

CHRISTOPHE LYS-SEPTIER

PROGRAMME & TRANSFORMATION LEADER | M&A INTEGRATION • AI & TECHNOLOGY TRANSFORMATION
• INTERNATIONAL EXPANSION

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EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Programme and transformation leader with more than 12 years of experience turning complex strategic change into operational capability across acquisitions and post-merger integration, international expansion, business establishment, technology platforms, data centres, cloud and AI. Repeatedly selected by C-level sponsors to structure and lead high-risk and confidential initiatives from mobilisation and governance through delivery, operational readiness and handover.

Leads complex programmes by aligning Legal, Finance, Risk, Compliance, Commercial, HR, Operations, Product, Data, Customer Service, Platform Engineering, DevOps, Infrastructure, Security and external partners around common outcomes, milestones, dependencies and decisions. This gives COO, Chief of Staff and CIO/CTO-level leaders a clear view of readiness, financial exposure, material risks and where intervention is required, while enabling delivery across 15+ concurrent workstreams in matrixed and international environments.

A particular strength is creating practical governance and execution systems that teams take ownership of. These replace centralised status collection with distributed accountability, workflow automation, exception reporting, executive decision support and financial control. The approach has been reused across major programmes, adapted with the Head of Legal to manage legal demand, priorities, ownership and reporting, and incorporated into standard project and programme templates.

SELECTED CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS

- **£100m+ acquisition:** Led governance and cross-functional coordination for a £100m+ acquisition covering a core online gaming platform and several casino and sports-betting brands, aligning 15+ workstreams around Day 1, business continuity and post-completion integration.
- **£25m international establishment:** Led a £25m acquisition and business-establishment programme in Colombia covering due diligence, seller negotiation, legal and regulatory work, FIDIC construction, an initial 64-rack operational phase, scaled through 98- and 164-rack stages to a final capacity of 263 racks, office setup and an operation supporting 100+ employees.
- **500+ activity governance model:** Designed an automated programme-control framework in Jira managing more than 500 activities, 85 milestones, 79 risks and 23 critical decisions across 15+ workstreams; increased active adoption from approximately 60% to 95% and enabled a two-person central team to manage the scale.
- **Enterprise LLM platform:** Led delivery of a reusable enterprise LLM platform and its first customer-service use case, retaining human approval for customer-record updates and supporting an estimated efficiency opportunity of approximately 9,000 agent hours per month.
- **£5m global technology portfolio:** Managed global cloud, platform and systems-integration programmes with combined budgets close to £5m, leading a core engineering team of approximately 12 and delivering programmes for enterprise customers located across seven countries.
- **Award-winning last-mile delivery:** Delivered high-volume last-mile technology for DPDgroup, including a notification platform processing approximately 600,000 emails, 300,000 SMS and 1,000 voice messages per day and an under-30-minute courier-delivery concept recognised with the 2018 FEVAD award for best innovation.

CORE STRENGTHS

PROGRAMME LEADERSHIP: Enterprise programmes and portfolios | Post-merger integration and Day 1 readiness | International expansion and business establishment

GOVERNANCE AND EXECUTION: Executive governance and critical-decision support | Integrated planning, critical path, RAID and dependency control | Financial control and prioritisation

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFORMATION: AI, data, cloud and platform programmes | Engineering portfolio governance | Operational readiness and service transition

OPERATING MODEL AND LEADERSHIP: PMO capability and reusable delivery frameworks | Vendor and cross-functional leadership | Team development

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

QUARTZ ENTERPRISES

London | June 2025 to March 2026

PROGRAMME MANAGER (TUPE transfer from The Workshop)

Post-merger integration, acquired gaming-platform transition, enterprise AI delivery and leadership of the project-management team.

ACQUISITION AND PLATFORM INTEGRATION

- Led programme governance for a £100m+ acquisition involving a core online gaming platform and several casino and sports-betting brands. Coordinated 15+ workstreams across Legal, Finance, Risk, Compliance, Technology, Product, Operations, Commercial and Customer Service from Day 1 through post-completion integration.
- Established common milestones, dependencies, risk and issue ownership, critical-decision routes and executive reporting, giving the COO and CIO/CTO one view of readiness, material risks and where leadership intervention was required.
- Led integration of the acquired back-office platform into the Group's technology and operating environment across Casino, Sports, Risk and Fraud, Customer Service, service management, Network, DevOps, Platform Engineering, IT, Data and BI, Security and the external provider.
- Created one transition plan covering infrastructure, environments, access, knowledge transfer, data and reporting, operational readiness, incident testing and supplier exit. Ran weekly workstream coordination, issued biweekly readiness updates and reported decisions and escalations through a monthly SteerCo.

ENTERPRISE AI PLATFORM

- Led delivery of a reusable LLM platform across Customer Operations, Data, ML Engineering, Platform Engineering, Infrastructure and Security, coordinating training and adaptation environments, centralised Mistral serving, a model-agnostic API, identity, storage, pipelines, monitoring and operational support.
- Translated the first customer-service use case into integration, acceptance and support requirements. Agents reviewed, corrected or approved generated call and chat summaries before information was saved to customer records, supporting an estimated opportunity of approximately 9,000 agent hours per month and preparing the platform for further use cases including quality-assurance automation.

PROJECT-MANAGEMENT TEAM LEADERSHIP

- Managed and developed one Senior Project Manager and two Project Managers through competency-based objectives, stretch assignments and coaching on live programme work, increasing independent ownership across the team.

THE WORKSHOP LTD

London | March 2022 to May 2025

PROGRAMME MANAGER | April 2023 to May 2025 (promoted)

SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER | March 2022 to April 2023

International expansion, acquisition and post-merger integration, data-centre delivery, company establishment, engineering portfolio governance and PMO capability.

COLOMBIA ACQUISITION AND OPERATIONAL HUB

- Led a £25m cross-border acquisition and creation of a new operational hub in Colombia, covering due diligence, seller negotiations, legal entities, regulatory and Free Trade Zone requirements, SPAs, FIDIC construction, escrow, workplace, recruitment and transition into operational ownership.
- Directed delivery of the data-centre environment across power, cooling, networks, servers, monitoring, security and testing: an initial 64-rack operational phase, scaled through 98- and 164-rack stages to a final capacity of 263 racks, with the facility designed for TIA Tier III certification.
- Integrated the data-centre build with office fit-out, local recruitment, business services, operating processes and organisation design, establishing the legal, technical and operational foundations for a hub supporting more than 100 employees.
- Maintained programme control when an earthquake exposed that a temporary annex did not meet the main building's seismic standard: convened structural and construction specialists, established seller accountability, secured a seller-funded rebuild, moved critical infrastructure into the compliant building and removed the annex from the critical path.

PROGRAMME GOVERNANCE AND CONTROL

- Designed the Jira-based control model, workflows and templates defining how each workstream recorded scope, activities, milestones, dependencies, risks, issues, critical decisions, ownership and reporting, with executive, workstream and delivery views generated from one source of data.
- Worked with leads to create the first approximately 100 activities and 25 critical milestones, then transferred ownership so workstreams maintained their detailed activities and intermediate milestones. The model scaled to more than 500 activities, 85 milestones, 79 risks and 23 critical decisions while active adoption rose from approximately 60% to 95%.
- Enabled a two-person central programme team to control more than 500 activities through distributed ownership, exception reporting and automation, rather than relying on centralised manual status collection.
- Established weekly workstream updates, automated upcoming and overdue reminders, monthly live reporting and SteerCo material issued 48 hours in advance for the COO, CTO and senior or head-of-department workstream leads, supporting earlier replanning and more decision-focused governance.

- Created programme financial control linking cost baselines, supplier quotes, forecasts, approved purchase orders, invoices, actuals, reconciliation and currency movements, providing leadership with expected-versus-actual cost visibility and supporting Finance cash-flow planning.

DUBLIN COMPANY ESTABLISHMENT AND PMO CAPABILITY

- Led operational establishment of a software development company in Dublin, coordinating legal entity setup, workplace, business services, technology and access readiness, recruitment planning and transition from mobilisation to day-to-day business ownership.
- Reused the Colombia governance framework for Dublin and another major programme, converted practical delivery lessons into PMO learning material, and worked with the Head of Legal to adapt the model for legal demand, priorities, ownership and reporting. Core elements were later incorporated into the organisation's standard project and programme templates.

GLOBAL DOMAIN-REGISTRAR INTEGRATION

- Led post-acquisition integration of a global domain registrar, coordinating Finance, integration software engineers, D365 consultants and domain-platform engineers to transfer the acquired company's customer-billing process into D365 and complete the wider operational integration.

ENGINEERING PORTFOLIO GOVERNANCE

- Managed portfolio planning across Platform Engineering, SRE, Database Engineering, Cloud, Security, Infrastructure and Architecture, aligning intake, priorities, shared capacity, upgrades, environment readiness, technical dependencies, change windows and executive decisions across concurrent initiatives.

FDJ UNITED (FDJ GAMING SOLUTIONS / SPORTING SOLUTIONS)

London | May 2019 to February 2022

PROJECT MANAGER, SPORTING SOLUTIONS | August 2021 to February 2022 (Internal transfer)

PROJECT MANAGER, FDJ GAMING SOLUTIONS | May 2019 to July 2021

Global cloud, sports-data, betting-platform, customer migration and enterprise-service programmes in a regulated environment.

- Managed several concurrent technology programmes with combined budgets close to £5m. Led a core delivery team of approximately 12 internal and partner software engineers, working with QA, Production and Deployment specialists, a technical lead, architect and product owner to deliver programmes for enterprise customers located across seven countries.
- Led migration of Sporting Solutions' data platform to GCP, creating a cloud environment through which external partners connected to pricing feeds and associated trading tools while maintaining continuity for business-critical services.
- Authored the investment business case approved for the cloud migration; the forecast model estimated £175,000 in annual resource savings, £115,000 in annual revenue uplift and £750,000 in avoided infrastructure investment.
- Implemented company-wide voice, chat, email and IT service-management capabilities for 65 agents using RingCentral and ServiceNow, coordinating business requirements, network readiness, integrations, testing, training and phased go-lives.
- Led integration of a new sports-data feed into FDJ's in-house advanced betting platform and the international migration of customers to a new feed-integration model involving Sporting Solutions, BetRadar and BetGenius, coordinating product, engineering, trading, customer sequencing and release readiness.
- Delivered and evolved a customer-facing B2B sports-betting platform used by enterprise clients, coordinating deployments, upgrades, enhancements, defect resolution and service readiness across Product, Engineering, Deployment and Customer Delivery, alongside maintenance and performance programmes for the company's largest customer.

PICKUP SERVICES, DPDGROUP / CONSULTANT (HUMAN JOB)

Paris | September 2017 to May 2019

DIGITAL & IT PROJECT MANAGER

Customer notifications, parcel tracking, collection journeys and digital propositions across a multi-country last-mile network.

- Managed an annual budget of approximately €500,000 for the customer-notification platform, leading delivery, ongoing maintenance and successive functionality and service improvements. The service operated across a network of approximately 40,000 pickup points in 26 countries.
- Led end-to-end delivery and evolution of the notification platform processing approximately 600,000 emails, 300,000 SMS and 1,000 voice messages per day, covering requirements, solution design, dependencies, testing, releases, go-live and operational documentation.
- Delivered a parcel-tracking web service for API consumers and coordinated the supporting customer journey across maps, notifications, parcel shops, lockers and multiple transport partners.
- Represented the notification workstream in modernisation of the parcel-lifecycle platform from Oracle, PL/SQL and ASP.NET MVC to MongoDB, .NET Core, RabbitMQ and Docker, managing impacts, integration dependencies, testing and continuity for the notification service.
- Delivered an under-30-minute home-delivery proof of concept with Chronopost, STUART and Cdiscount that received the 2018 FEVAD award for best innovation, alongside a Monoprix parcel-locker rollout and concepts for workplace delivery and courier-supported redelivery.

OFFICE OF NATHALIE KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET

DIGITAL STRATEGY ADVISER

Paris | September 2015 to August 2017

Digital strategy and delivery across national and local political campaigns, fundraising, mobilisation and community operations.

- Owned the candidate's digital environment across four national and local campaign websites, translating political and communications objectives into editorial strategy, visual identity, UX, CMS/CRM choices, specifications, vendor delivery, functional acceptance and launch.
- Planned and governed 545 email campaigns during the nine months before the presidential election, spanning fundraising, mobilisation, media alerts, petitions and endorsement requests and coordinating content and timing with press and campaign teams.
- Expanded and segmented the active NationBuilder contact base from approximately 102,000 to more than 1.5 million, using behaviour and profile data to identify opinion leaders, donors and local organisers and improve targeting quality.
- Reactivated and grew the political-volunteer network from around 2,000 largely inactive contacts to 10,500 active participants who amplified campaign ideas and supported public meetings; managed a digital and community team of five during campaigns and three outside campaign periods.

INSTITUT LOUIS BACHELIER

DIGITAL PROJECT MANAGER

Paris | October 2013 to September 2015

Digital publishing and platform development for a research institute connecting academic and financial-sector communities.

- Led strategy and delivery of the new LouisBachelier.org media platform, defining requirements, information architecture, editorial experience and vendor selection while managing delivery, testing and launch readiness.
- Managed daily scientific, press, event and researcher content; introduced SEO and traffic-monitoring practices and shaped the Institute's social and digital-publication approach.
- Administered and qualified a 15,000-contact database and coordinated digital and print information distribution to institutional partners.

METHODS AND TECHNOLOGY

TOOLS USED DIRECTLY: Jira Advanced Roadmaps, Jira, Confluence, Excel, Power BI, Tableau and workflow automation

TECHNOLOGY DELIVERY ENVIRONMENTS MANAGED: GCP; OpenStack and Kubernetes; Cisco, Juniper and Palo Alto network and security infrastructure; GitLab CI; Snowflake and Airflow; Kubeflow and MLflow; MinIO and PostgreSQL; Keycloak/LDAP; Prometheus/Grafana.

DELIVERY METHODS: Agile, Waterfall and hybrid delivery; integrated planning; critical-path management; risk, issue, dependency and critical-decision control; operational readiness and service transition

EDUCATION, SERVICE AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

MASTER'S DEGREE: Information Systems Management and Digital Transformation | Grenoble École de Management, 2015

FOCUS: IT and digital strategy, governance, enterprise architecture, technology investment and risk, information security, digital transformation, change management, innovation and leadership

MILITARY TRAINING - PETTY OFFICER, NAVIGATION SPECIALISM: École de Maistrance, French Navy, 2011

FOCUS: Military discipline, operational planning, navigation, risk assessment and calm decision-making under pressure

BSC: Geology and Earth Sciences | University of Angers, 2009

FOCUS: Scientific analysis, fieldwork, data interpretation and structured problem-solving

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Immediately available | French (native), English (fluent) | UK settled status | French citizen