

Curriculum Vitae

Gert R.B. Schepens

Agile manager, Product Owner & Scrum master.
Project manager, IT Specialist, Coach
& Entrepreneur-at-large.



I shine in technical IT Product Owner roles, let's make some APIs; and in challenging Scrum Master or Agile Coach missions; I'll come help out your ailing teams.

Driven by curiosity, guided by experience. I bring over 20 years of hands-on expertise in tech, product, and team leadership — from Linux systems to cloud-native platforms, from early-stage ideas to enterprise transformations. My roots uniquely lie in both classic PRINCE2 delivery and a deeply agile mindset, coaching teams and leaders alike. I've led product ownership across API, data, and privacy domains, built MVPs as startup CTO, and helped large-scale organizations navigate digital change. With a strong foundation in infrastructure, data, and development, I thrive at the intersection of delivery, architecture, and strategy.

I'm also a seasoned trainer, workshop facilitator, and published author - passionate about clarity, collaboration, and making complex systems work for real people.



Personalia

Name	Gert Schepens
Birthening	27 mei 1982
Adress	Nieuwstraat 82, 9340 Lede
Languages	Nederlands (Moedertaal), English (Fluent), Français (Advanced)
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Professional Experience

A selection of recent noteworthy projects:

CureVac contacted me to industrialize the cloud-based development of personalized cancer vaccines, helping bridge the gap between high-cadence biotech research and the rigorous demands of a GxP engineering landscape. I reset the organization by splitting the group into two specialized units, creating distinct working rhythms that protected the scientists' need for rapid exploration while ensuring the cloud build path remained stable and predictable. We ditched the heavy Agile dogma for a pragmatic, minimal framework that let us refactor complex lab processes into a fully traceable industrial pipeline powered by Azure, Python, and automated CI/CD chains. The real heavy lifting, however, happened in the human stack where the tech couldn't follow. I moved their agile transformation away from unsustainable, heroic weekend pushes and over-engineered complexity by replacing those patterns with psychological safety and clear, honest communication. Cemented by a strong set of agile habits and communication streams. By listening to the dynamics that weren't being voiced in standups and mediating the friction between sites, I helped a frustrated group find its stride as a streamlined, high-performance organization. I don't just manage the delivery cycles—I build the culture that makes the engineering mission actually sustainable.

Proximus challenged me both as a Product Owner and as a Scrum Master. As PO, I owned the Privacy Management API and the GDPR API, supported by a hand-picked, Java-dedicated backend API team, governing the GDPR and API data lakes for Proximus. A significant part of this work involved managing GDPR-sensitive datasets and handling privacy-related data emergencies — a great match with my love for critical backends and their data. In parallel, I led a two-year emergency task force focused on stabilizing and cleaning up the IAM data lake. We tackled structural production issues in the IAM data pipelines, restored data quality, and addressed large-scale data provisioning challenges across multiple generations of legacy systems. While I wasn't working directly with SAS, the role required close coordination with business users operating on legacy analytical tooling, and aligning platform remediation

efforts with the needs of analytics and BI teams working across the company and its subsidiaries.

My scrum master challenges included streamlining the IAM SAFe ART of 50+ people through agile transformation, coaching their widely cross-functional talent pool to working optimally. Enabling the PXS agile transformation to organization wide agility. Facilitating the needed multi-disciplinary workshops and war rooms that drive decision-making and product strategy. Supporting the sales leadership in bringing operational excellence, and bringing agility to their Flanders Sales cluster.

At *schip.gent*, our startup studio, I led across all roles required to bring early-stage ideas to life — from product design and ownership to technical prototyping and venture shaping. I co-developed and led products like the Social Paragraph content automation platform (a web based platform with smooth UX/UI, and including its browser plugin), and prototyped hardware-enabled concepts like StreetCharges. Each project was a lean startup in practice — no external funding, just resourcefulness, adaptability, and relentless iteration. This period sharpened my entrepreneurial mindset and gave me end-to-end experience in building digital products from zero to launch.

At *Belfius*, I was product owner of the internal knowledge database, focussing on stability, reliability and pragmatic UX. We built 2 sturdy teams during their rocky SAFe Agile Transformation, as scrum master, coach and lead of their internal Scrum Masters community of practice. Shaping the human & technological aspects.

The *Chancellery of the Prime Minister* contacted me to take on the *project management* for a long struggling project with a different government instance. To get it back on it's proper Prince2 rails. An interesting challenge on a technical and human level. A project with a heavy and problematic history. A large number of actors with strong professional and philosophical differences.

I was offered the ultimate green field at *Afdeling Wegen en Verkeer* as their "*Agile Cloud Consultant*", and asked to bring their complete bare-metal java infrastructure to "The Cloud". Devops, continuous integration, continuous delivery, Microservices, .. A big project with a small team on the bleeding edge. For an enormous java stack, built by 4 teams in government context.

Curevac (2025-2026)

InsightLab.be (2025 - ..)

Proximus (2019 - 2025)
master

DGTL (2012 - ..)

Savion Ray (2022)

schip.gent (2016 - 2022)

Gamified (2016 - 2019)

Belfius (2017 - 2019)
PM.

Managing partner, CTO

Agile coach, Product Owner, Scrum

Zaakvoerder, PM, Agility & IT specialist.

Head of Digital Innovation.

Managing Partner, CTO.

Trainer.

Scrum master, Coach, Project Owner,

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Kanselarij van de Eerste Minister (2016 - 2017)	Project Manager
Agentschap Wegen & Verkeer team lead (2014 - 2016)	Agile Cloud Consultant. Architect, Infra
Prophets (2013)	Tech audit.
NDRX (2013)	System admin and troubleshooting.
Ogilvy (2013)	Tech audit.
Universiteit Gent (2008 - 2014)	Project manager & Perl Specialist.
Open Future (2009 - 2012)	Linux & FOSS consultant & trainer.
Cronos (2008 - 2009)	Linux & Open Source Consultant
2Mpact (2007 - 2008)	System administrator.

Detailed information is available on LinkedIn.

Other Experience

Blood on the Clocktower (2024 - ..)	Host & storyteller
Gent Lean Coffee meetup (2016 - ..)	Co-Founder & Organiser
Father (2013 - ..)	Peacetime negotiations
JCI (2013 - 2019)	Member, Commission director, Communications Director
Highborn (2009 - 2011)	Community manager.
Ring of Doom (2004 - 2009)	Technical & change management.
Jeugdhuis Leeuwerik (2003 - 2005)	Team leader (bar team) & management.

Management

Methodologies

SAFe, PRINCE2, Scrum, Pomodoro, Kanban, Lean, Agile, DevOps
Humaneness, Empathy & NLP, Sociocracy S3, Liberating Structures, Bullet Journaling (BuJo), Change Management

Fields

Infrastructure, Migration, Web, IT backend, Web retail, Social media, Greenfield

Analysis & Coaching

People Management; Change Management; Team Management & Coaching; Conflict management; Facilitating of workshops, panel talks, war rooms and design sessions; Coaching T and L shaped cross functional teams spanning developers, UX/UI designers, operators, QA engineers, management and sales.

Production Management

Analysis, Planning, Reporting,
From scratch to production, Upgrade paths
Backlog grooming, Sprint goal setting, MVP definitions

Stakeholder feedback loops, API upgrades within uptime and release deadlines
Critical infrastructure risk handling, Hotfix war rooms

Technology Management

Product choice, Architecture planning, Internal training & knowledge sharing
Managing pentests, Load test optimization with production deadlines
Data ingestion, Data pipelines, Data quality, BI, Data platform modernization

Management Tools

Jira / Confluence, Target Process, Smartsheets, Trello, Redmine, Asana,
Google Drive, MS Office, Power BI, Salesforce

Business Growth & Innovation

Lean Startup, Business Model Canvas, Value Proposition Design,
Creative Thinking Techniques

Technical Overview

Programming

Perl, Bash, Python, PHP, .NET, JavaScript, jQuery, Java, AI assisted
engineering
CI/CD pipelines, GitLab, Github, Powershell

Artificial Intelligence

Maximizing AI impact in controlled corporate environments; AI supported
infrastructure; Strategic AI Implementation; AI in controlled, regulated
corporate GxP/GDPR environments; AI-Assisted Engineering; Workflow
optimization; Advanced prompting strategies; Intelligent Infrastructure; AI in
SRE/DevOps practices; Generative Workflow Optimization;
"Human-in-the-loop" AI integration; AI as a team member.

Web Technologies

Apache, Nginx, MySQL, MSSQL, Tomcat, Drupal, WordPress, MediaWiki, iText
Atlassian (Jira, Confluence, Bamboo), Redmine, OTRS, Rundeck, Sandstorm,
Let's Encrypt
Custom development

Data Tools

Target Process, Jira, Salesforce, ElasticSearch, Kibana, Logstash, Fluentd
Mosquito MQTT, Power BI

Version Control

Subversion (SVN), Git

Linux Ecosystems

Red Hat (RHCT), CentOS, Debian, Ubuntu, Gentoo, Slackware

Cloud Services

AWS, Azure, EC2, S3, RDS, Databricks

ELB, EBS, Elasticsearch, SNS, KMS, CloudWatch
SES, SQS, CloudFormation, Lambda

Windows

Windows NT, XP, and earlier

Android

Vanilla AOSP, CyanogenMod, CM Development

Server Administration

Puppet (Puppet Master), Ansible (incl. Ansible-pull)

Virtualisation

Xen, KVM, VirtualBox, RHEV, Vagrant, Docker

Networking

DNS, DHCP, iptables, Bridging, Bonding, PXE
OpenVPN, NFS, GlusterFS, Samba

Monitoring

Nagios, Zabbix, Home Assistant

Backup Solutions

Bacula, Amanda, rsync

Security

Identity and Access Management, Forgerock, SELinux, AppArmor, ELK stack



Cloud-Native Practices

DevOps, Continuous Integration, Continuous Delivery
Microservices, End-to-End Full Stack Automation



Training

Introduction to Psychology. Coursera
Yale. 2019
SAFe basics. 2019
Scrum Master. 2016
PRINCE2 Practitioner. 2016
PRINCE2 Foundation. 2016
Creatieve Generalist. 2016
Public speaking class. Kirsten Ujvari,

2015
JCI Relationship Styles. 2014
SBS Mijn persoonlijke
doelstelling.2014
JCI Trainer. 2013
JCI Presenter. 2013
JCI Improvisation for Success. 2013
JCI Jumpstart, JCI Achieve, JCI
Impact 2013

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Advanced Puppet for Puppet
Masters. 2011
jQuery. 2011
RedHat Certified Technician. 2009
Bachelor in de Toegepaste
Informatica (Specialisatie Systeem
administratie),

Hogeschool Gent, 2007
Jeugdwerk beleids-opleidingen. VFJ,
2002 - 2005
Hoofdanimator in het Jeugdwerk.
VFJ, 2004



Other activities

Agile manager, AI adventurer, BJJ-er, Blogger, Book enthusiast, Cat lover,
Climber, Coach, Comics reader, Entrepreneur, Father, Games fan, Linux
specialist, Product owner, Project manager, Roleplayer, Scrum master,
Snowboarder, Tech geek, Writer, ..