From Hybrid Technologist to Vibe Conductor: Building with AI, Not Hoping for Magic



Is it enough to know your craft anymore? Or must we now relearn it? 🤒

Previously I shared some reflections on the *emergence of hybrid technologists*, professionals bridging architecture, business value, and AI-enabled delivery. Since then, I have continued deeper into this evolving space and finally it has taken shape.

Although I had originally planned to publish my take on *vibe coding* earlier, I held off because I wanted to experience it, not just theorise it. And that experience became far more real as I began working closely with Claude Code.

Not Magic, But a New Kind of Collaboration

I have worked with several AI platforms: GPT-4, DeepSeek, Gemini, Perplexity (still a go-to for PRDs, idea development, and market insight). But Claude Code introduced a very different feel, one where the value is not just in the code generation, but in the analysis. When properly interacted with, it does not just output, it reasons. That subtle shift makes a big difference when your goal is to co-create a structured, scalable outcome.

The Myth of AI as a Black Box Engineer

You have probably seen those memes or diagrams, where AI is imagined as a magical machine that turns a vague prompt into a perfect solution, while skipping all the work in the middle.

The reality? If you do not understand architecture, logic, or the software lifecycle, you will spend more time wrestling with AI than building anything usable.

This is the true spirit of *vibe coding*: it should not be "AI, do this for me." It is "*let's get the goal aligned, test iteratively, and structure the path forward*". And when it works, it feels like conducting a symphony, not because you play every instrument, but because you can guide each section into harmony.

I am Not a Developer Anymore, But I am Still Building

I no longer write code the way I used to. And that is the point!

As someone rooted in IT (databases, project management, enterprise architecture, agile transformation, etc.), I have found a new role: someone who can speak to the AI in the language of outcomes. I work with it in the system design, define agile iterations, structure logic flows, and then let the AI help me. In return, it helps me deepen my programming knowledge across tools and frameworks I may never have learned otherwise.

But without having that structured foundation, the result can easily become a Frankenstein system, fragile, overcomplicated, and misaligned.

Vibe Coding Is a Strategic Act

Recently, I began developing a CrewAI-based platform using local LLMs. The goal? A secure, functional, user-friendly AI environment for agent-based collaboration. It is still in development, so I will share more later, and *this* is what is possible when you stop treating AI like a shortcut and start working with it like a partner.

Project Managers?

A thought to explore: In this new dynamic, project managers may evolve into hybrids of product owners, coders, and testers. Why? Because the ability to define, design, test, and iterate is now within reach, *if* you can manage AI like a creative, capable (and sometimes stubborn) team member.

Are you experimenting with AI agents or building through co-creation? And what skills are helping *you* avoid the Frankenstein trap? Anything I can help you with?

P.S. Curious about the relevance of the picture of a horse driving a tractor? Will make it clear in one of my next posts, or feel free to comment what you think the reasons are.

#VibeCoding #HybridTechnologist #ClaudeCode #AITooling #AgileDelivery #FutureOfWork #AIEngineering #DigitalTransformation

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