

# Arno Scholtz

## CEO and senior operations leader | Hardware, IoT, energy systems, and physical-scale execution

Cape Town, South Africa | scholtzap@gmail.com | +27 78 412 0030 | <https://www.scholtz.dpdns.org/> | [linkedin.com/in/apscholtz](https://www.linkedin.com/in/apscholtz) | [github.com/scholtzap](https://github.com/scholtzap)

### PROFILE

CEO and senior operations leader for hardware, IoT, and energy businesses. I build the operating systems behind physical scale: supply chain, contract manufacturing, logistics, field deployment, customer operations, fleet monitoring, business intelligence, safety, and executive reporting. At Plentify I helped scale deployed hardware to 15,000+ field units, managed a ~25,000-unit procurement programme without stockouts, supported a ~12x throughput increase, and redesigned fleet monitoring for 15,000+ devices per operator-day. Previously CEO of BridgIoT, where I deployed ~R15m in project funding, secured strategic investment from Macrocomm, and delivered water-monitoring work with Shoprite CSI and partners across roughly 350 schools.

### EXPERIENCE

#### Director of Operations

Mar 2023 - present

Plentify | Cape Town, South Africa

- Lead operations for distributed energy hardware: field operations, customer service, logistics, procurement, contract manufacturing, facilities, health and safety, and operating tooling.
- Helped scale deployed hardware from hundreds to 15,000+ field units and managed a ~25,000-unit procurement programme through volatile demand without stockouts.
- Supported a ~12x throughput increase by pairing outsourced manufacturing with clearer planning, supplier control, and production cadence.
- Built production-planning and working-capital tooling for inventory decisions, cashflow forecasting, debt-coverage views, and investor reporting.
- Redesigned fleet monitoring so one operator could review 15,000+ devices per day, up from about 2,500, with stronger automation, diagnostics, and labelled issue workflows.
- Negotiated freight and manufacturing terms that improved landed cost, payment timing, and operating flexibility; moved the Cape Town site from health-and-safety non-compliance to a compliant, improving programme.

#### Product Owner

Jun 2022 - present

3BO | South Africa (remote, part-time)

- Own product outcomes for an asset-tracking and recovery platform: product scope, backlog trade-offs, QA, workflow design, and launch alignment.
- Translate tracker, telemetry, WhatsApp, dashboard, and recovery-service needs into clear requirements for technical and non-technical stakeholders.

#### Head of Engineering Services

Nov 2022 - Feb 2023

Livewire Engineering & Consulting | Cape Town, South Africa

- Led engineering-services delivery during Macrocomm's integration of BridgIoT into Livewire, coordinating project management, field operations, delivery quality, and cross-team communication.
- Improved delivery cadence and visibility across engineering services and operations during a short post-acquisition transition.

#### Managing Director

Sep 2021 - Dec 2022

TechITEZ | Cape Town, South Africa

- Led a Genric Insurance and BridgIoT venture commercialising water-heater IoT in the SafeHomes context.
- Helped bring an IoT water-heater controller to market for burst-risk reduction, early detection, and utility savings.

#### CEO

Jul 2019 - Dec 2022

BridgIoT | Cape Town, South Africa

- Built and led an IoT hardware and services business across strategy, funding, product, engineering, team building, customer delivery, and operating discipline.
- Deployed ~R15m in project funding and secured strategic investment from Macrocomm; BridgIoT was later absorbed into Livewire.
- Delivered school potable-water monitoring with Shoprite CSI and partners across roughly 350 schools, contributing to about 720 million litres of water saved and about R52m in water savings realised.
- Led smart-water-metering and water-heater IoT work through drought-response, CSI, insurance, and utility-savings use cases.

#### Lab Manager & Research Assistant

Jan 2016 - Nov 2018

Stellenbosch University | Stellenbosch, South Africa

- Managed furnace, metallography, and microscopy laboratory operations: equipment scheduling, maintenance, procurement, safety protocols, user training, and research support.
- Supported materials-science research through sample preparation, testing, microscopy, documentation, and student assistance.

#### Manager

Jan 2012 - Oct 2017

Nutickets / Howler | South Africa

- Managed live-event ticketing and cashless payment operations: temporary crews, hardware readiness, access control, cashups, reconciliation, client support, and post-event reporting.

### SKILLS

#### Executive operations

P&L ownership, strategic planning, board and investor reporting, stakeholder management, change leadership, cross-functional delivery.

#### Operations & supply chain

Production planning, procurement, inventory, contract manufacturing, warehousing, logistics, international freight, demand forecasting, working capital.

#### Hardware, energy & IoT

IoT hardware deployment, distributed energy operations, field operations, device fleet monitoring, renewables, water-heater control.

#### Leadership & compliance

Hiring, mentoring, team cadence, vendor management, health and safety, crisis response, operating rhythm.

#### Systems & analytics

Metabase, business intelligence, production planning tools, cashflow forecasting, fleet monitoring workflows, AI-assisted tooling.

#### Engineering foundation

Mechanical engineering, materials science, metallurgy, powder metallurgy, laboratory operations, design-for-manufacture collaboration.

### SELECTED PROJECTS

---

#### Production planning & working capital Plentify

Internal planning tool for stock, working capital, cashflow forecasting, debt-coverage views, procurement decisions, and investor reporting.

#### Fleet monitoring redesign Plentify

Raised monitoring capacity from about 2,500 to 15,000+ devices per operator-day with stronger diagnostics, labelled issue review, and automated reporting.

#### Shoprite CSI potable-water programme BridgIoT

Roughly 350 schools, about 720 million litres of water saved, about R52m in water savings realised, and ~R15m in project funding deployed.

#### MEng copper infiltration study Stellenbosch University

Cum Laude materials-science thesis covering furnace work, delubrication, microscopy, SEM/EDS, defect diagnosis, and process guidelines.

#### BEng FAST apparatus refinement Stellenbosch University

Mechanical redesign, FEM and COMSOL multiphysics, electrical and sealing repairs, tooling commissioning, and sintering validation.

### EDUCATION

---

#### MEng, Materials Science (Cum Laude)

Stellenbosch University | 2016 - 2018

Thesis on copper infiltration for conventional ferrous powder metallurgy; furnace work, process-gas calibration, microscopy, SEM/EDS, defect diagnosis, and process guidelines.

#### BEng, Mechanical Engineering

Stellenbosch University | 2012 - 2015

Final-year FAST apparatus refinement: mechanical redesign, FEM and COMSOL multiphysics, electrical/sealing repairs, tooling, and sintering validation.