

CV

Hi, I am Eric Wenzel.

A holistic digital product and business leader

09/2023 – 03/2025 | Chief Product Officer (CPO) and
Business Developer @GranValora

I lead product strategy and development, driving innovation across our digital platforms. I identify and capitalize on new business opportunities, build strategic partnerships, and own the product lifecycle from ideation to market launch while safeguarding scalability. Drawing on a strong background in digital transformation, process modeling, and leadership, I build and empower cross-functional teams that deliver products meeting evolving market needs, elevating the user experience and achieving measurable business growth.

11/2020 – 08/2023 | TPM/IT-Security Consultant @ProSec

Working in information security demands a high level of responsibility and precision. My role centered on understanding the rationale behind every action, consistently exceeding client expectations and delivering accurate, comprehensive findings to all stakeholders while ensuring the seamless execution of audits. Over this period I successfully oversaw more than 120 distinct projects across organizations of varying scale. Most notably, I managed a comprehensive audit of the German federal government, systematically identifying vulnerabilities across technical, physical, social, and organizational domains.

03/2020 – 08/2020 | Project Manager/Product Owner via Sdui @Factory Berlin

For Factory Berlin's internal community platform, I led requirements engineering, defining and estimating all user stories in close collaboration with the development team. Working within a dynamic Extreme Programming environment, I oversaw the iterative development process and, in just four months, delivered a fully functional MVP that laid the foundation for the "community as a service" business model, demonstrating the ability to rapidly turn concepts into tangible, value-driven solutions.

12/2019 – 08/2020 | Head of Product @Sdui

At this education-sector SaaS company, the central challenge was gathering requirements, devising solutions, and rigorously validating them against use cases, data privacy, and security standards. I played an instrumental role in guiding the organization through the turbulent COVID-19 period, ensuring its resilience and enabling an extraordinary 1000% expansion of its client base.

02/2018 – 11/2019 | Head of Product @dirico.io

I owned the full product lifecycle, from ideation through implementation, quality assurance, release notes, and customer onboarding, all within a three-week sprint framework that kept every stage on schedule. Beyond product management, I coached the team in agile workflows and introduced the Scrum Master role, strengthening collaboration, efficiency, and delivery. By taking on this end-to-end leadership role, I ensured the smooth execution of projects while empowering the team to excel in an agile environment.

As Head of Product, I served clients including BMW Group, Vodafone, Thyssenkrupp, Lanxess, Deutsche Börse, and other leading DAX companies, ensuring their specific needs were fully understood and met through rigorous requirement engineering and management. As a key carrier of our vision, I led a talented team of product managers and UI/UX and concept designers, applying self-developed processes and standards to streamline operations and boost efficiency. These robust frameworks enabled us to consistently deliver exceptional outcomes with a strong focus on client satisfaction.

I also customized the standard [dirico.io](https://www.dirico.io) SaaS platform to meet the unique requirements of clients including BMW Group, Deutsche Telekom, Sixt, and Vodafone, implementing corporate design elements, bespoke workflows, custom environments, tailored features, and interfaces to internal tools. I played a pivotal role in the global rollout of [dirico.io](https://www.dirico.io) across BMW Group, ensuring

seamless adoption and usage across departments and locations, and enabling efficient content management for these prominent organizations.

08/2017 – 01/2018 | Technical Project Manager @Herren der Schöpfung

As the single point of contact (SPoC), I oversaw complex technical projects for clients such as Kia Motors, Hyundai, and DB Systel. I bridged the gap between the development team and clients, ensuring clear communication and coordination throughout each project lifecycle. Managing the intricate technical aspects, I addressed challenges decisively and built strong relationships with both developers and clients, fostering collaboration and enabling efficient project execution.

08/2017 – 11/2017 | Technical Project Manager & UX-Designer via Herren der Schöpfung @ Kia Motors Europe

I led the entire project lifecycle for the Facebook chatbot launch campaign of the new Kia Stinger, from kick-off through concept development, implementation across European markets, and final evaluation. My role centered on aligning stakeholders, including Kia Motors, the lead agency, and Facebook Business Account Management, to deliver a cohesive, integrated campaign. I also provided first- and second-level technical support throughout, ensuring smooth operations and the prompt resolution of any issues.

03/2017 – 07/2017 | UX-Consultant @ BMW Group

I extended the entire BMW Connected Drive App experience to provide a seamless journey for users, from their first interaction with a BMW dealer through to the delivery of their new vehicle. I designed an end-to-end solution that gave customers comprehensive insight into each step of the factory production process alongside real-time order status updates. By integrating these features into the app, I kept customers informed and engaged throughout the entire purchase and delivery journey, significantly improving their overall experience and satisfaction.

10/2016 – 02/2017 | Project Manager & Product Owner @bcomplete.eu

I led a project for a European furniture retailer to build their B2C e-commerce platform, taking on the combined roles of product owner, solution engineer, client support, and project manager. I steered the project from requirements elicitation and quoting through setup and delivery, on

budget and on time. Applying a lean approach, we adopted Scrum to drive efficiency and continuous improvement on the development side while incorporating waterfall elements for project management. This hybrid model balanced agility with thorough planning, resulting in the successful delivery of a high-quality B2C e-commerce platform that met the client's expectations.

08/2016 – 02/2017 | Project Manager & UX-Designer

@BMW Group

I led the development of the user interface for the "Connected Catalog," the primary PIM and offer administration tool for BMW ConnectedDrive across all markets worldwide. I initiated the project by defining use cases, creating user stories, and shaping the overall concept, using a Sketch and InVision design workflow to enable efficient collaboration and rapid iteration. As the work was delivered nearshore, I managed it as an international Technical Project Manager (TPM), coordinating effectively across distributed teams while overseeing test management and defect resolution. By guiding the project from inception to completion, I delivered a robust, user-friendly GUI for the BMW Connected Catalog.

11/2015 – 07/2017 | Project Manager & Product Owner

@BMW Group

As product owner, I played a pivotal role in developing the leading BMW ConnectedDrive Case Management Tool, coordinating and prioritizing requirements from internal and external stakeholders across the BMW Group and its suppliers. Working with the team, I created use cases, user stories, and estimates and integrated them into the development process, then led the tool's successful global rollout. I also authored all interface contracts and conducted security assessments for this pioneering application, which used cutting-edge PHP, Angular, and MongoDB technologies within an environment dominated by legacy Java. Through this work, I helped implement a state-of-the-art tool within BMW Group's technology ecosystem.

08/2015 – 07/2017 | Project Manager and Executive

Assistant of the CEO @acrontum

Acting as associate to the CEO was a diverse and multifaceted management role. I handled a broad range of responsibilities, including managing appointments, preparing presentations, consolidating information, and facilitating knowledge transfer within the team. As the team's single point of contact (SPoC), I ensured efficient communication and coordination, supporting the CEO day to day. By organizing and streamlining tasks and information, I boosted the

productivity of the executive office and freed the CEO to focus on strategic decision-making and leadership.

08/2015 – 09/2015 | Test Case Manager @BMW Group

For the BMW financial service portal project, I led comprehensive testing, developing approximately 600 end-to-end (E2E) test cases in HP ALM (Application Lifecycle Management). By carefully designing and executing these tests, I ensured the portal was rigorously validated for functionality, performance, and user experience, contributing to the overall quality and reliability of the platform and instilling confidence in its readiness for end users.

07/2015 – 08/2015 | IT-Consultant @BMW Group

I created and integrated the user manual and help documentation for a BMW Group B2B shop system, producing comprehensive yet non-technical, step-by-step guidance tailored to the internal platform. To meet International Technical Publications Management (ITPM) standards, I delivered the complete manual in both document and HTML formats, giving users easy, navigable access to the information. The result was clear, concise documentation that enabled users to navigate the B2B shop system's features with ease.

I love code.

In my early years, I designed and built a wide range of client projects, from bespoke sites for small businesses to complex e-commerce platforms for large online retailers, each with its own unique requirements. My expertise spans a variety of content management and e-commerce solutions, including custom theme development for WordPress, Kirby CMS, Magento, and Shopware, backed by strong JavaScript skills and several JavaScript libraries. My personal projects center on full-stack, real-time web applications, reflecting both my passion for web development and my commitment to staying at the forefront of best practices. The ability to take complex projects from concept to completion is a testament to my technical proficiency, creative problem-solving, and dedication to excellence and accessibility.

More recently, I have been building an application in Flutter, sharpening my skills in cross-platform mobile development with a focus on high performance and dynamic, intuitive interfaces. The project reflects my adaptability to new technologies and my drive to apply the latest advancements to create superior digital solutions.

I love design.

Alongside writing comprehensive user stories, I have created UX designs and wireframes that reflect my commitment to user-centered interfaces. I have a strong passion for beautiful UI and compelling user journeys, and for me good design goes beyond aesthetics to deliver functionality and intuitiveness that exceed user expectations. This philosophy shapes my approach to product development, ensuring each project is not only visually appealing but also delivers an exceptional, seamless experience, a blend of creativity, technical skill, and a genuinely user-centered mindset.

I love strategy and leadership.

Throughout my career I have built deep strategy and leadership skills that help me navigate dynamic, challenging business environments. My strategic mindset allows me to define long-term visions and translate them into tangible results through effective planning and execution. Strong analytical skills let me cut through complex problems, identify opportunities, and minimize risks, strengthening competitiveness and driving sustainable growth.

As a leader, I have a proven ability to build and nurture high-performing teams, fostering a culture of openness and mutual respect in which innovation and creativity thrive. Grounded in servant leadership, my philosophy centers on developing and empowering team members to reach their full potential. Through clear, motivating communication, I inspire others to excel and achieve shared strategic goals.

My approach to leadership and strategy is proactive and goal-oriented, underpinned by the ability to respond quickly to change and implement flexible solutions. This combination of strategic vision and effective leadership has driven significant success across my career and delivered measurable value to the companies I have worked for.

I am a human.

As someone living with high-functioning autism and ADHD, I have learned to turn my unique way of thinking into a genuine strength. With two lively toddlers keeping me on my toes, I have honed sharp organizational and time-management skills. Outside of work, I love making music and spending time with friends and family, and my earlier side projects, from producing music videos to launching my own clothing line, reflect a strong creative and entrepreneurial spirit. Discovering lean and agile methodologies was a turning point for me. I have applied these principles not only professionally but also personally, to act more efficiently and purposefully, and my passion for continuous learning keeps me constantly evolving and acquiring new knowledge.

My move from a Windows user to a dedicated Mac enthusiast says a lot about my adaptability and appetite for growth. Beyond that, I am a lover of coffee, pizza, and pasta, and I stay focused and balanced through a strong commitment to health and fitness, especially running.