

# Andrew van der Westhuizen

Somerset West  
(+27) 76 334 7342  
avanderw@gmail.com

## EXPERIENCE

### Capitec Bank, Stellenbosch — *Product Head*

NOV 2021 - PRESENT

As Product Head, my focus was on security and scale. I led the strategy to reduce fraud across USSD and Internet Banking, eventually driving USSD to the lowest fraud-per-active-client ratio of any digital channel. Following a period with the rewards team, I moved into the telecoms division to spearhead a new market entry. Transitioning from banking to telco revealed a whole new level of scale and structural complexity, shifting my focus from managing supporting channels to building primary, income-generating products.

### Capitec, Stellenbosch — *Development Manager*

OCT 2018 - NOV 2021

I stepped into management to build our first middleware capabilities, moving the bank away from a legacy two-tier architecture. While I originally intended to return to a technical role, I found I had a natural aptitude for leadership and stayed the course. I managed the decoupling of Internet Banking from our mobile platforms while simultaneously maintaining our USSD and legacy channels. A significant part of my focus was refactoring the technical debt created by previous staffing-driven efficiencies, ensuring our systems were aligned with the industry shift toward microservices. .

### Capitec, Stellenbosch — *Scrum Master*

MAR 2015 - JAN 2017

I served as the bank's first Scrum Master, leading the pilot team that introduced Agile methodologies to the organization. This was my first move into a leadership role focused on influence and cross-functional support rather than direct execution.

By leveraging my background in JIRA, I built the reporting frameworks that provided the empirical evidence needed to prove Scrum's viability to the business. What started as a self-managed "skunkworks" JIRA instance eventually scaled to become the bank's enterprise-wide solution. I was instrumental in driving that adoption and justifying the

## SKILLS

Management  
Leadership  
Problem Solving  
Analytical Skills  
Programming

## LANGUAGES

English  
Afrikaans

investment to leadership, turning a trial project into a long-term organizational standard.

### **Capitec, Stellenbosch — *Analyst Developer***

MAR 2013 - MAR 2015

I joined the bank as a Java developer in the mobile space, but my focus quickly shifted from feature development to the build pipeline. I led the migration from Gradle to Maven to break our dependency on Eclipse and strip away the custom complexity that was slowing us down. While I tackled early security and scaling issues, my real value lay in streamlining the development environment—prioritizing architectural simplicity and operational efficiency so the team could deliver without friction.

### **Capitec, Stellenbosch — *Analyst Developer***

MAR 2013 - MAR 2015

I joined the bank as a Java developer in the mobile space, but my focus quickly shifted from feature development to the build pipeline. I led the migration from Gradle to Maven to break our dependency on Eclipse and strip away the custom complexity that was slowing us down. While I tackled early security and scaling issues, my real value lay in streamlining the development environment—prioritizing architectural simplicity and operational efficiency so the team could deliver without friction.

### **University of Stellenbosch, Stellenbosch — Senior Analyst Developer**

JAN 2010 - MAR 2013

### **eSight, Claremont — Developer**

MAR 2007 - FEB 2010

## **EDUCATION**

### **GSB, Cape Town — *Master of Business Administration***

2011 - 2012

### **UCT, Cape Town — *BSc. Hons Computer Science***

2001 - 2006