

Vicente Opaso

Frontend Architect & Technical Leader

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Languages: English — Fluent (C2) · Spanish — Native (C2)

SUMMARY

I'm a Frontend Architect and Technical Leader with over 25 years of experience designing and scaling high-performance digital platforms across enterprise, e-commerce, and mission-critical environments. I specialize in frontend architecture, composable platform design, and technical governance — establishing the patterns, standards, and tooling that enable distributed teams to deliver consistent, maintainable, and performant systems at scale.

My work sits at the intersection of architecture, Developer Experience (DevEx), and design systems — defining CI/CD automation, accessibility standards, and component governance that raise quality bars across entire codebases. Currently applying these principles to personal projects: an AI-governed personal site built with Spec-Driven Development, a production AI job-search pipeline with multi-source ingestion and Linear integration, and a full-stack consumer product — while also managing self-hosted cloud infrastructure on a personal VPS.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Frontend Architecture · Composable Platform Design · Design Systems Strategy · Technical Governance · Developer Experience (DevEx) · CI/CD Automation · Accessibility (WCAG 2.1) · Performance Optimization · Cross-Functional Technical Leadership · Community of Practice (CoP) · Mentorship & Technical Coaching

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Web Engineering Manager & Frontend Architect

Nextthink · Madrid, Spain · Jul 2025 – Nov 2025

Owned the frontend architecture and technical delivery of nextthink.com — Nextthink's composable marketing and corporate web platform. Defined the stack, governed its quality, and led a globally distributed cross-functional team across India, the US, and Europe to deliver a scalable, performant, and accessible platform.

- Architected a modular composable platform using Next.js, GraphQL, Hygraph CMS, Tailwind CSS, and Vercel — enabling content-driven scalability and rapid iteration across six locales.
- Designed and enforced governance frameworks: CodeQL static analysis, branch protections, PR templates, and automated CI/CD pipelines, improving delivery consistency and code quality across a distributed cross-functional team.
- Built a DevEx-first engineering model — standardizing documentation, tooling, and onboarding workflows to reduce friction and improve release cadence.
- Established WCAG 2.1 accessibility standards and technical SEO architecture, supporting multilingual delivery across six locales.
- Rolled out observability and performance monitoring, improving Core Web Vitals and stability metrics by 25%.
- Embedded design–engineering feedback loops through shared UI patterns and reusable components — cutting design-to-dev handoff cycles.

Key focus areas: Composable Architecture · Frontend Governance · Web Performance · Accessibility · DevEx · CI/CD Automation · Technical SEO · Cross-Functional Collaboration

Technical Application Owner

EUROCONTROL · Brussels, Belgium · Feb 2025 – Jul 2025

Led technical governance, compliance, and modernization for aviation-critical user interfaces supporting the Network Manager Operations Centre (NMOC) — serving air traffic management professionals across Europe in a high-compliance, safety-critical environment.

- Defined the vision, architecture, and governance model for the EUROCONTROL Design System (EDS) — aligning component standards with safety and regulatory requirements.
- Architected the Network Manager UI (NMUI) microfrontend framework, improving modularity and performance across a 10-person cross-functional delivery team.
- Introduced a continuous delivery model with automated testing, static analysis, and peer review — reducing deployment friction by 40%.
- Created “Formal Thread” engineering documentation, establishing traceability across all UI workflows — reducing compliance review cycles for aviation-critical releases.
- Led cross-disciplinary design–engineering reviews, harmonizing accessibility, UX, and technical integrity across operational tools.

Key focus areas: Microfrontend Architecture · Design System Governance · Technical Compliance · CI/CD · Accessibility · Developer Experience · Documentation

Frontend Solutions Architect & Design System Lead

Carlsberg Group · Growth Products & Data · Lisbon, Portugal · Jan 2020 – Dec 2024

Led the architectural strategy, modernization, and governance of Carlsberg's global frontend ecosystem. Progressed from Lead Developer to Principal Developer, Design System Architect, and ultimately Frontend Solutions Architect — overseeing scalable digital delivery across B2B, marketing, and consumer products supporting over €1B in annual revenue.

- Architected and maintained the Malt Design System — a React + TypeScript component library integrating Figma, Storybook, design tokens, and automated CI/CD pipelines — establishing contribution governance and inner-sourcing model enabling adoption across distributed product teams.

- Designed composable, headless frontend platforms integrating CMS, multi-market localization, and reusable component systems — defining architectural patterns adopted across all digital products.
- Modernized CI/CD pipelines by implementing GitHub Actions, CodeQL, and Copilot — authoring engineering standards and documentation that improved onboarding speed and cross-team consistency.
- Designed and implemented digital compliance frameworks (Cookie Consent, Age Gateway, Global Policies), strengthening legal and WCAG 2.1 accessibility standards across all platforms.
- Founded Carlsberg’s Frontend Community of Practice — scaling knowledge sharing, unifying technical standards, and driving design–engineering alignment across global teams.
- Shaped frontend standards and architectural decisions as a member of the Software Engineering Leadership Team and Beacon Council.

Key focus areas: Frontend Architecture · Design Systems · DevEx · Composable Platforms · Inner-Sourcing · CI/CD · Accessibility · Technical Governance · Community of Practice

Co-founder & Principal

Greygoo · Naperville, IL, USA · Mar 2012 – Jun 2019

Co-founded and led a digital studio delivering full-stack web and mobile applications for enterprise and public-sector clients including General Motors, GO GROUND (NCAA), and the Paulson Institute. Owned all phases of architecture, delivery, and technical strategy from discovery through deployment.

- Designed modular React Native and Ionic architectures, enabling scalable and reusable cross-platform product delivery.
- Established internal design system standards, CI/CD pipelines, and documentation frameworks to ensure consistent delivery quality across the studio.
- Owned end-to-end delivery — from discovery through deployment — ensuring accessible, SEO-optimized, high-performance platforms with measurable outcomes.
- Directed multidisciplinary teams of designers and engineers; secured and managed six-figure contracts (>\$200K).

Key focus areas: Full-Stack Architecture · React Native · Design Systems · CI/CD · Accessibility (WCAG 2.1) · Web Performance · Technical Delivery

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE (2001–2019)

Senior Frontend Developer — Prizm Tech Group (2019)

Led a distributed team delivering a custom Angular-based healthcare platform. Oversaw UX, database design, and UI implementation. Managed client relations, documentation, and Agile delivery.

A/B Testing Developer — CRO Metrics (2018)

Built and deployed A/B and multivariate experiments for global e-commerce clients. Improved engagement and conversion through UX iteration and analytics-driven design.

Frontend Developer — Upshot Agency (2011)

Delivered high-quality microsites and internal tools for clients including Hilton Hotels, Anheuser-Busch, and Omron. Focused on responsive, accessible, and SEO-optimized interfaces.

Contracting Engineer — Nokia Networks (2001–2011)

Managed national rollout projects for T-Mobile, AT&T, and Alascom, including a \$10M 4G deployment program. Directed engineering teams and maintained technical documentation.

SKILLS

Frontend Development: JavaScript (ES6+) · TypeScript · React · Angular · Next.js · SPA · Component-Based Architecture · Progressive Web Apps (PWA) · Modular Frontend Engineering

Architecture & Integration: Composable Frontend Systems · Microfrontend Architecture · RESTful APIs · GraphQL · Headless CMS · Cloud-Native Web Platforms · API & Integration Design · Modular Architecture

Design Systems: Enterprise Design Systems · Atomic Design · Design Tokens · Storybook · Style Dictionary · Figma Integration · Component Governance · Inner-Sourcing · Contribution Workflows

Developer Experience & Quality: CI/CD Automation · GitHub Actions · CodeQL · Copilot Workflows · Static Analysis · Web Performance Optimization (WPO) · Accessibility (WCAG 2.1) · Code Review · SOLID Principles · Cross-Browser Testing

Leadership & Process: Technical Mentorship · Cross-Functional Leadership · Community of Practice (CoP) · Technical Governance · Stakeholder Alignment · Agile · Scrum · Kanban · Engineering Culture Development · People Management

Domain Expertise: B2B E-Commerce · Enterprise Delivery · AI-Augmented Development · Global Marketing Platforms · Customer-Centric Product Design · VPS Management · Self-Hosted Services (Nextcloud, Docker) · Spec-Driven Development (SDD) · Model Context Protocol (MCP) · Agentic Workflows · Open-Source LLM Deployment · Cloud GPU Inference (Modal) · Multi-Provider AI Abstraction · Anthropic API

PERSONAL PROJECTS

Personal Site & SDD Reference Implementation | Next.js 16, React 19.2, TypeScript 5.6, Tailwind CSS v4, Vercel (2025–Present)

- Rebuilt personal site using Spec-Driven Development (SDD): a documentation-first methodology where governance artefacts (Engineering Constitution, ADRs, AI Guardrails) precede and govern implementation.
- Enforced via GitHub Actions CI/CD: Lighthouse CI, line coverage, Playwright E2E, and CodeQL security scanning.
- AI-human collaboration at the architecture level — AI tools (Cursor, Copilot) operate within documented constraints rather than generating unconstrained output.

AI Job Search Pipeline | Node.js, Claude API, Linear API, GitHub Actions, Vercel (2025–Present)

- Designed and built a production-grade AI pipeline for job search: multi-source ingestion (11 job boards), AI-powered match scoring and dealbreaker detection using Claude (Anthropic), and application tracking in Linear.
- MCP (Model Context Protocol) server enables Claude to query and act on the pipeline directly, treating the job search as an agentic workflow rather than a static spreadsheet.
- 660 opportunities ingested, scored, labelled, and tracked through an application lifecycle (New → Sent → Discarded) with structured data and audit trail.
- Deployed via GitHub Actions CI/CD to Vercel — full separation of concerns between ingestion, scoring, and presentation layers.

Dev Team — Autonomous AI Delivery Pipeline | [Node.js](#), Qwen 2.5 Coder, Modal, MCP, GitHub Actions (2026–Present)

- A self-correcting agentic pipeline where specialised AI roles (PO → Designer → Backend → Frontend → QA → Fixer) carry a feature request through to a merged, CI-passing pull request with no human intervention in the happy path.
- Runs Qwen 2.5 Coder on Modal cloud GPUs — no third-party API dependency in the hot path. A multi-provider abstraction layer supports Claude, OpenAI, and any OpenAI-compatible endpoint, fully configurable at runtime.
- Exposes the full pipeline as an HTTP MCP server (submit_task, get_status, resume_task), making it composable with any MCP-compatible client — Claude Code, BrowserOS, or an outer AI agent.
- Durable checkpoint memory ensures a crashed or rate-limited run resumes from exactly where it left off rather than regenerating completed work.

Real-Time Political Anxiety Index | Next.js, Node.js, PostgreSQL, LLM API, Vercel (2026–Present)

- Real-time, non-partisan political anxiety index: 6-hourly pipeline ingesting news from 71 outlets across 3 providers, enriching articles, then using an LLM to score anxiety across 9 political domains.
- Confidence-weighted scoring with 5 fallback tiers; reduced LLM token usage 60–70% by using pre-computed VADER sentiment as structured LLM inputs.
- Production-grade: atomic DB transactions, SSRF protection, HMAC-authenticated endpoints, idempotent pipeline design, full PostgreSQL audit trail.
- BFF architecture: the frontend (Next.js) never touches the database; all data flows through a typed REST API.

Self-Hosted Cloud Infrastructure | VPS, Nextcloud, Immich, Docker (2025–Present)

- Self-managed VPS running Nextcloud (file storage and sync) and Immich (photo and video management).
- Operational ownership beyond the frontend: infrastructure provisioning, service configuration, uptime responsibility, and backup management.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design · Universidad del Pacífico · Santiago, Chile · 1998

BOARD & LEADERSHIP MEMBERSHIPS

Software Engineering Leadership Team — Carlsberg Group, Growth Products & Data

Steering group for all software designs, architecture, workflows, and ways of working across the engineering organization. Worked alongside Architects, Principals, and Leads to define technical direction and delivery standards.

Beacon Council — Carlsberg Group, Growth Products & Data

Steering group for One-Page Designs and technical decision-making across product teams — reviewing and approving architectural proposals across the product portfolio.