

Principal Systems Architect – ADPT (80–100%)

Looking For A System Problem Worth Solving?

We don't develop buildings. We build a system that generates them.

With **ADPT**, we are developing a circular planning and construction system that connects architecture, systems design and software. We see buildings not as resource-intensive one-off projects, but as configurable expressions of a shared system that enables an efficient and economically viable delivery of circular buildings.

We are now building the core team that will define the architecture of ADPT – and help shape how buildings will be planned, configured and delivered.

Your Mission

As Principal Systems Architect, you shape the core architecture of the **ADPT.engine** – the system logic that determines how building components, typologies and contextual data become high-quality, resource-efficient living and working environments. Your contribution:

- You design the system architecture and take responsibility for its implementation
- You translate architectural, structural and regulatory requirements into clear rules and decision logic
- You develop a consistent rule and constraint system as well as combinatorial strategies for exploring the solution space
- You define the decision logic from which valid building configurations and downstream processes are derived across the entire lifecycle of the components

You work directly at the intersection of:

Architecture & System Design

together with the Architecture Design Lead and the Modular Systems Architect

Research & Software Development

in close collaboration with a leading research group in the digitalisation of construction ([Chair of Computing in Civil Engineering](#), Prof. Dr. Markus König, Ruhr University Bochum)

Engineering Practice

in close collaboration with [Arup](#) as part of our development partnership for circular and future-ready construction



What You Bring

- Several years of experience in designing complex, scalable systems or platforms
- Deep understanding of rule-based, constraint-based or generative systems
- Ability to structure complex solution spaces systematically
- Experience with interoperable systems and interfaces (APIs, BIM environments or similar)
- Ability to bridge architecture, systems design and software development and integrate different requirements into a coherent understanding of the system
- Ability to structure and prioritise complex digital development tasks and steer their implementation across multiple disciplines
- Interest in the meaningful integration of AI and machine-learning approaches
- Very good command of English; German is an advantage for working within the German planning and project context

Your background may be in architecture, engineering, computational design, software or adjacent technology-driven fields. What matters is your ability to structure complex systems and a very good understanding of spatial, structural and planning-related relationships.

What Makes This Role Unique

- You don't work on individual buildings, but on the logic from which they emerge
- Your work determines what is possible within the system and changes how buildings are planned, built, used and optimised
- You develop core parts of this logic from the ground up
- You join at an early stage and shape the system architecture on which ADPT will build
- You work with leading partners from engineering practice and research in the digitalisation of construction
- ADPT buildings are not only designed and simulated – they are actually built
- Your work contributes directly to the transformation of the construction sector – with tangible impact in real pilot projects funded by the EU, the German federal government and state-level programmes (e.g. [ADPT-Pilot Zukunftsquartier Kunstwerkerschule](#))

Framework

Duration: minimum 16 months; for an excellent fit, option to take on long-term technical leadership responsibility

Location: Essen or Berlin; a high degree of remote work is possible during the current build-up phase

Collaboration: high level of autonomy and close teamwork, with targeted in-person collaboration during key development and workshop phases

Compensation: salary, option for equity participation

Start: by agreement

If this role resonates with you, send us:

- a short profile or your CV
- 2–3 projects or examples you have worked on (link + brief context)
- a few lines on why building ADPT interests you and which systems or architecture questions you most enjoy working on

The process:

- A short intro conversation
- 1–2 in-depth conversations on systems, architecture and integration
- A conversation about the framework and working conditions

Interested? Reach out:

Contact: Bastian Michael

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Know someone who should help shape ADPT?

Please share.

LOOKING FOR
A SYSTEM PROBLEM
WORTH SOLVING?

