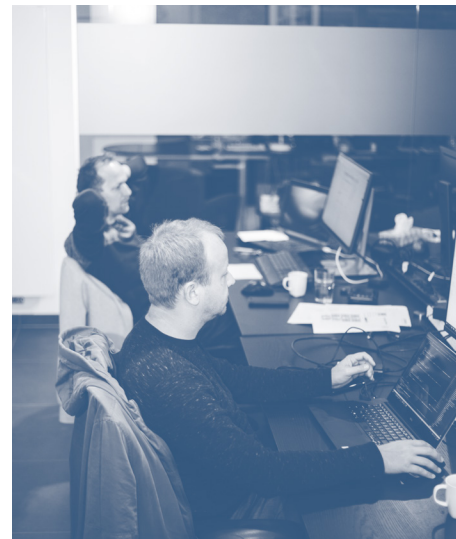# OUR VISION

At Metanous we create quality software for our customers by combining a deep technical knowledge with the ability to quickly learn the problem domain and understanding the problem that needs to be solved. We then mix this knowledge with our thorough understanding of the software development process using our agile way of working and the tools that facilitate this approach.
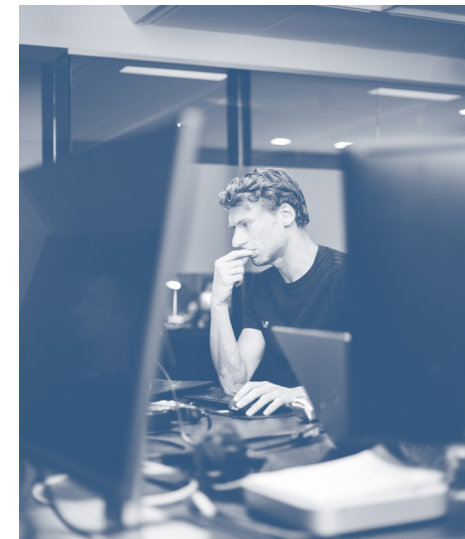
To top it off we add our love for software development, project management skills and our will to deliver projects on time.

METANOUS' WAY

As software development is a complex combination of domain knowledge, technical skills, organizational skills, communication, project management, training, requirements, knowledge transfer and more. Metanous has developed a software development process that combines all of these. This process is largely based on an agile methodology in combination with a healthy portion of gut feeling. We apply an agile way of working to every aspect of the software development process, not only to the coding part.

Metanous is not a web-design company, we're not a mobile app builder and we are not an agency. We are the company that will help you solve your software problems. To do so we help you understand the problem, think about the problem, come up with the best solution for your project and create the software solution best suited for your needs. This solutions almost always involves multiple aspects of your organization and hence almost always involves multiple technologies and/ or integrations. We always aim to use the most suitable technology (that's also best in class) for that part of the job.

Before we take on a software project we try to get to know our potential client. Over the last decade we have come to learn that the relation between a software vendor/builder and the customer is a relation of trust. Therefor it's very important that enough common grounds can be identified between all parties involved before starting a project.

Each software project that we take on starts by understanding the problem that needs to be solved, implemented, automated, made more performant or whatever other task the assignment encompasses. To do so we typically organize brainstorm sessions during which our customers think and reflect about the problem at hand, while we learn about the assignment and our customer. During those sessions we will ask questions, be critical, be amazed, suggest alternatives, ask why (over and over again), and bring decades of experience in creating software solutions to the table. The content of these brainstorm sessions is then translated into a description of what the problem is and what solution will be proposed to solve it.

Once we have a better understanding of what it is we need to do, we start the next steps in the process. A first step is to perform those tasks that the software will solve ourselves. E.g. perform the administrative tasks that will be automated, walk through the city along the path that will be calculated, do the math that will be calculated by the solution, etc. Doing so allows us to experience what the problem is and why it needs to be solved. It also gives us the opportunity to get to know the people that face the real problem. Depending on the project at hand we need to repeat this step a number of times for each sub-problem that needs to be solved.

A second step is the creation of wire frames describing the functionality of the software solution. These wire frames are the starting point of the solution. Before we start to write any code, the functional description needs to be completed. Having a functional description enables us to estimate the amount of work needed to implement the solution, set boundaries on the scope of the project, divide the project into phases (if necessary), think about what technology/platform would be best to accomplish the functional goals, etc. Once all parties agree on the functional requirements we're almost ready to start building the solution.

> ❝
> **Metanous uses the .NET framework to create its software solutions**

By now we have quite some knowledge about the domain, the problem and the proposed solution. These enable us to start the third step: setting up the project team. At Metanous we believe in a close collaboration with our customer. To make sure this close collaboration is not only a theoretical concept, we welcome customer employees in our team. Examples of such collaborations are developers that join our team, product owners that are actively involved in the complete process, graphical designers that bring the house style to the team and more.
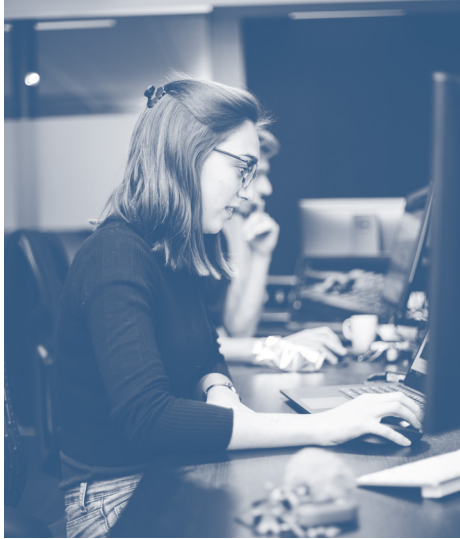
By including these people in our team knowledge transfer is done in a very implicit way. On the more formal front we always transfer the intellectual properties to our customer. It can't become clearer than that. As the technical people start by setting up an architecture suitable for the problem, the graphical guys and girls create a first version of what we call: the visuals (if applicable). These visuals will show what the final product's look-and-feel will be, what atmosphere it will convey, what message it will bring to its users and how it relates to your customers. Typically a number of iterations are needed to come to the look-and-feel that will be adopted.
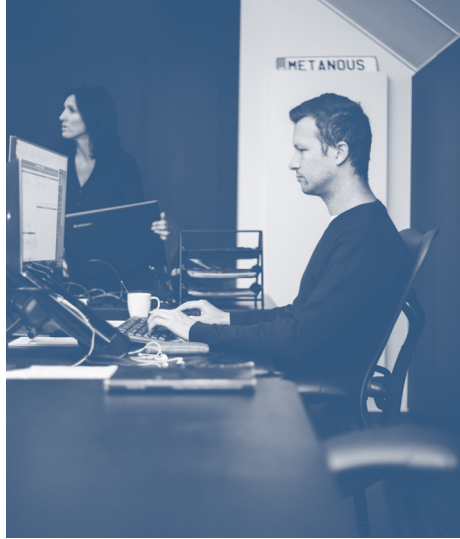
We always try to keep the formal project tasks and the project management to a minimum. But depending on the team's size, the project at hand and the industry we're working in more or less regulatory and formal requirements may exist. At Metanous we have experience with a wide range of regulatory requirements, ranging from medical devices to gaming startups. Each of whom has his own particularities in this regard. Working in an agile manner also means that we adapt to the requirements of each project.

On the technical front Metanous uses the .NET framework to create its solutions. We do so because we're convinced that it offers us the most efficient way of building software on a wide range of platforms. As software development often takes a lot of time, efficiency is crucial.
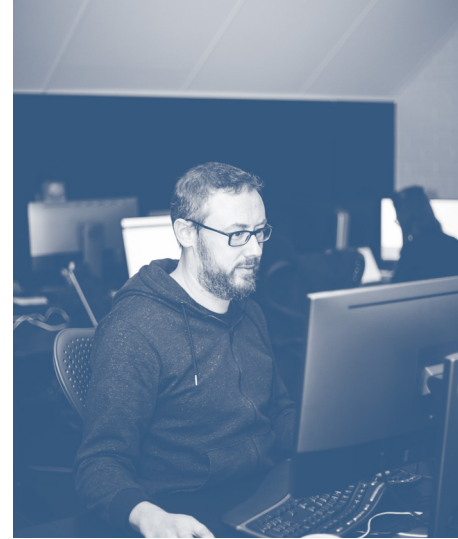
Equally important is the way our software solutions are designed and built. Our software design strategy and software development strategy are focused on an

agile and efficient way of working. We do this on all levels of the development process. From the automated build process, through the unit testing of our code up to the deployment of new versions. We make sure that each step of the process is reproducible and can be performed for each change the software undergoes (even the smallest changes). This ensures the quality of the codebase as well as the confidence that recent changes

didn't break any previously developed functionality.

On the architecture and coding front we use techniques that make sure our code is well structured, readable, easily maintainable, reusable and consistent. As the source code sits at the heart of each software project it is crucial this is done right. To accomplish this Metanous applies state-of-the-art technology to his software solutions. At the core of our

development we use software architectures that have proven track records both in general and within the projects we do. E.g. MVVM-C (model-view-viewmodel-controller) is a pattern we have developed and use extensively. As a professional software development company and system integrator we do not only look at the coding side of things, we are used to talk to other parties (both human and technical) when creating your solution. In todays connec-

ted world it is rare that no connections to other systems exist. The architectures we propose take this into account and allow you to grow your software solution and therefor your business. The methodology we use provides integration tests to ensure that existing configurations and integrations are not broken. On the nontechnical part of the project we proactively talk to all parties needed to design, implement and deliver the software solution.

Finally, we have an agile, down-to-earth approach to manage our software projects. For a lot of our customers we take care of the project management tasks, additional to the technical and development tasks. This allows them to focus on the business opportunities, marketing material, sales processes, etc. As part of the project management we provide assistance and guidance when rolling out the new software in the organization and getting it adopted by the user base.

The last step in any software project is the follow up of the project. Metanous offers two possible ways of organizing this. In a first scenario the maintenance and changes to the software are taken care of by Metanous. A second option makes sure we educate and train someone (from the customer's team) in our development team for the duration of the project. This makes sure that all knowledge transfer is implicitly covered. If needed Metanous provides the required learning material, courses and training to get those up to speed on the project's domain knowledge and expertise. Should you be in need of an in depth training on one of the technologies we use in our day-to-day jobs, we can help you with that as well.

So why should you select Metanous as your software development partner?

Because we live and breathe software, we love writing code, we're experienced in creating complex enterprise software as well as creating smaller projects, we have a proven track record in delivering great software and awesome service, because we will treat you the way we want to be treated ourselves, we're in this for the long run and most of all because we will apply all of our passionfor software to your software project.