

Ali DHIBI

Turning technological complexity into **strategic advantage**.

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PROFILE

A technology leader with 20+ years of experience, at the intersection of IT strategy, software engineering, sovereign AI and cybersecurity. I set the vision, shape the teams and turn it into reliable, scalable architectures.

I can work across strategic direction, architecture decisions, engineering practices and team organization, with experience coordinating and governing distributed teams between France and Tunisia. What I bring is that connection: linking strategy, governance, engineering and execution.

20+

years of experience

6,000+

customers on a shared infrastructure

ISO 27001

certification effort

LLMs

running on-premise

EXPERIENCE

Fractional CTO | Technology advisory and support

Since August 2026

SMI

- Assessed the development lifecycle, project management, quality, security and documentation, through discussions with the product, development, QA and DevOps teams.
- Built a register of findings and risks, then a prioritized 30, 60 and 90 day roadmap with a longer-term vision.
- Designed a six-step development workflow with a definition of done for each step, adopted as a working baseline with the technical leadership.
- Made recommendations on code review, Git strategy, secrets management, automated quality controls and the engineering handbook.
- Supported the technical leadership on decisions about team organization and the delivery cycle.
- Proposed a minimal framework for the use of generative AI in the teams (shared rules, safeguards) and prepared an AI-assisted development harness.

LOOKING FOR

A senior technology leadership role (CTO, CIO, Head of Engineering, Head of Technology Transformation or Head of Innovation) or a strategic advisory engagement, in Europe, the Gulf or internationally.

FOCUS AREAS

IT strategy & governance
Sovereign AI
Architecture & cloud
Security & compliance

EXPERTISE

IT strategy and leadership
Technology strategy and roadmaps
IT governance and decision support
R&D leadership and management of multidisciplinary teams
Organization of the software development lifecycle

Artificial intelligence and sovereignty
Integrating LLMs into existing systems
On-premise environments and data control
RAG architectures and business assistants
Granite, SGLang, Mistral and LangGraph

Architecture, cloud and engineering
Software architecture and distributed systems
PHP, Symfony, Java, Scala and Node.js
Docker and Kubernetes
OpenSearch, RabbitMQ and event-driven architectures

Security, compliance and resilience
ISO 27001 and risk management
DevSecOps and automated controls
Securing applications and infrastructure
Data protection and confidentiality

EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

CTO and Executive Committee member November 2020 – role ended
OpenBee

- Executive Committee seat: translating business objectives into a technical roadmap and reporting to stakeholders.
- Took an active part in the ISO 27001 certification effort, within the technical task force.
- Contributed to defining the EDAS (electronic archiving) roadmap and to the related compliance work.
- Designed an on-premise LLM environment (Granite, SGLang) on Kubernetes to classify sensitive documents without exposing the data.
- Architected a shared OpenSearch cluster serving more than 6,000 customers.
- Contributed to the design of the scalable infrastructure for the French electronic invoicing platform.
- Replaced legacy stacks with a private cloud (Nginx, ModSecurity, RabbitMQ) to improve resilience and control costs.
- Built automated security audits (ZAP, SQLMap, Nuclei) into Jenkins and GitLab pipelines.

Software Quality Manager April 2019 – November 2020
OpenBee

- Established a continuous improvement framework (PDCA) across the R&D department.
- Rolled out performance profiling (BlackFire) and private package management (Verdaccio) to secure the software supply chain.

Production Manager 2018 – 2019
Neovia Crew

- Directed technical production and delivery, keeping client needs and technical execution aligned.

Lead Developer and Senior Expert July 2008 – September 2018
OpenBee

- Led the PHP engineering team and ran international projects with Scrum and TDD.
- Designed and maintained critical architectures: Java (Play!) and Scala for performance, PHP/Symfony for business logic.
- Delivered enterprise integrations with SAML, LDAP and Active Directory.
- Automated release cycles (Ant, NSIS, Grunt) for reproducible builds.

Web Developer and SEO Specialist May 2007 – June 2008
E-next WEB

Web development and search engine optimization: an early step towards site visibility and performance.

Web Developer October 2005 – April 2007
REAL GOLF

First role, in web development, at the start of my professional career.

EDUCATION

Higher Technician Diploma in Computer Science
ISET Nabeul · 2005
Baccalaureate in Experimental Sciences
Lycée Boudhina, Hammamet · 2002

COURSES COMPLETED

Model Context Protocol (MCP):
Advanced Topics
Anthropic · March 2026
AI Fluency Framework & Foundations
Anthropic · March 2026
Claude Code in Action
Anthropic · March 2026
ISO 27001 Lead Implementation Training
Self-led, as part of the certification task force
Courses completed, not official professional certifications.

LANGUAGES

Arabic · native
French · fluent, professional use
English · professional

KEY TECHNOLOGIES

PHP / Symfony

Java

Scala

Node.js

Docker

Kubernetes

OpenSearch

RabbitMQ

Granite

SGLang

LangGraph

Jenkins

GitLab CI

ISO 27001

CONTACT

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Based in Tunisia, open to international opportunities (Gulf, Europe)