

Billa Coetsee

Systems architect & engineering leader — protocol engineering, technology strategy, security architecture

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Twenty years building technical systems and leading the people who build them — as an architect and engineer, and as the person accountable for the strategy around the work. Enterprise infrastructure and security early on, a term of industry-body leadership in the middle, most recently protocol engineering for self-sovereign blockchain networks — three now launched and running across the Cosmos and Sui ecosystems. Most useful at the boundary between people and machines: turning business intent into technical specification, and technical reality back into terms a board can act on.

EXPERIENCE

Managing Director — Noctranet

2008–present

The technology management consultancy I founded and run. · [Visit Noctranet](#)

- Migrated a national retailer (100+ stores) to a custom infrastructure solution within 30 days of first contact; unscheduled downtime practically eliminated by day 60, and point-of-sale response times cut from seconds to fractions of a second by day 90.
- Designed a defence-in-depth security architecture (StrongSWAN IPSEC, OpenVPN) that held 99% uptime over a five-year lifespan with zero reported breaches and no data loss.
- Built a progressive backup-and-recovery solution supporting rapid restores — used for everything from accidental-deletion recovery to occasional cyber-forensics.
- Designed and deployed a cloud solution for a national education network operating under severe technological constraints.

Technical Program Manager — Talus Labs

2025–2026

Led technical program delivery for Nexus, Talus Labs' decentralised agentic AI-workflow protocol on the Sui Network, and the agentic blockchain gaming platform built on it.

- Delivered a production AI-agent-driven Texas Hold'em poker game to Sui Mainnet — the primary validation product for the Nexus protocol — navigating a high-velocity environment and four major product pivots.
- Designed the team's Feature-Driven Development release framework, Improvement Proposal process, and GitHub-based engineering governance as the authoritative engineering source of truth.
- Coordinated delivery across protocol engineering, frontend/Unity game clients, LLM/AI agent systems, and external development partners.
- Applied Intent-Based Engineering to align product intent with technical execution, reducing rework through upstream constraint resolution.

Protocol Engineering Manager — Phi Labs (Archway)

2023–2024

Led the protocol engineering team for Archway, an incentivised smart-contract network in the Cosmos ecosystem.

- Delivered multiple fully-audited network upgrades, including critical emergency patches for security advisories in upstream dependencies.
- Directed security-audit processes and upstream dependency integration.
- Managed a distributed engineering team across multiple time zones.

Protocol Engineer — Ingenuity Build (Quicksilver)

2022–2023

Contributed to the development and launch of Quicksilver, a liquid-staking protocol in the Cosmos ecosystem.

- Implemented core protocol features using the Cosmos SDK and IBC.
- Participated in security-audit processes and built Go-based blockchain infrastructure components.

Chairman, South Africa — Business Software Alliance (BSA)

2014–2019

Chaired the South African committee of BSA, the leading global advocate for the software industry before governments and in the international marketplace. · [bsa.org](#)

- Reduced software piracy through enforcement and a joint BSA–CIPC–DALRO initiative raising awareness of intellectual-property rights and Software Asset Management compliance.
- Represented the software industry in policy discussions with the South African government.

EARLIER ROLES

- **Blockchain Strategy Lead & COO** — Claymore Capital (2019–2020)
- **Blockchain Strategy Consultant** — MyBucks (2019)
- **Chief Technology Officer** — Corepoint Consulting (2011–2016)
- **System Developer** — Revelation Systems / PC Consultants (2004–2007)

COMPETENCIES

Leadership & management: Strategic technology planning, Cross-functional team leadership, Organisational development, Change management, Technical knowledge transfer

Technical: Systems architecture & engineering, Blockchain protocol development, Cloud computing, Security architecture, Software development

SKILLS

Programming

Expert: Go, JavaScript

Advanced: Rust, C/C++, Java, TypeScript, PHP, Lua

Blockchain

Cosmos SDK, CosmWasm, IBC, Sui, Move

Infrastructure

Linux, Cloud architecture, StrongSWAN IPSEC, OpenVPN

Databases

PostgreSQL, MySQL, BadgerDB, Dgraph

EDUCATION

- MSc, Technology Management (with distinction) — University of Pretoria · 2008–2009
- BSc (Hons), Management of Technology — University of Pretoria · 2006–2007
- BSc, Information & Knowledge Systems — University of Pretoria · 2002–2004

Member, Golden Key International Honour Society