



Eric Kok

Solutions Architect · Mobile Lead

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I am a solutions architect and lead mobile engineer with a PhD in Computer Science and more than twenty years of experience in building software, from replacing legacy systems to mobile apps used by millions. At VRT, Belgium's public broadcaster, I shape the architecture of the VRT NWS and Sporza platforms and co-lead the team responsible for VRT's shared mobile libraries. I love translating technologically challenging ideas into real features. In 2027, I am relocating to the Leiden region in the Netherlands.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Solutions Architect at VRT, Brussels, Belgium

Feb 2024 – Present

In the VRT NWS and Sporza development teams, we build highly scalable news and sports apps and websites that support peaks of over a million unique visitors. Our IT systems are as trustworthy as our journalism, but we also move quickly when needed. From my background in information design, app development and scientific research, I evaluate technical proposals, weigh design alternatives, and design the data flows from back end to front end, and between the VRT brands. This includes projects such as realizing digital advertising strategies, reworking the media playback stack, personalized fantasy sports games and an independent fallback website for crisis continuity.

Mobile Engineer & App Chapter co-lead at VRT

Sep 2019 – Present

I (re)built the Sporza sports app (over 500,000 active users) in Flutter, from planning and data design to implementing the UI/UX design, ready for the upcoming sports tournaments this summer. Co-leading the internal App Chapter team, I am also responsible for the quality of our shared in-house iOS and Android libraries, such as for secure login and the mission-critical video and audio players.

Senior Mobile Consultant at IT Licious, Belgium

Sep 2019 – Present

Through IT Licious, I work for VRT (above), advise early on in large app projects, and take on short-term critical mobile projects. Using Flutter, we build cross platform applications that feel right, targeting both mobile and web.

Senior Android Engineer at KBC Bank, Leuven, Belgium *Apr 2016 – Aug 2019*

Via Steepconsult, I worked on all consumer Android apps of KBC/CBC, including KBC Mobile (over 500,000 active users). As the code base grew to ~400k lines, I was responsible for architecture, in-house frameworks, security hardening, code reviews, coaching and automated testing, while user satisfaction kept rising (4.5 rating).

Open-source developer as 2312 development (2312.nl) *Apr 2009 – Present*

I publish open-source apps and libraries. Transdroid has been going strong for over 15 years (100,000+ active users) and frequently receive contributions on GitHub. I also publish Kotlin and Flutter libraries to give back to the community.

Lead Android Developer at Ezeeworld, Paris, France *Oct 2013 – Mar 2016*

I was responsible for the Android SDK of an iBeacon advertising platform in multi-million-user apps (La Poste, Chronodrive, SFR) and jointly led R&D, such as a beacon-based indoor positioning system. We also built Android apps for big-name clients (Leclerc, Vente Privée) that were relied upon by millions of users.

PhD Researcher at Utrecht University, the Netherlands *Dec 2008 – Feb 2013*

I studied how formal logic and argumentation apply to distributed (multi-agent) software, and presented the results at international conferences.

Earlier roles in the Netherlands *Nov 2003 – Nov 2008*

Software engineer at Deltares, Delft (C#); student assistant at Utrecht University (C++); software engineer at MostWare, Leiden (ASP.NET, PHP, SQL Server).

EDUCATION

Doctorate in Computer Science *Dec 2008 – Feb 2013*

Utrecht University, the Netherlands

PhD thesis: *Agents Interacting in Dialogues with Argumentation*

Master in Agent Technology *Sep 2006 – Jul 2008*

Utrecht University, the Netherlands

MSc thesis: *Adaptive reinforcement learning agents in real-time strategy games*

Bachelor in Information and Communication Technology *Sep 2000 – Jul 2004*

The Hague University of Applied Sciences, the Netherlands

PERSONAL

Nationality: Dutch

Languages: Dutch (native), English (fluent), French (professional), German (basic)

Leisure activities: gravel biking, cooking, craft beer, Lego, table-top games, travelling