeBSD kernel and IPv6 stack.

Tech stack: C, C++, Linux, FreeBSD

W UKD Distans, Head Teacher Part-time, Dec 1999 - Mar 2003 Umeå, Malung

Taught high school students programming in C, C++, SQL, and Visual Basic in a part-time role.

Tech stack: C, C++, SQL, Visual Basic

Utfors, NOC Technician
Part-time, May 2000 - Aug 2002
Uppsala, Stockholm

Managed core and customer networks, handling infrastructure configuration, monitoring, and operations.

Tech stack: Solaris, Linux, Cisco, Juniper

Entrepreneurship, in more detail

Hackerman AB, Founder
Dec 2016 - Present
Gothenburg, Remote

Provided product and technology consulting services. Conducted research in areas such as AI, and game engines.



Gomorron Östersund, Co-founder & partner

Jan 2017 - Nov 2020 Östersund, Remote

Brightn AB, Co-founder & CTO

Jun 2014 - Apr 2019 Örebro, Östersund, Remote Led product strategy and digital presence for a creative coworking space supporting startups and entrepreneurs. Also ensured top-quality coffee.

Built and launched a digital platform enabling retailers to connect with customers, reducing reliance on printed discount flyers and improving engagement efficiency.

Tech stack: Objective-C, Swift, Java, JavaScript, Ruby, Python, Machine Learning, AWS