

Andrei Popov



CONTACTS

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PROFILE

Experienced Banking IT professional with a proven track record of over 30 years in the industry. Adept at assembling and leading high-performance teams of self-managed professionals. While my expertise lies in Banking, I am enthusiastic about embracing fresh challenges beyond the Banking & Finance sector. My background includes change and transformation management, successful implementation of agile and DevOps practices in large corporate environments, and the successful launch of corporate accelerators & incubators. I firmly believe that leveraging technology appropriately can positively impact the world, irrespective of the industry or geographical boundaries.

EMPLOYMENT & PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Digital Space Ventures, Luxembourg

General Partner

January 2023 – current

In the role of a GP and DSV I am transforming my technology knowledge and experience to helping start-ups to grow, develop, raise funds, and become successful. Digital Space Ventures is a venture fund that focuses on early-stage projects in the areas of Fintech, Artificial Intelligence, Business Process Optimization, and Impact Investment. We are “smart money,” i.e. we add value by helping find right product-market fit, make potential client introductions, grow their partner network, and secure best talent.

Paysend Group PLC, London, UK

*Managing Director, Paysend Technology Centre d.o.o. (Serbia),
Group Head of Technology and CIO*

March 2021 – December 2023

Lead the transformation of the technology team and technological platform for a fast-developing FinTech project, guiding it from the start-up to the scale-up phase. Built and lead a highly skilled international team of professionals committed to delivering cutting-edge products in payments, remittance, and auxiliary service/market segments. Was responsible for defining and executing the technological strategy, conducting investor communication and IT due diligence processes, building European Technology Centre, and executing on PR and GR activities in Serbia and Western Balkans region.

Robokassa LLC, Moscow, Russia

Interim CEO

July 2022 – October 2022

Main goal is reformulation of the company strategy, building of a new team and acquisition or grooming of the new CEO from within the company. Building team cadence around quarterly OKRs and regular performance metrics. Shift the company to a product management paradigm and define the short and mid-term product roadmaps.

NKO AO “Payments & Settlement”, Moscow, Russia

Chairman of the Supervisory Board of NKO

June 2021 – April 2023

Establishing new corporate governance model, building strong executive team, and helping to define business strategy to help NKO to develop from a niche payment processing company into a market leader in Russia and CIS.

Business angel and startup mentor, Moscow, Russia

March 2019 – current

Independent IT and business strategy, agile and digital transformation consulting, internal innovation, and acceleration centers. Startup mentoring and advising (FinTech, HoReCa, social & impact investment, EdTech). Enabling companies to get the most out of digital and agile transformation initiatives. Helping impact start-ups to find a path to growing business.

National Clearing Center, Moscow, Russia

Independent Director, member of the Supervisory Board of NCC

July 2020 – July 2022

Aiding NCC in their transformation into an efficient, operationally independent, reliable, technologically advanced, and innovative member of Moscow Exchange group of companies, while maintaining strong focus on controls, securities and financial markets development and regulatory compliance.

PAO Bank ZENIT, Moscow, Russia

Independent Director, member of the Board of Directors

June 2020 – May 2021

Assisted the management team and the shareholder in transforming operational model of the bank, turning it into financially sustainable enterprise and regaining market share. Member of Risk, Internal Audit and Strategy Planning committees of the Board of Directors.

National Settlement Depository, Moscow, Russia

Independent Director, member of the Supervisory Board of NSD

May 2014 – April 2021

As a member the Supervisory Board of National Settlement Depository (NSD), my role was to assist central depository for the Russian securities market to define and implement business development strategy and efficient corporate governance that would satisfy both shareholders and clients of NSD.

AO Raiffeisenbank, Moscow, Russia

Member of the Management Board

December 2012 – December 2018

Chief Information Officer and Member of the Management Board

Completely transformed Technology team from an impediment of business growth into a catalyst of development, transformation and continuous improvement. Initiated and performed Agile transformation of IT and business teams. Installed DevOps and Agile culture within IT teams fostering collaboration, self-management and focus on client value created. Helped to define and establish open innovations and digital transformation programs within the organisation.

Director

June 2011 – December 2012

CIO, Deputy Head of Operations & Technology Directorate, responsible for IT

Reorganised IT team to accelerate business development, streamline project governance, increase overall bank's efficiency and increase customer value.

ZAO "Citibank", Москва, Россия

Senior VP

June 2010 – May 2011

CIO, Russia & CIS (Russia, Ukraine & Kazakhstan)

Built successful Technology organization for Citigroup corporate, retail and investment banking businesses in Russia and CIS. Defined technology strategy to foster innovation, optimize organizational performance, enable business and operational partners to deliver against aggressive business goals. Drove execution of global technology strategy in application development, systems support and technology infrastructure areas.

Senior VP

October 2004 – June 2010

Head of Application Development Technology, CIS/CEE

Defined and execute IT vision and technology budgets for applications development Technology units across Russia, CIS and CEE countries. Implemented outsourcing strategies to reduce development and support costs. Identified process improvement opportunities to increase productivity. Provided businesses with innovative solutions to support growth targets.

Citibank a.s., Prague, Czech Republic

Vice President, Finance

January 2003 – September 2004

Responsible for regionalization/consolidation of Finance function in Central and Eastern Europe. Supported CFO on financial systems implementation strategy. Coordinated Finance projects and supervised country-based project teams.

Citibank Handlowy, Warsaw, Poland

Vice President, Finance

May 2000 – January 2003

Consolidated financial reporting systems of Citibank and Bank Handlowy after the merger. Coordinated migration of the merged bank onto a single general ledger platform. Managed implementation of Business Intelligence applications as an MIS delivery platform for the bank.

OOO “Citibank T/O”, Moscow, Russia

August 1995 – May 2000

Assistant Vice President, Finance

Prepared annual financial reports in compliance with the International Accounting Standards. Developed a system for automated consolidation of monthly management reporting data. Analyzed department’s processes to determine possibilities for cost/time reducing improvements.

Менеджер проекта, Финансовое управление

Responsible for the automation of accounting and reporting to the Central Bank of Russia. Defined business requirements, developed technical and accounting parameters of the reconciliation model, managed system setup, testing process and exceptions resolution.

Assistant Manager, Finance

Responsible for US regulatory, corporate, and MIS reporting. Supervised financial reporting to the Central Bank of Russia.

Analyst, Finance

Prepared financial reports for the Central Bank of Russia and Customer Profitability Report. Analyzed Treasury activity from the liquidity/risk management perspective.

EDUCATION

Truman State University, Kirksville, Missouri, USA

BA, Business Administration (Degree with Honors), 1995

Academy of Finance under the Government of Russian Federation

Banking & Finance, Degree with Honors, 1996

**ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION**

Languages: English: fluent. German, Serbian: basic. Polish: spoken

Hobbies: Horseback riding, Running, Skiing

Marital Status: Married, two children