

Christian Schneider

Leader with strengths in operations, IT and finance.

I bring facts and people together
so that solutions hold.



I understand new things by pitching in.

A farmer's son from the Emmental, born in 1978, married, three children. My father used to say: lazy is not thinking. So I think first and automate. I have been working on our house since 2013, and today AI runs the more than 300 devices in it. We can go away for 14 days without anyone having to water the garden or feed the cats. That leaves time for the things that matter.

What comes to the table early costs less later. I learned that at the family table and have seen it again and again as a leader. That is why I disagree, and why I value it when people disagree with me. The better idea should win, even if I sometimes only change my mind after sleeping on it. So I most enjoy working with people who think differently from me.

Responding to change

over following a plan

Much only succeeds once someone builds bridges between business, finance and IT. I have carried responsibility on all three sides. I start with the people who move goods, post invoices or develop software, and look over their shoulders until I understand how their work flows. A solution only holds if it rests on facts and takes people along.

In day-to-day operations, success comes from many small improvements. I standardise, digitalise and automate processes and use resources sparingly. Building something new rests largely on assumptions. There, every plan is a bet, and I want to learn as fast as possible which assumptions hold. Persistence in what exists, willingness to learn in what is new.

Individuals and interactions

over processes and tools

That is what the Agile Manifesto says, and that is how I lead. For me, a team is like a beehive. Everyone flies out independently and brings back to the team what they find. In short, regular meetings the team tells itself directly where it stands and where it needs help. On a task board it makes its work visible to one another. The board helps, but the solutions come from talking. It impresses me every time what people achieve when I trust them.

Whoever swarms out and tries something new makes mistakes. Whoever makes none is not daring enough. In my teams we name mistakes openly, understand the causes and find solutions together. To that end I give honest and immediate feedback, and I expect exactly the same from my team and from my superiors. That is how we learn from one another and act as each other's sparring partners.

Twenty years between trading, figures and systems

2023 – 2026



Head of IT and Processes

fenaco GOF · Member of the extended executive board

2021 – 2023



Head of Finance, Controlling and IT

fenaco GOF · Member of the executive board

2016 – 2021



Head of Feed Grain

fenaco GOF · Member of the extended executive board

2013 – 2016



Project Manager

fenaco GOF

2006 – 2013



Controlling and Business Advisory

fenaco LANDI Treuhand

- 2023 – 2026
IT and Processes
- 2021 – 2023
Finance, Controlling, IT
- 2016 – 2021
Feed Grain
- 2013 – 2016
Project Manager
- 2006 – 2013
Controlling and Advisory

05/2023 – 10/2026

Head of IT and Processes

fenaco GOF · Member of the extended executive board

- **Budget responsibility** for the IT and Processes unit, with **8,000 to 10,000 development hours** a year.
- The IT team developed consistently and, with a **ticketing system, enabled** to share knowledge and solve problems on its own. The result is a strong team.
- End-to-end **business processes** from trading to fulfilment **standardised** to GS1 standards and **digitalised**:
 - An **integration architecture** with a central message broker and a workflow for staff built, asynchronous, scalable and fault-tolerant for high message volumes.
 - On top of it the team implemented the **interfaces** to suppliers, customers, hauliers, customs and Intrastat and **automated** the exchange of order, delivery and invoicing data, saving a great deal of manual work in operations.
- The ERP changes for the group-wide **SAP rollout** implemented:
 - The **master data processes** in the ERP newly designed and implemented, as the prerequisite for connecting SAP Master Data Governance.
 - The ERP connected through **interfaces** to SAP Finance and SAP Master Data Governance.

- 2023 – 2026
IT and Processes
- 2021 – 2023
Finance, Controlling, IT
- 2016 – 2021
Feed Grain
- 2013 – 2016
Project Manager
- 2006 – 2013
Controlling and Advisory

08/2021 – 04/2023

Head of Finance, Controlling and IT

fenaco GOF · Member of the executive board

- **Responsible for the financial statements** of the GOF parent unit and granaagro Germany, together around 2.2 million tonnes of grain, oilseeds and specialities a year, and for reporting to the group, with a 5-person team in Bern and Kiefersfelden.
- **Controlling** rebuilt on Qlik Sense together with the business functions, with drilldown from the business unit KPI through customer and product to the individual shipment.
- A 7-person **IT team** in Bern, Winterthur and the Czech Republic built and led, covering everything from requirements engineering through testing to support, and taking on ICT administration for the business unit alongside.
- The further development of the ERP **set up and steered** with **agile methods** together with the development team in Hamburg:
 - **Commodity futures** integrated into the ERP, to control open positions and hedges without gaps.
 - **Chain transactions** within the EU secured in the ERP, so that only constellations cleared by the business unit can be processed.
 - The **document architecture** in the ERP unified, with a fraction of the former development and testing effort and far fewer errors.

- 2023 – 2026
IT and Processes
- 2021 – 2023
Finance, Controlling, IT
- 2016 – 2021
Feed Grain
- 2013 – 2016
Project Manager
- 2006 – 2013
Controlling and Advisory

06/2016 – 07/2021

Head of Feed Grain

fenaco GOF · Member of the extended executive board

- **P&L and budget responsibility** for the business unit, with a 9-person team in trading and operations. Supply mandate for UFA, Switzerland's largest compound feed producer.
- Broken rice from Brazil and oats from Scandinavia **contracted**, shipped via Rotterdam and the Rhine to Basel and **marketed** in Switzerland.
- In the **market entry into Germany** with granaagro, reorganised purchasing and logistics and supported the ERP rollout.
- Controlling built with the **business intelligence tool** QlikView together with accounting, beyond my own unit for the whole of fenaco GOF.
- The compulsory stock reports to réservesuisse **automated and digitalised** with the operations team, day-accurate and straight from the ERP.

- 2023 – 2026
IT and Processes
- 2021 – 2023
Finance, Controlling, IT
- 2016 – 2021
Feed Grain
- 2013 – 2016
Project Manager
- 2006 – 2013
Controlling and Advisory

05/2013 – 06/2016

Project Manager

fenaco GOF

- A **supply chain built from scratch**, bringing the first certified Danube soya to Switzerland, from sourcing at the producer through processing and logistics to certification.
- **Marketing concept** for the ANI bedding products of the roughage department commissioned and owned, from the brand to the product names for all animal categories.
- **Business cases** for the Rhine port and for the takeover of the Groupe Minoteries silos, both supported through to the investment decision.
- The **ERP rollout stabilised** after key interfaces were missing at go-live, taking the lead in bringing the project back on course. A year later, implemented the Swiss grain harvest in the ERP with a new concept.

08

- 2023 – 2026
IT and Processes
- 2021 – 2023
Finance, Controlling, IT
- 2016 – 2021
Feed Grain
- 2013 – 2016
Project Manager
- 2006 – 2013
Controlling and Advisory

02/2006 – 04/2013

Controlling and Business Advisory

fenaco LANDI Treuhand

- Prepared and analysed the annual cost accounting for more than twenty LANDI cooperatives as part of **controlling**.
- **Investment appraisals** for stores, filling stations, real estate and production plants, worked out with the LANDI managing directors.
- Supported LANDI **mergers**, consolidated balance sheets, calculated synergies and prepared the figures for the cooperative members' decision with the managing directors.
- **Analysis and strategy development** for the Pannonikum project, the infrastructure strategy for Switzerland's grain collection points, from the analysis of the sites through the lines of action to the investment projects.
- Completed the **EMBA** alongside the job.

Education

2010 – 2012

Executive MBA, major in Innovative Business Creation

Bern University of Applied Sciences BFH

- Corporate strategy, financing and risk management, marketing.
- **Innovation management**, lean startup, design thinking, business model innovation.

2001 – 2005

BSc in Agricultural Economics, Ingenieur-Agronom FH

School of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences HAFL

- Majors in **business management** and **computer science**.
- **Semester abroad** at SRUC Aberdeen, Scotland.

until 2001

Federal Diploma in Agriculture and vocational baccalaureate

Naturwissenschaftliche Berufsmaturitätsschule, Inforama Rütli

LANGUAGES

- German**

native
- English**

business fluent
- French**

conversational

SWISS ARMED FORCES

- 1998 – 2015

First lieutenant, infantry



11 · CONTACT

Christian Schneider

✉ info@chriguschneider.ch

☎ +41 79 249 26 32

📍 Blinzernstrasse 34, 3098 Köniz

🌐 chriguschneider.ch [in linkedin.com/in/chriguschneider](https://www.linkedin.com/in/chriguschneider)



↓ SAVE CONTACT