



Michael Klein

Cloud Platform Architect/Engineer

Cloud Architect and Engineer with over 20 years of experience in IT (Silicon Valley & Europe) who likes to actually build things. Specialized in Google Cloud Platform (GCP), Platform Engineering, and CloudOps.

📍 The Randstad, Netherlands

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🐙 [m5lk3n](#) (GitHub)

Work **Lead Cloud Architect**

EPO

Sep 2010 – Present

- As Lead Cloud Architect, I ensure cost efficiency: Instead of paying €1 to Google Cloud Platform (GCP), I make sure our actual pay is ~60 cents
- I designed and built two Enterprise-grade GCP "tenants" incl. their foundational setup as well as the operational processes and guardrails
- I built the core GCP team and helped to grow it to 6 FTEs, including the hiring of 3 cloud architects and engineers
- I helped to adopt GCP from 0 to > €4M p.a., saving ~50% compared to on-premises
- I was directly involved in the implementation of several GCP discount agreements, e.g., with ~€270K additional saving in 2023 and ~€350K in 2024
- I helped to increase our overall 2024 production output by 2% (~€50M)
- I'm the sole developer of `cecLi`, the missing `gcLOUD browsers` command
- As Architect, Common Build Services, I reduced CI capacity by ~20%, keeping the quantity to ~800 nightly builds and thousands of builds per day

- I help to introduce Enterprise-grade Kubernetes "the hard way", individually contributing to cluster- and application-level Observability

Development Manager

IDS Scheer (later acquired by Software AG, now SAG ARIS GmbH)

Sep 2003 – Aug 2010

- As Development Manager for Oracle BPA Suite, I achieved ~140% ROI in 3 years
- I built up an office and a development outpost for 5 FTEs abroad, in the US
- As Team Manager Web Development, I saved a 7 digit figure deal from customer drop-out
- I mentored a thesis

Software Engineer

Insiders Technologies

Jan 2001 – Aug 2003

- During my first 6 weeks, I developed a working prototype of a web-based search system, which was demoed at the world's largest IT trade fair, CeBIT

Volunteer

Volunteer Firefighter

Waldmohr Fire Department

Oct 1988 – Jan 2019

I served as a volunteer firefighter for over 30 years, starting as a junior cadet and eventually becoming a state-certified incident commander and group leader. During my tenure, I participated in over 100 firefighting operations, contributing to the safety and well-being of the community. Additionally, I created and developed the organization's website, enhancing communication and outreach efforts.

- I was a junior cadet between 1988 and 1990
- I was a firefighter from 1990 to 2019
- I became a state-certified incident commander and group leader
- I was the creator and developer of the organization's website between 1998 and 2006
- I participated in 100+ incidents

Education

University of Hagen

Computer Science

Oct 2012 – May 2016

Master of Science (M.Sc.)

Clemson University

Computer Science

Jul 1998 – Aug 1998

Summer School

Courses

- Software Design and Implementation Using C++

University of Applied Sciences Kaiserslautern

Computer Science

Oct 1996 – Nov 2000

"Diplom-Informatiker (FH)"

Projects

Wyatt

Oct 2024 – Feb 2025

A location- and time-based reminder app for Android and iOS.

- I implemented the app using Flutter, enabling cross-platform development
- I integrated Geofencing and Google Maps
- I published the article "Dynamic (and Secure) Google Maps API Key in Flutter" on Medium, sharing insights and challenges faced during the project in regards to securely handling Google Maps API keys in Flutter applications
- I published the article "Geofencing in Flutter" on Medium, detailing the implementation and use cases of Geofencing in the app

Agility

Jan 2021 – Apr 2021

A cloud-native implementation of how to measure agility using Kubernetes Deployment Frequency.

- Inspired by the book "Accelerate - The Science Behind DevOps: Building and Scaling High Performing Technology Organizations" (Forsgren, Humble, and Kim), I implemented this project to illustrate the concept of the KPI Deployment Frequency (DF) (or Throughput)
- I implemented the project using Golang and Kubernetes, demonstrating how to measure agility through Kubernetes Deployment Frequency
- I integrated Prometheus and Grafana for monitoring and visualization of deployment metrics

Certificates

STACKIT Certified STACKIT Cloud Engineer

Issued by STACKIT

Jan 2026

Google Cloud Certified Gen AI Leader

Issued by Google Cloud

May 2025

Google Cloud Certified Professional Cloud Developer

Issued by Google Cloud

Apr 2024

Google Cloud Certified Professional Cloud Architect

Issued by Google Cloud

Nov 2022

AWS Certified Developer Associate (DVA)

Issued by Amazon Web Services

Jul 2022

Certified Rancher Operator: Level One

Issued by Rancher

Jul 2020

Google Cloud Certified Professional Cloud Architect

Issued by Google Cloud

Jun 2020

Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA)

Issued by The Linux Foundation

Aug 2019

AWS Certified Solutions Architect (SAA)

Issued by Amazon Web Services

Dec 2018

Certified Scrum Product Owner (CSPO)

Issued by Scrum Alliance

Sep 2017

Certified CloudBees Jenkins Engineer (CCJE)

Issued by CloudBees

Jul 2017

ITIL Foundation Level

Issued by APMG International

Nov 2012

Publications

The Sovereign Cloud Fail-Over Pattern

Published by Medium

Oct 2025

Failure happens: Fail over or recover to the Sovereign Part of a Cloud Platform. A Cloud Infrastructure Design Pattern.

Geofencing in Flutter

Published by Medium

Jan 2025

What Geofence limitations exist and how to work around them in Flutter.

Dynamic (and Secure) Google Maps API Key in Flutter

Published by Medium

Jan 2025

How not to hard-code and distribute a Google Maps API Key in your App.

Skills

Google Cloud Platform (GCP)

Foundational Design

Foundational Implementation

FinOps

Kubernetes Engine (GKE)

Serverless (Cloud Run, Cloud Functions)

Platform Engineering

Developer Collaboration

CI/CD

Developer Self-Service

Cloud Operations

CloudOps Processes

Cloud Infrastructure

Infrastructure Design Patterns

Infrastructure as Code (IaC)

Team Management

Hiring and Team Building

Mentoring

Collaboration

Languages

English

C2

German

Native Speaker

References

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/m5lk3n/details/recommendations/>

– LinkedIn Recommendations