Executive Biography

Stéphane H. Maes, Ph.D.

CTO and CPO, ESM – ITSM - ITOM, IFS

Dr. Stephane H. Maes is CTO and CPO, ESM/ITSM/ITOM at IFS, and member IFS SLT (SVP level). He shares a lot of his time with R&D, PM as well as with the field, customers and Industry activities to then contribute technical strategies or even disruptive innovations. He is an innovator and disruptor who pragmatically delivers on changing industries, creating new markets and products, or turning around / transforming portfolios.

A seasoned technologist and leader, Dr. Maes is an expert on Web, Cloud, IT, AI, Autonomous Computing, DevOps, Life Cycle Management, Middleware, Service Delivery Platform (SDP), Telecommunications, Mobility, Internet of Things / Machine2Machine, Integration and Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) / Micro-service Technologies as well as service layers for Communications, Cloud and Pervasive Computing, Conversational and Voice and Multi-modal Technologies. He has more than 25 years of experience in the high-tech industry. Prior to joining IFS, he held Research then Management and VP / CTO positions at AT&T Bell Laboratories, IBM, Oracle, Huawei, Ericsson and HP/HPE/Micro Focus. He has been responsible of Worldwide R&D teams as big as 6500 people and CTO for businesses as big as 3.5 Billion US dollars revenue annually. He has expertise leading international R&D/engineering projects and teams.

Dr. Maes approach has often been to innovate and disrupt while delivering the unexpected while starting from what is available today. He significantly changed industries several times and with big impact on systems that everybody uses every day, new markets and new opportunities for the companies he was part of. Alternatively, he transformed, or turned around portfolios. He can be as hands-on as needed when needed and lead any size of international technical teams (PhDs, Architects, Developers / R&D).

Dr. Maes has contributed to key technologies and standards. He holds more than 275 patents and patent applications and has received awards and industry recognition for many of his patents, in areas such as Speech Recognition, Conversational and Multimodal interactions, Biometrics, Service Delivery Platform, Mobile Email, Mobile Internet, Internet Protocol Television (IPTV), Telecommunications, Internet of Things (IoT)/ Machine2Machine (M2M), Service Oriented Architecture (SOA), Network Function Virtualizations (NFVs), Cloud Native, IT Operation Management, Micro-services, AI, Autonomous IT / AIOps / AI4IT, Autonomous Computing and Cloud.

Additionally, Dr. Maes is and has been a technical advisor and co-founder of several startups where he has often helped define key disruptive winning strategies and offerings. He has authored numerous papers and frequently speaks at scientific conferences and at industry events. He has also been involved and many industry activities (Standard specifications and Open Source initiatives)

Dr. Maes holds Bachelor and Master's degrees in Physics and in Electrical Engineering from the University C. of Louvain (UCL), Belgium, an IBM Research MBA and a Ph.D. in Theoretical Physics and Electrical Engineering from UCL, partially obtained while a Visiting Scientist at CAIP, Rutgers University.