DAVID SÁNCHEZ DE GROEVE

VP of Engineering & Technology Director

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EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Technology executive with 20+ years leading digital transformation and mission-critical infrastructure across Middle East and European banking, payments, and InsurTech markets. Directed the zero-downtime migration of Saudi Arabia's national payment system (mada) into the KAFD data center while at Saudi Payments. Scaled BNP Paribas's pan-European technology operations from 15 to 130+ engineers across 26 countries, cutting major incidents by over 35% while sustaining 99.9% availability. Most recently architected and led an InsurTech platform from the ground up as Technical Director & Co-Founder of Rommaana, achieving full SAMA, CITC and NDPL compliance. PMP® and ITIL® Expert certified.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Strategic Technical Direction & Enterprise Digital Strategy
- Mission-Critical Infrastructure & Data Center Migration
- Regulatory & Compliance (SAMA, CITC, NDPL, GDPR)
- C-Suite & Board Stakeholder Management
- Cost Optimization: OPEX Reduction, Vendor & SLA Negotiation
- High-Availability Systems & Business Continuity
- Team Scaling & Cross-Functional Leadership (15 → 130+)
- Digital Transformation & Product Engineering Oversight

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Technical Director & Co-Founder — Rommaana (InsurTech Platform)

Mar 2023 – Jun 2026 | Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- Architected a secure, scalable InsurTech platform from scratch for the competitive Saudi insurance market under tight timeline and capital constraints, including API integrations with partner insurers.
- Embedded AI-augmented development frameworks into the engineering workflow, compressing MVP delivery and prototyping cycles.
- Engineered data handling pipelines to maintain full compliance with SAMA, CITC and NDPL mandates.
- Delivered a production-ready platform with a structurally lean team, reducing CAPEX burn while establishing a reproducible AI-assisted delivery model.

Service Operation Manager — Saudi Payments (mada National Payment System)

Mar 2020 – Mar 2023 | Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- Directed technical operational resilience for Saudi Arabia's national payment rails and multi-million SAR daily transaction pipelines.
- Designed and executed the migration of critical transactional infrastructure from legacy SAMA facilities into the KAFD Data Center.
- Built risk isolation protocols and established the executive KPI framework used by SAMA and the Board.
- Result: executed the full infrastructure migration with zero operational downtime, preserving national SLA compliance and payment flows.

Head of Operations — BNP Paribas (26 Countries)

Sep 2015 – Mar 2020 | Madrid, Spain

- Centralized pan-European IT and platform support, consolidating fragmented country-level operations into a single Madrid-based hub.
- Scaled the central operations team from 15 to 130+ software and systems engineers, modernizing ITIL playbooks and vendor SLAs.
- Result: reduced major system incidents by over 35% and maintained 99.9% application availability across corporate banking platforms, while lowering OPEX.

EARLIER PROFESSIONAL FOUNDATION

IT Team Lead — International Air Transport Association (IATA), Madrid | Feb 2009 – Sep 2015

Service Desk Technician — Natixis, Madrid | Mar 2007 – Dec 2008

Assistant Manager IT — Banco Santander, Madrid | Nov 2006 – Mar 2007

Service Desk Manager — Grupo Zeta, Madrid | Oct 1998 – Oct 2006

CERTIFICATIONS

- Project Management Professional (PMP)® — Project Management Institute (PMI)
- ITIL® Expert / Capability Certifications — IT Infrastructure Library

LANGUAGES

Spanish (Native/Bilingual) • English (Full Professional) • French (Professional Working) • Arabic (Elementary)