

## Summary

*Creative geek with roots in the open source movement, an entrepreneurial mindset and a passion for delivering value by developing maintainable software.*

At the age of seven (1989) Cies wrote his first lines of code in a LOGO-like language on an MSX (pre-PC). Two years later he attended a conference on an emerging new technology, the Internet, at the Erasmus University from which he would graduate 16 years later.

After being introduced to the open source movement in 1997, he taught himself a variety of skills including

system administration and programming (Bash, Python, Ruby & C++). By 2002 he got his pet project KTurtle—a zero-entry-barrier programming environment—included into KDE's *edu* module, and thereby almost every Linux distribution.

From 2003 to 2007 he studied at the Erasmus University Rotterdam and graduated in *Business and Computer Science* (one curriculum). After graduation he travelled Europe and Asia during a two year sabbatical, on which he “hustled” several IT gigs (see experiences below) to extend the journey.

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## Experience

### Hoppinger

#### Head of Technology

Hoppinger is an open source minded “full-service” internet agency. Reporting directly to the general director, Marijn Bom. In charge of drawing and carrying out the vision for the tech department consisting of 15 developers. Streamlined datacenter operations with Puppet, introduced Rails for custom web-app development and Capistrano for deployment automation. Intimately involved with the software architecture of all technically challenging projects.

ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS

Apr '12 – present

### HRO (Rotterdam University of Applied Science)

#### Guest Lecturer

Introductory lecture on history of software development and open source for 1<sup>st</sup> year CS students.

ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS

Sep '12 – present

### Intellicap/ISTPL

#### IT Consultant

Intellicap is a social-sector advisory firm serving corporates, non-profits, development agencies and governments working in developing markets. Assessed their software development team and methodologies, trained their developers and build several web applications. One of those apps is *Mostfit*, an open source MIS for *microcredit* lenders.

MUMBAI, PUNE & HYDERABAD, INDIA

Nov '08 – Feb '09

#### IT & Strategy Consultant

Called in to solve several technical challenges and look at potential growth strategies for *Mostfit*.

Jan '10 – Aug '11

#### CTO

Proudly joined the C-family of Intellicap's software division, ISTPL, to make *Mostfit* the nr.1 software solution for micro credit lenders around the globe. Contracts got terminated half a year later due to investment issues.

Oct '11 – Feb '12

### Zarafa

#### QA & Release Manager

Zarafa might be the fastest growing open source product company in Europe, making a drop-in replacement for MS Exchange. Reported directly to the CEO, Brian Josef, and worked closely with the CTO, Steve Hardy. In charge of the 6 men strong QA department. Established test automation and continuous integration. Architected and implemented an all-integrated documentation and translation system that employed community effort. Got sent to India to analyse and streamline their outsourced operations.

DELFT, THE NETHERLANDS

Dec '09 – Jan '11

### Dharma Publishing

#### IT Consultant

Dharma Publishing, the worlds largest Buddhist publisher, is a non-profit, all-volunteer organisation that helps to preserve Tibetan Buddhism and culture. Built their *web shop*, and moved their digital content sales to SaaS applications.

NEAR SAN FRANCISCO (CA), USA

Nov '09 – Dec '09

- KDE** edu.kde.org/kturtle  
**Software Engineer** Dec '03 – present  
 KTurtle is an educational programming environment that simplifies learning the basics of programming. KTurtle is intended as a gift to future generations: a simple environment to get started with programming. In 2003 KTurtle got admitted to the KDE project.
- Truetopia Project** truetopiaproject.org  
**Initiator** Nov '07 – Apr '10  
 The Truetopia Project is an open source web application (Rails) to facilitate self-governing communities. It provides a workflow for collaborative problem identification and solution design.
- Dhurakij Pundit University International College** BANGKOK, THAILAND  
**Guest Lecturer** Sep '09  
 Invited by Dr. Pilun Piyasirivej and Mr. Michel Bauwens for two guest lectures: the open source movement and the semantic web.
- Opendream** BANGKOK, THAILAND  
**IT Consultant** Aug '09 – Sep '09  
 Architected and largely implemented an open source media sharing web service (REST api) that facilitates video uploads, transcoding and streaming. Coached their development team on system design, Ruby development (using Merb/Rails) and testing strategies such as TDD/BDD.
- Commuun** ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS  
**Senior Visionary** Jul '06 – Sep '09  
 Set up the technical infrastructure, defined the core competences and created a brand together with Peter Duijnste (the proprietor of Commuun). Then collaborated on several web applications (all Rails apps) within the context of his company.
- Erasmus University Rotterdam** ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS  
**Guest Lecturer** Jul '06 – Jul '09  
 Conducted a guest lecture on the phenomenon of open source, as part of the first year curriculum of *Computer Science & Economics*.
- The Health Agency** DELFT & ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS  
**Software Engineer** Jun '05 – Feb '06  
 Worked on their CMS (written in Python and uses PostgreSQL, XML/XSLT and Twisted).  
**Software Auditor** Dec '06  
 Assessed their Python/Zope/ZoDB-based web framework re-engineering project.
- Please refer to my [Linked-in profile](#) for a more complete list of work experiences along with recommendations.*
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## Education

- Erasmus University Rotterdam** ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS  
**Bachelor degree in Computer Science & Economics** 2004 – 2007  
 Focused on the economics of open source, rapid application development (RAD) and the semantic web technology stack (RDF/RDFS, OWL and SPARQL). Picked up quite some Java skills along the way.
- Technical University Delft** DELFT, THE NETHERLANDS  
**Industrial Design Engineering** (*discontinued*) 2001 – 2002
- Libanon Lyceum** ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS  
**VWO** (pre-university secondary education) 1994 – 2000
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## Skills

- Technical expertise:** Software design and implementation, with(in) a team. Big fan of Agile methodologies (Scrum and Kanban), automated deployment (Capistrano) and continuous integration (Hudson/Jenkins). Enjoys writing Ruby/Python/Java/C++, yet flirts regularly with Haskell. Solid knowledge of web technologies: HTML+CSS, XML, RDF, REST, SOAP and JavaScript (mostly Angular and jQuery). Linux administration skills: Bash, Apache, MySQL, PostgreSQL, virtualization/cloud (Vagrant, OpenVZ, VMware, KVM, Xen and EC2), datacenter automation (Puppet and Chef).
- Natural languages:** Dutch (*mother tongue*), English (*full professional proficiency*), German (*limited working proficiency*), French (*elementary proficiency*) and Mandarin Chinese (*beginner*).
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## Interests

- Non-exhaustive and in alphabetical order:** art, Buddhism, cryptography, Go (board game), history, music, open source, philosophy, software engineering (methodologies), travel, typography (e.g. graphic design, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X), UI/UX-design and vegetarian/vegan cooking.