

Catalin Waack

Product Engineer & AI Consultant

From idea to paying customers, fast.

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SUMMARY

Catalin turns early-stage ideas into working products that people pay for. Fifteen years of engineering breadth across frontend, backend, cloud, design systems, and AI tooling, condensed into a single contractor who can move from concept to market in weeks, not quarters. Former CTO of a multi-award-winning GovTech platform used by the German Government and 7 of the top 10 DAX companies.

EXPERTISE

- Rapid MVP delivery: product scoping, architecture, and full-stack build in a single engagement
- TypeScript/React/Next.js product engineering at production quality: maintainable, not throwaway
- AI integration and tooling: applying LLMs and automation to compress product timelines
- Serverless and cloud architecture on AWS (Lambda, ECS, RDS, CloudWatch, EventBridge)
- Signal processing R&D: FFT, sensor fusion, real-time audio/motion analysis (iOS + server)
- Design system construction with Tailwind, deployable by non-technical teams
- Stripe, Strapi, Supabase, Contentful integration: the full SaaS stack wired end-to-end

NOTABLE WORK

VOXR GmbH, CTO (2017–2020): Built and scaled a meeting innovation platform from trainee to CTO. Product used in live TV shows and events by the German Government and 7 of the top 10 DAX companies. Architected a frameworkless, fault-tolerant system handling real-time audience interaction under poor network conditions. Pivoted product lines during COVID-19 to keep the company alive. Received a revenue share for being a standout contributor.

Syntax Institut, Lead Product Engineer (2023–2024): Built a B2C eLearning platform for mobile development training from zero to paying customers in three months. Owned architecture, frontend, backend, Stripe integration, and Figma-to-code delivery solo.

BREAKKATS, Contract Engineer (2024–2025): R&D for a patent in audio/motion signal processing alongside a former NVIDIA manager. Built real-time synchronization systems using FFT, sensor fusion, and multi-modal iPhone sensor data. Stack: Swift/SwiftUI, FastAPI, LiveKit, React.

DAYONE, Senior Frontend (2024): Developed a serverless event management platform for a Berlin agency whose clients include Deutsche Bahn, Volkswagen, and Deutsche Telekom. TypeScript, React, Contentful, AWS.

Tailorwine, Fullstack & PM (2022): Shipped B2B MVP using B2C data to demonstrate value. Acquired REWE and EDEKA as clients.

edeltravel, Web Designer & Frontend (2023): Designed and built a luxury travel agency website with a custom Tailwind CSS design system, delivered as a turnkey frontend package.

Rivoara (ongoing): Ecommerce brand selling shower filters across Europe (Poland-based company). Built the entire Next.js storefront, subscription billing for replacement cartridges, and manages product sourcing. 4.9/5 stars from 112+ verified reviews, with multi-stage filter hardware (KDF-55, carbon fiber) certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 42.

Electacar (ongoing): Built electacar.com, a comprehensive EV comparison platform for the Hong Kong market. Features include vehicle spec comparison across manufacturers (Tesla, BYD, BMW, Mercedes-Benz, others), a dealer locator, EV tax calculator, running cost comparison tool, and

educational guides on charging and government incentives. Next.js with a CSS variable-based theming system.

TECH STACK

Languages: TypeScript, JavaScript (15+ years), Python, Swift/SwiftUI, PHP

Frontend: React, Next.js, Tailwind CSS, Angular, AEM, Shopify/Hydrogen

Backend: Node.js, FastAPI, Express, Strapi, Supabase, Laravel

Cloud/Infra: AWS (Lambda, ECS, RDS, ALB, CloudWatch, EventBridge), Docker, Kubernetes, Vercel, Terraform

AI/Tooling: LLM integration, automation pipelines, real-time APIs (WebSockets, SSE), LiveKit

Databases: MySQL, MongoDB, PostgreSQL, Oracle RDBMS

BACKGROUND

Computer Science studies, Technische Universität Braunschweig, Germany (2014–2016).

Government-certified IT technician assistant (BSZ Stendal, 2011–2013).

Earlier roles span medical informatics R&D (Peter L. Reichertz Institute, awarded a prize for a dementia-assistance concept), IT administration at TU Braunschweig, and Angular adoption at msg DAVID GmbH across 9,000+ employees.

Languages: German (native), English (proficient), Spanish (intermediate), Romanian (intermediate).