

CHRISTOPHER JIMENEZ

VP / Director of Engineering · AI-Driven Platform & Org Leader

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ABOUT ME

I'm an engineering executive with more than 20 years building and leading globally distributed organizations. I pair deep technical expertise with executive scale, shaping multi-year platform, security, and AI strategy at the leadership table and then translating it into shipped outcomes. I'm a builder by heart. I start technical, stay technical, drive architecture and ship code alongside my engineers, and lead best when I'm close to the work. I know how to apply AI for real business impact, whether that's enabling teams with AI-augmented development practices, accelerating delivery, or building AI-powered products. More than 20 years of shipping consumer and platform software gives me a unique perspective on how to take AI from prototype to production at scale, with the reliability, security, and observability real users demand. I build diverse, inclusive teams that consistently ship exceptional quality at scale.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director of Platform Engineering · Zenjob

May 2022 – Present

Berlin, Germany

I was recruited to broaden my executive scope beyond traditional platform engineering. I now lead Platform, Security, AI Operations, and Corporate IT as a single integrated engineering function, reporting into the Engineering Leadership Team.

- I oversee a diverse team of over 20 engineers, ranging from junior engineers to staff engineers, along with engineering managers. My teams spearhead Zenjob's core engineering infrastructure, focusing on advanced tooling and platform engineering initiatives.
- I founded and now run the AI Operations function as a strategic, company-wide capability. We automate manual processes, anticipate operational issues before they hit production, and give every department a shared AI delivery partner that fuels innovation across the board.
- I introduced AI-augmented development practices across engineering so the team compounds its output, and I partner with peers across product, security, and IT to decide which problems AI should solve, where humans stay in the loop, and how those investments translate into measurable business outcomes.
- I helm our security operations with a particular emphasis on application security and data compliance, elevating security into an engineering-grade discipline embedded in every team's workflow.
- I reframed Corporate IT as an integrated engineering team that adopts engineering-centric practices, shifting IT from a ticket queue into a force multiplier for the whole company.
- As a member of the Engineering Leadership Team, I collaborate with other leaders to shape our engineering strategy, hiring direction, technology bets, and culture. I also continue to ship code alongside the team, which keeps my judgement sharp and strategy grounded in delivery reality.

VP of Engineering, Core Platforms · SoundCloud

March 2016 – March 2022

Berlin, Germany

I built and led the engineering organization at the heart of SoundCloud. My org owned the platforms, frameworks, APIs, and security layers that every product team depended on to serve millions of listeners and creators worldwide.

- I scaled the org to 80+ multi-platform engineers across 7 Engineering Managers and 4 Platform Leads, spanning multiple offices and continents.
- My org owned tooling, frameworks, APIs, backend systems, authorization frameworks, and security layers, the connective tissue powering every product surface at SoundCloud.
- I developed the engineering best practices and platform contracts that supported all engineering efforts at SoundCloud, enabling operational excellence across every product team and unlocking faster, safer delivery at company scale.

- I hired, coached, and promoted a deep bench of engineering managers and senior ICs, several of whom went on to lead organizations of their own at SoundCloud and beyond.
- I partnered with peer VPs across Product, Data, and Infrastructure to set the multi-year platform strategy that supported global growth and a user base in the hundreds of millions, while staying close to the work by leading architecture reviews, joining incident calls, and shipping code where it mattered.

Engineering Manager & Tech Lead, Soin Labs · Grupo Soin *December 2011 – December 2015*
San José, Costa Rica

As the most senior engineering leader at the company, I led Soin Labs, a 25-person cross-platform engineering team. I owned long-term technical strategy, organizational scaling, and team culture.

- I grew the org from a small team into a 25-engineer multi-platform group, restructuring squads as the product portfolio expanded into new platforms.
- I built the mobile engineering practice from scratch and shipped iOS and Android apps that reached hundreds of thousands of users in production.
- I partnered with our recruiting team to reimagine the engineering hiring process end-to-end. We raised the bar on quality, made the loop more humane, and made it possible to hire competitively from a non-traditional market.
- I helped foster a remote-first, inclusive, growth-first engineering culture well before remote was the norm. It became a model later adopted across the wider company and a hiring magnet for senior engineers in the region.

Senior Software Developer & Tech Lead, Voxox · Telcentris *January 2006 – November 2011*
San Diego, California

I led the Voxox client team distributed between San Diego and Costa Rica, in charge of award-winning multi-platform Voice-over-IP software.

- I re-architected and simplified the Voxox client applications, paying down years of complexity, and led the redesign and relaunch of voxox.com to align web, desktop, and mobile clients under a single product identity.
- I laid the technical foundation for Voxox's iOS and Android apps. This was my first taste of running distributed teams across continents, with engineers in both the US and Costa Rica.

KEY STRENGTHS

- **Executive leadership:** scaling and reorganizing engineering orgs (80+), leadership team partnership, multi-year strategy, hiring senior leaders, distributed and global teams.
- **AI and platform:** AI operations, LLM-powered tooling, internal copilots, agentic workflows, developer platforms, infrastructure, APIs, security, data compliance.
- **Hands-on technical:** backend systems, mobile (iOS and Android), web, system architecture, security engineering, developer experience. Still in the codebase.
- **Culture:** remote-first, inclusive hiring, coaching managers, customer-first product mindset, calm in incidents, a high bar held with empathy.

BEYOND WORK

- Advisor and mentor to startup founders and engineering executives, partnering on org design, scaling teams, platform and AI strategy, and the day-to-day craft of leading engineering well.
- Open-source contributor and a strong advocate for collaboration and knowledge-sharing in the developer community, especially around helping engineers transition into leadership roles.
- Non-profit work focused on wildlife conservation in Latin America. I believe deeply in using engineering to make the world a better place.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

- **Certified Scrum Master** · Scrum Alliance (2008)
- **B.Sc. Software Development** · CENFOTEC, Costa Rica (2005)
- **Technical Degree, Music with Emphasis in Piano** · Conservatorio de Castella, Costa Rica (2002)