

Paul Gale

Driving Automation & Innovation in Data Lifecycle - Platform Engineering Data Strategy & Governance Advocate

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Professional Profile

As a staunch advocate for reimagining the data management paradigm, I am a seasoned data architect passionate about driving innovation in the cloud-integration landscape. While I take pride in my technical acumen, my true prowess lies in challenging hidebound thinking, fostering team cohesion, and crafting transparent communication for streamlined delivery. Large businesses stand on the precipice of a transformative shift in this era. It's high time for them to adopt a holistic approach to data management, emphasising strategies like 'shift left', domain-driven design (DDD), and 'data products'. Additionally, the automation of CI/CD pipelines isn't just an efficiency play; it's a business imperative. Embracing these paradigms isn't just about staying updated; it's about future-proofing businesses. With my blend of technical and commercial expertise, I'm committed to helping organisations navigate this data-driven future, ensuring solutions are not only cutting-edge but also sustainable and rooted in impeccable data integrity.

Career history

July 2022 – Present

Senior Enterprise Data Architect – Ingka (Ikea) Netherlands

Part of a small team defining Ingka's future state architect, defining and working on a roadmap, allowing Ingka to put data first in its complex digital landscape. Driving the adoption of a shift-left federated approach to data management, with a focus on automation and platform engineering. I've published a couple of articles on LinkedIn in this regard.

Feb 2022 – Aug 2020 (contract)

Solution Data Architect - Renewables & Energy Solutions at Shell

Solution and Data Architect on several projects, helping CDOs and Enterprise Architecture implement a Data Mesh.

Nov 2020 – Dec 2021 (contract)

Data Architect - ABN AMRO Clearing Bank

Design and own the future state architecture FSA and strategic vision, responsible for developing the global data platform and its execution in a challenging, complex data landscape.

- Ensuring a well-integrated global enterprise architecture around data.
- Further details include overseeing and managing the complete landscape from a data architecture perspective and integrating it with other architecture layers.
- Part of a small, highly professional, international team in Amsterdam, Chicago and Sydney.

Jan 2020 – May 2020 (contract)

Data Architect - Wittur

Contract role working on a major ERP integration programme across 27 countries following a substantial number of acquisitions on behalf of this manufacturing firm specialising in elevator components.

- Implementing complex global LN ERP solutions across all manufacturing areas to ensure best practice in data management where 90% of manufactured parts are of bespoke design
- A significant shift from on-premise to a global multi-tenant cloud-based platform with multiple application interfaces, ensuring transparency and compliance.
- Designed robust taxonomy and definitions in classifying data to ensure integrity and accuracy across multiple systems

Mar 2014 – Mar 2020

Infor

Multinational provider of cloud-based business application solutions with 17,000 employees worldwide.

Jan 2017 – Mar 2020

Senior Data Architect

Following the acquisition of BIRST by Infor, I designed and owned the integration of the analytics, integrating into Infor's ERP stack, including creating a data model for self-customised analytics solutions.

- Designing solutions to prevent data drift in the challenging task of transferring data from relational databases into a cloud-based continuous delivery model
- Created robust architecture ensuring the integrity of data models and performance within an extensibility framework
- Influenced change of thinking within the company

Mar 2014 – Jan 2017

Technical Account Manager – BIRST

Managing key accounts to ensure products were optimised to client requirements and integrated fully within their IT infrastructure, in addition to problem-solving and training.

- Key relationship holder for corporate accounts, including Reckitt Benckiser and Schneider Electric
- Set and led the strategic direction of accounts, continuously improving business intelligence processes and driving client adoption.
- Built data model for the management of HR benefits packages for the use of Thomson's Online Benefits clients, including Apple and Microsoft
- Managed the migration of FX tracking analytics to Salesforce for Ebury, a leading international financial transactions provider

Oct 2013 – Feb 2014 (contract)

Business Intelligence Architect/Developer - ITRIS BV

Led the architecting of a content delivery system for this Dutch company providing ERP and financial information support solutions to housing associations.

- Built an accurate business intelligence solution on an Oracle platform that made complex statistical calculations from information received from Moody's Analytics

Feb 2012 – Mar 2013 (contract)

Data Integration Consultant - Acknowledge BV

Following the acquisition of PrioX by Acknowledge, I further developed the business intelligence model and provided technical account management support to existing customers.

- Embedded analytics into service offerings and coached and trained staff on business intelligence and relational database concepts
- Managed SQL service consolidation project for a client and additionally a management information data warehouse solution integrating data from many sources

Jan 2010 – Feb 2012 (shareholder)

Business Intelligence Director - PrioX BV

Designed and built a universal business intelligence module to easily interface and support customers' analytic reporting tools.

- Designed Star Schema utilising ITIL Service Management, enabling generic data mart and uploading of data from other sources for service management

Jan 2010 – Jul 2011

Senior Business Intelligence Consultant - MS Mode

Managing a project implementing ITIL processes and an analytical self-service reporting platform using Microsoft SSIS, SSRS and SSAS.

Oct 2002 – Dec 2008 (shareholder)

Owner/Director - Ensior BV

Co-founded this company that grew to a well-known business intelligence consultancy company in the Netherlands, growing from 3 to 23 employees.

- Involved in all aspects of running and growing the business, securing major clients, including Vodafone and SETA
- Recruited, mentored, and coached teams to ensure the highest standards of technical delivery

Early career: Leadership and consulting roles within IT/business intelligence

Key skills

✦ Management, mentor,

✦ **Systems/OS:** Microsoft Windows, Linux, Unix (Solaris, AIX), VAX VMS

✦ **Technologies:** ERP (Infor, SAP), AD, LDAP, HTML, XML, JSON, AWS, ETL, ESB(MQ), ITIL, Data Modelling (Star Schema, Kimball, Inmon and Data Vault), Data Mesh, Data Fabric, Cloud Architectures
Experience in various programming languages and scripting languages.

Articles Published on LinkedIn

[Platform Engineering: The Digital Glue for Unlocking AI Innovation](#)

24 November 2024

[Reimagining the Data Marketplace: The Gateway to AI Innovation](#)

29 November 2024

[Reimagining the Developer Platform: Data-First the Key to AI Innovation](#)

6 December 2024

More to follow on reducing cognitive load for engineering teams and implementing a paradigm shift in large organisations.