

Darek Falkiewicz

Result oriented Freelance Senior Project Manager | Automotive & Connectivity- (Remote) - Track record of project leading since 2020

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Mladá Boleslav, Czech Rep.

LinkedIn

Core Skills

Project management

Waterfall, Agile, Crisis management, Stakeholder management, E2E

Technical Expertise

Car Connectivity, Digital products, TCU, eCall

Tools

Jira, MS 365, Figma

Languages

Czech

Native

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English

Business

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Result-oriented Project Manager with over **7 years** of experience in R&D and digital connectivity within the automotive industry.

Proven track record in leading complex software migrations **(2G/3G sunset), regulatory compliance (eCall/GNSS**), and market expansion projects (Australia/NZ).

Expert at bridging the gap between technical feasibility and business requirements, with a focus on UX/UI design principles and cross-functional colaboration.

Key Projects & Deliverables

Regulatory Compliance: Private eCall Implementation & Retrofit Continual Strategy

November 2024 - Jun 2026

Context & Goal: Managed a high-priority connectivity and regulatory compliance project to secure Private eCall and connected services continuity during the global 2G/3G network sunset at Škoda Auto (VW Group). Navigated through corporate process and internal approval cycles and cross-functional coordination (R&D, Quality, Aftersales) to meet critical deployment deadlines.

Scale: Coordinated a cross-functional matrix team of 7 FTEs across R&D, Quality, and Aftersales. Monitored continuity for a fleet of 4 millions vehicle in the field.

Key Activities: Managed the rollout and validation of TCU (Telematics Control Unit) updates, ensuring seamless functionality for both legacy in-field vehicles and current production according to deployment roadmaps with strict milestone definitions.

Results & KPIs: Successfully prevented potential service outages for legacy and current production lines, ensuring 100% compliance with premium connectivity and customer safety standards. Delivered project before the Sunset took place in all Live markets.

Technical Product Conformity & GNSS Remediation Dec 2025 - Jun 2026

Context & Goal: Appointed as Crisis Project Lead to implement fix to a a critical Product Conformity Violation regarding GNSS systems within Technical Development at brand level.

Scale: With more than 2 millions cars affected and 15 000+ customer claims made (more than 400€ repair cost of change of TCU per claim), I led a cross-functional Task Force team combining R&D, Quality Assurance, and Corporate Legal. Managed daily technical alignment with Tier 1 suppliers (Qualcomm, LGE).

Key Activities: Developed and executed an end-to-end remediation and technical fix strategy. Managed risk assessments and fast-tracked the technical solution under tight regulatory pressure to reduce total potential costs in

dealerships.

Results & KPIs: Achieved 100% group alignment with international regulatory standards. Successfully mitigated severe legal and financial risks for the brand while maintaining strict automotive safety benchmarks. Total costs saved by development of fix rather than changing TCUs: More than 5 000 000€

Connectivity Expansion: AUS & NZE (Market Entry & Compliance)
November 2025 - April 2026

Context & Goal: Project Lead for international market expansion, managing technical compliance and risk framework for connectivity service operations in Australia and New Zealand. Introduction of EU scope of functions to these markets.

Scale: Cross-border project coordination involving local legislative bodies, importer networks, and core R&D teams.

Key Activities: Conducted deep business analysis and technical assessments to define commercial scope and constraints. Spearheaded the conceptual phase for the "Emergency Disaster Warning" feature, ensuring full alignment with local mandated legislation.

Results & KPIs: Successfully delivered the conceptual and compliance framework, ensuring a seamless project handover to vehicle planning and R&D testing phases with zero requirement gaps.

TCU Software Migration & Validation (2G/3G Sunset)
July 2024 - January 2026

Context & Goal: Directed the software lifecycle, validation, and migration strategies for Telematics Control Units (TCU) facing 2G/3G network decommissioning, ensuring continued service for both legacy (in-field) and current production vehicles.

Scale: Managed validation & testing via comprehensive testing protocols (bench testing & field trials) to verify connectivity stability across multiple network providers during the 2G/3G decommissioning phase.

Key Activities: Supervised comprehensive bench testing and field trials to verify connectivity stability. Developed software workarounds and orchestrated deployment strategies, including Over-the-Air (OTA) updates and service-tool procedures.

Results & KPIs: Safeguarded connected services functionality for the existing customer base with before actual Sunset in impacted markets.

VW Classic Cars Connectivity - Transition to Škoda
August 2024 - March 2025

Context & Goal: Successfully led the strategic transition and organizational transfer of the Connectivity project portfolio from Volkswagen (Wolfsburg) to Škoda Auto.

Scale: Managed the transition framework impacting A0 product line (4 models) and more than 15 E2E functions.

Key Activities: Designed the complete organizational framework from scratch, including complex job split matrices (RACI), resource capacity planning, and the overall master roadmap. Defined unified testing strategies and milestone validation gates.

Results & KPIs: Secured a seamless project handover to the execution Project Manager. Dealt with disruptions to the ongoing development timeline to mitigate take-over milestone breach.

Semiconductor Crisis Management - Variants & Ramp ups Analysis & Solution
May 2023 - September 2023

Context & Goal: Task Force Lead during the global semiconductor supply chain crisis, tasked with maintaining production continuity through alternative component validation.

Scale: Fast-paced project environment with direct impact on daily vehicle production volumes.

Key Activities: Led the technical analysis, identification, and risk evaluation of alternative semiconductor components and product variants. Coordinated swift technical ramp-up phases across manufacturing plants.

Results & KPIs: Maintained zero dealership downtime and prevented costly production line stops through agile component substitution.

Component/system certification of Emergency call ERA Glonass for Kodiaq, Karoq, Superb
Sep 2021 - Mar 2022

Context & Goal: Project Manager for the technical certification and homologation of the ERA Glonass Emergency Call system for major model lines (Kodiaq, Karoq, Superb).

Scale: Multi-model scope covering the brand’s flagship SUVs and sedans for specific international markets.

Key Activities: Managed compliance documentation, test management, and alignment with external certification authorities.

Results & KPIs: Successfully granted vehicle homologation on schedule, enabling the market launch of 3 vehicle models without regulatory delays. Interrupted by conflict in Ukraine.

Past Experience

ŠKODA AUTO a.s. Mladá Boleslav, Czech Rep

Project Manager of Car Connectivity Online Services for Octavia 2021/2022 model year

February 2020 - September 2021

ŠKODA AUTO a.s. Mladá Boleslav, Czech Rep

Bug Manager Car Connectivity Online Services January 2019 - February 2020

Hoenigsberg & Duevel Corporation Mladá Boleslav, Czech Rep

System Specialist March 2017 - December 2018

ŠKODA AUTO a.s. Mladá Boleslav, Czech Rep

Lead End2End Architecture Analyst for Online Car Connectivity February 2022 - February 2023

- Responsible for analyzing, tweaking and choosing best solutions for concept and build phase of the project management according to coorporate strategy.
- Doing the analyst job and leading the solution architect while cooperating with product owners, business owners, IT and all stakeholders for the actual project development to get the best feasible idea to fullfill the business requirements.
- Mid level topology and architecture analysis of requirements, their modification, rejection based on the technical feasibility.

Education

Masaryk Institute of Advanced Studies at CTU Prague Masters

Project management Prague, Czech Rep. • 2014 - 2016

Masaryk Institute of Advanced Studies at CTU Prague Bachelor

Human Resources Prague, Czech Rep. • 2011 - 2014

Smichovska Stredni Prumyslova Skola Prague, Czech Rep. • 2007 - 2011

Information Technology