

Giorgos Spanos

Chief Technology Officer / Technology Executive | Distributed Systems, Cloud, Search, Security & High-Throughput Platforms

Greece | Remote Europe / Global | spaniakos@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/giorgos-spanos-53202a18 | github.com/spaniakos

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Technology executive, former CTO / Principal Engineer, and repeat startup technology leader with 15+ years of experience building and scaling production platforms, engineering organisations, distributed systems, search, multimedia, and cloud infrastructure. Combines company-level technology leadership with hands-on architectural depth across strategy, platform economics, security, reliability, and delivery. Experience spans nine years of end-to-end CTO ownership in an angel-backed media technology startup and current Cloud & Edge leadership in a venture-backed energy technology startup, building platforms from inception through commercial scale and operational maturity.

LEADERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Held nine years of end-to-end CTO / Principal Engineer ownership in an angel-backed media technology startup, spanning technology strategy, engineering teams, architecture, infrastructure, security, budgets, delivery, and production operations.
- Built Vimodji's initial platform from inception and scaled the underlying technology to 750k+ monthly active users, 100k+ videos, and 35+ distributed production systems while sustaining 99.98% availability.
- Led two engineering teams plus external contributors across hiring, mentoring, planning, delivery, and ownership-based KPIs; improved bi-weekly sprint completion from approximately 70% to 85%+.
- Reduced projected infrastructure cost at scale by approximately 60% through a deliberate hybrid bare-metal / IaaS strategy, while preserving resilience, automated recovery, and horizontal scalability.
- Worked directly with founders and executive leadership across two startup environments; at Vimodji reported to the CEO and COO, contributed to technology investment and budget allocation, and represented the company with investors, partners, and stakeholders.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

SMPnet | Engineering Manager, Cloud & Edge

March 2026 - Present | Greece / Hybrid | Venture-backed energy technology startup

- Lead Cloud and Edge engineering across two technical streams in a venture-backed energy technology startup developing real-time smart-grid infrastructure and autonomous power-grid management platforms.
- Jointly own sprint priorities with the CTO and define architecture, technical methodologies, and engineering approaches across cloud and edge systems.
- Contribute to resilient failover strategies, industrial-protocol integration, observability, and cloud-to-edge architecture for IoT fleets operating in security-sensitive environments governed by ISO 27001 controls.
- Drive validation, simulation, interoperability, and architectural review across critical infrastructure environments while remaining hands-on with distributed systems, Linux, networking, and platform engineering.

Core technologies: Technology Leadership, Cloud & Edge, Linux, Docker, Kubernetes, Networking, Distributed Systems, Observability, Security, Critical Infrastructure

Self-Employed Consultant | Cloud, ERP & API Engineering Consultant

September 2025 - March 2026 | Greece

- Delivered consulting engagements across cloud infrastructure, backend engineering, APIs, ERP integration, automation, and production operations.
- Designed API gateways, service bridges, and operational workflows integrating heterogeneous systems.

Core technologies: Consulting, Architecture, APIs, Linux, ERP Integration, Automation, Infrastructure

Vimodji | CTO / Principal Engineer

August 2016 - September 2025 | Greece | Angel-backed media technology startup

- Held end-to-end CTO / Principal Engineer ownership throughout Vimodji's startup growth journey, covering technology strategy, engineering organisation, platform architecture, infrastructure, security, technology budgets, and production operations while reporting directly to the CEO and COO.
- Built the startup's initial platform from inception and scaled the underlying technology to 750k+ monthly active users, 100k+ videos, and 35+ distributed production systems while sustaining 99.98% availability.
- Led two engineering teams of 2-3 engineers each plus external contributors across hiring, mentoring, planning, execution, and technical standards; an ownership-based bi-weekly model improved sprint completion from approximately 70% to 85%+.
- Defined and executed the technology roadmap across microservices, OpenTofu IaC, CI/CD, observability, automated recovery, caching, and horizontal scaling; a hybrid bare-metal / IaaS strategy reduced projected infrastructure cost at scale by approximately 60%.

- Architected video/image processing, object-storage, and content-delivery pipelines for a 100k+ video platform with mood-based selection, classification-assisted tagging, and profanity moderation.
- Led search evolution from SQL full-text and Solr to a custom distributed reverse-index architecture using Python and in-memory indexing, reducing API latency from ~2.0s to 1.1s and enabling business-specific discovery and ranking.
- Established engineering and security governance covering TDD, requirements-driven test-first AI-assisted development, coding/documentation standards, onboarding, backups, business continuity, secure coding, and governed AI usage; security events were contained and remediated within ~1-2 hours.
- Contributed directly to technology budget allocation across salaries, infrastructure, and technology investment; supported the startup's investor and fundraising engagement and represented the company at Web Summit, Slush, partner meetings, and stakeholder discussions.

Core technologies: Technology Strategy, Engineering Leadership, Distributed Architecture, Multimedia Platforms, PHP / Laravel, Python, Search, Solr, Elasticsearch, OpenTofu, CI/CD, Observability, Security, Production Operations

Makeasite | Founder & CEO

January 2010 - Present | Athens, Greece

- Operate an independent engineering consultancy alongside primary technology roles, pursuing selected projects across web platforms, APIs, infrastructure, hosting, and integrations.
- Delivered 100+ projects with end-to-end accountability for technical delivery, security, performance, commercial decisions, client relationships, and production support.

Core technologies: Entrepreneurship, Technology Delivery, Client Management, Web Platforms, Hosting, Infrastructure, Security

EMRP Solutions | Developer

November 2012 - November 2015 | Greece

- Developed ERP systems and websites using VB.NET, progressing from internship to a full-time developer role.

Core technologies: VB.NET, ERP Systems, Web Development

LEADERSHIP & TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP & DELIVERY

- Technology strategy and executive ownership
- Engineering organisation, hiring, mentoring, and team autonomy
- Technology investment, budget allocation, and infrastructure economics
- Delivery KPIs, reliability, and operational maturity
- CEO / COO, investor, partner, and stakeholder engagement

PLATFORM & TECHNOLOGY

- Distributed systems; cloud and edge computing
- PHP / Laravel, Python, Bash, APIs and service integrations
- Redis, Solr, Elasticsearch, custom search and indexing systems
- Grafana, Prometheus, Loki, observability and resilience
- Security-by-design architecture and ISO 27001

EDUCATION, CERTIFICATIONS & LANGUAGES

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

- MSc, Security in Digital Systems - University of Piraeus | Grade: 8.92/10, 1st in class
- Master's Thesis - University of Malaga | Grade: 10/10
- BSc, Computer Science - Technological Educational Institute of Athens
- ISO 27001:2013 ISMS - Lead Auditor
- Web Application Architectures - Coursera / University of New Mexico
- Pawnzilla CTF - 1st place (2015), 2nd place (2014)

LANGUAGES

- Greek - Native
- English - C2 (IELTS Excellent)
- Spanish - Basic proficiency