

Paul Gale

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Professional Summary

Paul Gale is a visionary Data Strategy Manager with over 10 years of experience leading data initiatives in large organisations. He specialises in developing transformative data and AI strategies, fostering collaboration across teams, and enhancing data governance and quality. His expertise in change management and stakeholder engagement empowers organisations to harness data as a strategic asset.

Experience

Senior Enterprise Data Architect, Ingka (Ikea) Netherlands – Netherlands July 2022 – Present

- Partner with C-level executives and domain leads to shape Ingka's future-state architecture and secure senior stakeholder buy-in for a data-first strategy across a complex digital ecosystem.
- Champion a federated approach to data management, enabling autonomous teams while aligning governance standards enterprise-wide.
- Drive cultural and technical shifts through thought leadership, publishing articles and facilitating dialogue to challenge legacy mindsets and rally support for continuous data-driven innovation.

Solution Data Architect – Renewables & Energy Solutions, Shell

- Advised Chief Data Officers and Enterprise Architects, aligning multiple stakeholder groups on the design and rollout of a Data Mesh framework.
- Orchestrated cross-business workshops to reconcile differing data priorities and embed federated governance principles into business-as-usual operations.

Data Architect, ABN AMRO Clearing Bank Nov 2020 – Dec 2021

- Defined and owned the bank's future state data architecture, securing consensus from global stakeholders across Amsterdam, Chicago, and Sydney.
- Acted as primary liaison between business, technology, and compliance teams, ensuring strategic alignment and robust integration with other architecture layers.

Data Architect, Wittur Jan 2020 – May 2020

- Led data architecture for a multi-country ERP integration, managing senior stakeholders through significant change in data governance and compliance.
- Unified disparate data definitions and processes across 27 countries, negotiating local requirements into a standardised global cloud-based solution.

Senior Data Architect, Infor Jan 2017 – Mar 2020

- Directed the integration of BIRST analytics into Infor's ERP stack, influencing senior product leaders and global development teams to adopt a consistent extensibility framework.
- Successfully mitigated data drift challenges by aligning diverse technical teams and stakeholders on architectural standards.

Technical Account Manager – BIRST, Infor Mar 2014 – Jan 2017

- Owned key client relationships, including Reckitt Benckiser and Schneider Electric, translating complex technical solutions into business value propositions for senior stakeholders.
- Set strategic account roadmaps, built trust at the executive level, and resolved high-stakes issues to drive adoption and client satisfaction.

Various Roles including Business Intelligence Architect/Developer, Data Integration Consultant, Business Intelligence Director, Senior BI Consultant, Owner/Director, ITRIS BV / Acknowledge BV / Prioix BV / MS Mode / Ensior BV

- Successfully founded and scaled a BI consultancy from 3 to 23 employees, securing major enterprise clients and cultivating high-trust partnerships.
- Delivered strategic analytics and architecture engagements, coached teams and led stakeholder workshops to embed data-driven decision-making.

Publications

Data Mesh and Data Fabric: Moving Beyond Paradigms to a Software-Centric Future www.linkedin.com/pulse/data-mesh-fabric-moving-beyond-paradigms-future (LinkedIn)	Jan 2025
Will 2025 Be the Turning Point for Data Lifecycle Management? www.linkedin.com/pulse/2025-turning-point-data-lifecycle-management (LinkedIn)	Dec 2024
Data Products as Code: Bridging Software and Data Management for Innovation www.linkedin.com/pulse/data-products-code-bridging-software-management-innovation (LinkedIn)	Dec 2024
Reimagining the Developer Platform: Data First the Key to AI Innovation http://www.linkedin.com/pulse/reimagining-developer-platform-data-first-key-ai-innovation (LinkedIn)	Dec 2024
Platform Engineering: The Digital Glue for Unlocking AI Innovation http://www.linkedin.com/pulse/platform-engineering-digital-glue-unlocking-ai-innovation (LinkedIn)	Nov 2024

Skills

Data strategy development: Expert in transformative data roadmaps

Data governance: Proficient in compliance and quality assurance

Stakeholder engagement: Aligns with C-level and cross-functional teams

Change management: Drives cultural and operational shifts

Leadership and mentoring: Guides and develops data teams

Value enablement: Maximises data impact and outcomes

Capability development: Bridges gaps in data skills