

NIKLAS HEER

Engineering Manager Central Platform Services (CPS) @ Tradebyte (Zalando Group)

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EXPERIENCE

Tradebyte Software GmbH (Zalando Group) 09/2015 - Today (11 years) Ansbach, 

Engineering Manager Central Platform Services (CPS) 06/2024 - Today (2y 3m)

- Lead up to 9 platform and software engineers responsible for 24/7 shared services; completed a senior hire and supported an in-role promotion
- Set a 16-item roadmap for a self-service developer platform now spanning 24 services
- Led a multi-quarter modernization that advanced the Kubernetes estate through 1.31, moved shared tooling to EKS, improved GitLab reliability and retired Jenkins
- Led CPS's platform-side ISO 27001:2022 readiness work; Tradebyte achieved certification with zero nonconformities

Acting Head of Engineering Product & Tech Platform 10/2023 - 06/2024 (8m)

- Managed up to 26 people across 3 teams and multi-million-euro annual cloud and software operating costs
- Led the design and adoption of an Internal Developer Platform (IDP), onboarding 17 applications in one year across AWS EKS, Aurora, Argo CD, GitLab CI and Vault
- Established 24/7 platform support and led the strategic platform workstream, enabling company-wide adoption of shared self-service products

Senior Team Lead Central Platform Services (CPS) 03/2022 - 10/2023 (1y 7m)

- Established the Internal Developer Platform by bringing an agency-developed application in-house within one month; expanded the team from 5 to 11 and hired 6 people that year
- Improved lead time by 11%, cycle time by 34%, velocity by 20% and throughput by 16% by leading the adoption of Kanban
- Led a technical modernization protecting €1.16 billion in annual GMV across 44 customers

Team Lead Central Platform Services (CPS) 11/2019 - 03/2022 (2y 4m)

- Created and led the 6-person Central Platform Services team within Tradebyte's Digital Foundation
- Delivered shared platform capabilities spanning network governance, AWS account management and GitLab, improving security and software quality across engineering squads

DevOps and Quality Engineer 08/2018 - 11/2019 (1y 3m)

- Managed a 16-month PHP 5.6-to-7 migration across 20+ people and 6 teams without service interruption
- Established quality guidelines, CI and local developer environments that reduced production risk and accelerated AWS project bootstrapping

Software Developer 07/2017 - 08/2018 (1y 1m)

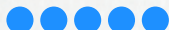
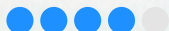
- Lowered the execution time of behavioral tests from 40+ minutes to under 20 minutes using AWS EC2 spot instances

IT Specialist for Application Development 09/2015 - 07/2017 (1y 10m)

Frontend Developer (working student) • Bertsch Innovation 11/2013 - 08/2015

Frontend Developer (working student) • Sellaround 01/2012 - 11/2015

LANGUAGES

German Native 
English Proficient 

SUMMARY

Engineering Manager with 6+ years of engineering leadership experience building teams and self-service platforms on AWS and Kubernetes. Led up to 26 people across 3 teams, grew a platform team from 5 to 11, and developed engineers through clear goals and delegated ownership. Directed platform modernization protecting €1.16 billion in annual GMV and set the roadmap for a developer platform spanning 24 services.

SKILLS

 **LEADERSHIP** People Leadership · Org Design
Agile Delivery · Self-service Strategy
 **PLATFORM** AWS · Kubernetes · GitOps
Reliability · FinOps · Developer
Platforms
 **ENGINEERING** AI-assisted Engineering
Python · GitLab CI · Platform
Architecture

PROJECTS

speed-comparison

2018 - Today <https://nheer.com/gh/speed-comparison>
Built and maintain a reproducible benchmark spanning 40+ programming languages with parallel CI and published results; attracted 700+ stars, 100+ forks and 50+ contributors.

Open-source portfolio

2012 - Today <https://github.com/niklas-heer>
Maintain 70+ public repositories across Rust, Go, Python and TypeScript, spanning developer tooling, automation, systems programming and language experiments.

/dev/night

2016 - 2020 <https://dev-night.io/>
Created and hosted this local meetup, establishing a community of 100+ IT professionals in Ansbach.

INTERESTS

Avid reader

Read 280+ books since 2017, focused on leadership, technology, history, philosophy and self-improvement.

EDUCATION

Certified Quality Manager

[IHK Würzburg](#)
2018 - 2019 Würzburg, Germany

IT Specialist Application Development

[Berufsschule Ansbach](#)
2015 - 2017 Ansbach, Germany

University studies (no degree)

[Media Informatics & Software Engineering](#)
2010 - 2015 Stuttgart & Birkenfeld, Germany