

Tech Strategy & Mentorship Advisory

Helping Startups & VCs Build Stronger Systems & Teams

About Me

With **25+ years of experience in distributed systems, cloud architecture, and scaling engineering teams**, I help **startups, CTOs, and investors** navigate complex technology decisions and leadership challenges. My focus is not just on **scalable technology**, but also on **developing engineering leaders** who can drive **sustainable growth**.

Services Overview

Advisory

- Evaluating startup technology stacks for scalability and risks
- Reviewing infrastructure, cost optimization & modernization strategies
- Aligning tech roadmap with business objectives and time-to-market goals
- Conducting technical due diligence for investors and M&A assessments
- Creating iterative roadmaps for technical teams

Who It's For: Founders, CTOs, technical leadership teams, investors, and VCs looking to ensure their technology foundations are built for scale, reduce risks, and improve time-to-market.

How It Works: Our services are tailored to your needs. We begin with an initial meeting with your leadership team to understand your current situation, challenges, and goals. After analysis, we develop a high-level advisory plan specifically for you. Once you approve the approach, we proceed with a formal agreement and begin our collaborative work with regular sync sessions. We emphasize flexibility in our approach - we're always open to refocusing our efforts as your priorities evolve, which is why regular communication is essential to our process.

Mentorship

- Coaching engineering leaders on strategic decision-making and leadership
- Helping scale engineering teams and improve organizational structure
- Establishing mentorship flywheels to develop strong technical leadership pipelines
- Providing guidance on hiring strategies, engineering culture, and team performance

Who It's For: Startup CTOs, tech leads, and engineering managers looking to enhance their leadership skills and build high-performing teams.

How It Works: There is no one-size-fits-all in mentorship. We begin with an initial meeting with your organization's leadership to understand leveling requirements, perceived weak points, and desired outcomes. We then establish personalized relationships with mentees through introduction sessions, followed by structured one-on-one coaching meetings where we provide guidance on specific leadership challenges and real-world scenarios they're facing. We emphasize a custom approach throughout this process - rather than imposing standardized frameworks, we align our mentorship with the leadership criteria and values established by your organization.

Engagement Models

- **Focused Advisory Sessions** - A few calls focused on solving a particular problem.
- **Ongoing Consulting (Retainer)** - Long-term advisory to support continuous growth.
- **Fractional CTO Services** - Hands-on leadership for early-stage teams.

Let's chat

If you're navigating tech challenges, want a second pair of eyes or pressure test your strategy, let's connect.

 denis@catone.dev

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/denispokataev/>