

KOSTA ZANIN

Product Designer → Design Engineer

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SUMMARY

Design engineer with 13 years across product design and frontend for enterprise B2B SaaS — dev tools, cloud management, DevOps, Kubernetes, cybersecurity, observability. I design interfaces and ship them to production myself (React, Next.js, TypeScript, design systems) and help teams move to AI-native development: written specs, project-tuned agents, and quality gates wired into the pipeline. Features that took a team six to seven weeks ship solo in days. Previously led a FinOps startup's product from zero to Series A.

EXPERIENCE

Design Engineer — OpenVPN, US

2023 – 2026 · CloudConnexa, the #1 business VPN: 20,000+ organizations, 4M+ users

- Spearheaded AI features and led their rollout across an enterprise-grade cybersecurity product.
- Rebuilt the design system AI-native: a CLAUDE.md / DESIGN.md constitution, nine packaged skills, and 71 components served to the agent over Storybook MCP — after the classic migration had already cut design/dev cycles by 30%.
- Ship features solo in days that previously took the team 6–7 weeks; largest — a billing feature with 465 distinct UI states. Delivery went from six or seven people per feature to three.
- Wired the quality gates that keep agent-written code honest: lint, types, tests, coverage, dead code, duplication, dependency audit, plus mutation testing, Lighthouse and Sonar on the heavy tier. On one legacy app: 409 open issues and 39h of debt to zero, coverage 45.6% → 82.4%, 20 latent bugs caught before release.
- Built every app against in-memory mocks that double as the API contract, so all states are demoable from day one; designed the MCP Gateway admin surface from an empty file.
- Led growth: conversion-funnel optimization for 4M+ users, onboarding experiments improving activation and time-to-value.

Product Designer — Profisea Labs, Israel

2019 – 2023 · Uniskai, AI-based multi-cloud FinOps platform — sole designer from zero to Series A

- Designed the platform end to end: Cloudview infrastructure visualization, five FinOps saving instruments (Rightsizing patented), executive reports with ML forecasting.
- Cut client infrastructure costs by up to 75%; 85% activation rate; 1,500+ customers in 20 countries processing \$150M+ in cloud consumption.
- Conducted user research with 50+ FinOps teams; designed financial data-visualization dashboards that made cost insights actionable.

UI/UX Designer — Kabali, US

2017 – 2019 · Enterprise internal tools and financial data platforms

- Designed enterprise internal tools focused on workflow optimization and complex financial data visualization.
- Ran user research and usability testing to lift conversion and task completion.

Web & UI/UX Designer — Freelance

2013 – 2017 · Websites and product interfaces, end to end

NOTABLE PROJECT

Greenwashing AI Detection Tool — GFIN TechSprint Eureka Prize. AI application for financial regulators that detects inconsistencies in sustainability claims: Python for data preprocessing, LLMs for analysis — up to 1000x faster than manual review.

SKILLS

Product design: UI/UX design, design systems, prototyping, accessibility, data visualization

Research & growth: user research, usability testing, user interviews, behavioral analytics, A/B testing, conversion rate optimization, funnel analysis, onboarding design

AI-native development: Claude Code, Claude Skills, CLAUDE.md / DESIGN.md project configs, spec-driven workflow, MCP, Storybook, quality-gate pipelines, mutation testing, Lighthouse, Sonar

Frontend: HTML, CSS, JavaScript, TypeScript, React, Next.js, Tailwind, shadcn/ui, Storybook

DevOps & cloud: Kubernetes, AWS, GCP, Azure, Jenkins, CI/CD pipelines, Git, Docker

Databases: PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Supabase

Tools & analytics: Figma, FigJam, Miro, Adobe Suite; Google Analytics, Mixpanel, Amplitude, Hotjar, PostHog, Tableau

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

Claude Certified Architect, 2026 · Master's in Digital Design — Donetsk Technical University, 2013 · The Nature of a Product (JTBD + CustDev), 2022 · Google UX Design Certificate, 2021