devon

LEO VAN DER AALST

CTO @ DevOn

I personally find it very pleasant if I have a problem that someone really helps me. Preferably without fuss, but directly to the point. That is also why I think we should really help our customers. Not by giving slick presentations, conducting assessments, or implementing a model (which of course can be good tools), but especially by our 'hands-on' DevOps specialists helping our customers using innovative solutions and the removal of impediments in order to ultimately realize maintainable and valuable software, which is delivered timely and with the desired quality.

Copied from Insight profile:
"Leo can be called one of the world's born winners, because he has enthusiasm, vision, objectivity and responsibility … He has a natural flair for giving presentations … Leo appears to most people as extroverted, flexible and fearlessly and as someone who can handle any challenge. He is a pioneer and a good negotiator and manager ".

CONTACT

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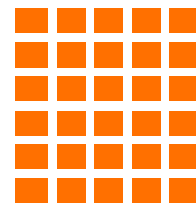
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2612 CT Delft

Leo (overview)

I hold over 30 years IT experience and have successfully completed almost all roles from programmer to project manager and from innovation manager to department manager at many (inter) national organizations. All this in waterfall, hybrid and agile environments. As principal consultant I advise senior management (C-level) on IT, quality and test issues. Since 2005 especially in environments such as Agile, Scrum, DevOps, SAFe and Spotify. As an Agile coach and DevOps transition lead I provide training and workshops to more than 350 agile teams in the Netherlands and abroad and as a change manager I guide organizations in the transition to working Agile and DevOps. As QA & Test department manager I managed more than a hundred developers and testers, fifteen application managers and more than thirty users. In addition, I am a much sought-after speaker and trainer (more than 1,500 workshops and more than 12,000 students in the last ten years), I am the author of six books on software quality (e.g. "TMAP in Scrum" and "Quality for DevOps teams") and I develop and implement DevOps QA & Test improvement models, since – I believe – "built-in-quality" is a prerequisite for making DevOps work.
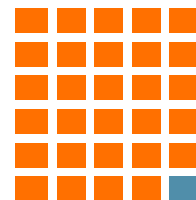
Skills, Expertise, Languages

Skills:
Lead
Coaching
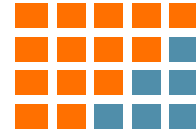Training
Innovate
Business Development
Writing, Speaking

Expertise:
Information Technology
Scrum, DevOps, Spotify
Agile, Lean
Quality and Testing
Line Management
Robotics, Blockchain, AI

Languages:
Dutch
English
German
French

Education

1987 - 1994	Information Technology – Cap Gemini Academy
1982 - 1983	Chemical Technology - University of Amsterdam
1981 - 1982	Physical Organic Chemistry - University of Utrecht
1977 - 1981	Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology - University of Utrecht

Employers

present - 2020	DevOn	Chief Technology Officer (CTO)
2019 - 2013	SogetiLabs	Technology Lead
2019 - 1999	Sogeti	DevOps Lead, Principal Consultant, R&D Manager
2015 - 2010	Fontys University	Associate Professor (Dutch: Lector) Software Quality
1999 - 1994	Interpay	Department Manager QA & Testing
1994 - 1987	Cap Gemini	Program Manager
1986 - 1984	Civil Service	Chemical Analyst

Work Experience

Present – 2020 (DevOn)
CTO @ DevOn

2019 – 1999 (Sogeti)
- As an innovation manager, I regularly joined the managements (often C-level) of clients to give workshops and presentations on the latest developments in IT.
- As transition lead, I guided organizations during the transition to working DevOps.
- As an agile coach, I provided training and workshops to more than 350 Agile teams in the Netherlands and abroad
- As a program manager, I led various programs at, among others: a Swedish home department store with the worldwide replacement of cash register systems, a financial institution for making it possible to top up the calling credit with a mobile phone and a German bank where a share purchase and sale system was replaced by an Austrian package.
- As a business development manager, I developed new IT and testing services, I wrote six books (e.g. TMAP and Quality for DevOps teams) and articles about software quality and I gave workshops and presentations about all this worldwide.
- As 'lector' (associate professor) Software Quality and Testing at the Fontys University of Applied Sciences, I led and collaborated with students, lecturers from universities of applied sciences and universities, and the business community on giving practical substance to theoretical research, and I supervised three PhDs in their promotion.
- As a development lead, I was responsible for the realization of the ISTQB syllabi agile tester and agile technical tester.
- As a consultant, I was a member of the governmental working group "Chain Management".
- As a TestNet workgroup member, I developed and gave a minor "software quality" for universities of applied sciences.
- As an "Expert Champion" I developed exam questions for EXIN.
- As an external expert, I took part in graduation sessions at various universities op applied sciences.
- As an expert, I gave my opinion in work field advisory committees of various universities of applied sciences.
- As a program committee member, I am jointly responsible for the program of the DevOps conferences.
- As an assessor, I provided advice on IT and test process improvement.
- As a member of an Innovation Board, I gave my input on developments in IT.
- As a trainer, I gave at least 1,500 workshops worldwide to more than 12,000 students.
- As a consultant, I made annual plans and business cases for outsourcing for various organizations.

1999 – 1994 (Interpay)
As QA & Test department manager, I set up a test center and as I was responsible for the annual plan and training of all employees in the many dozens of projects. This concerned more than one hundred developers and testers, fifteen application managers and more than thirty users. I stimulated the synergy between developers and users to work together, which led to a 90% reduction in production disruptions.

1994 – 1987 (Cap Gemini)
After my studies I learned the IT profession at Cap Gemini. I followed the path from programmer to program manager with all related courses. During this period I formulated the quality policy for many organizations and as a program manager I led dozens of different projects in almost all branches. I also specialized in software quality.