

Position: Senior API Platform Engineer
Department: Data Solutions
Period: Permanent
Reporting to: Devops & Integration Manager
Location: Cape Town, Bellville (Hybrid)

Purpose:

Pepkor NexTech is a dynamic IT company that delivers value-driven IT solutions to the Pepkor group. We are focused on creating value - simplified. Our work lives revolve around our DNA. We take pride in our work, treat our colleagues, partners, and our country with respect. We exercise collaborative decision-making and believe in work-life balance. We achieve this all while having fun and enjoying what we do.

About the Role:

As a **Senior API Platform Engineer**, you will be a motivated professional driving the governance and reliability of our core integration infrastructure. Your primary focus will be managing the API Gateway (Apigee) and messaging platform (RabbitMQ), governing the "API-First" methodology, and ensuring overall platform reliability and security.

In this pivotal role, you will be the primary steward of our API ecosystem, managing the Apigee Gateway, ensuring robust platform security, and architecting the integration of **Google Cloud Platform (GCP) AI services** to deliver intelligent, scalable features. Collaborating closely with development and business teams, you will provide the framework and oversight for high-performance integrations. You will also leverage AI to automate platform monitoring, enhance security, and optimize integration workflows.

Key responsibilities:

API Platform Governance & Design Standards:

- Establish and enforce API-first design standards and industry best practices across the organization.
- Govern the API lifecycle management process, providing oversight from documentation to versioning.
- Manage and optimize the developer portal experience to ensure ease of discovery and consumption.
- Define configuration management standards for API Proxies on Apigee, including global security policies and traffic management.

Platform Infrastructure & Operations:

- Implement and utilize AI-driven tools for proactive anomaly detection, predictive maintenance, and operational automation across our API and messaging infrastructure.
- Direct the strategic administration and evolution of Apigee and RabbitMQ platforms.
- Oversight of platform-level CI/CD pipelines to ensure stable and secure infrastructure deployments.
- Serve as the Subject Matter Expert and final escalation point for complex, critical integration issues, providing guidance for incident resolution.

- Perform standby duties.
- Analyse the environment to detect deficiencies and recommend solutions for continuous improvement.

Integration & AI Services:

- Integrate APIs with Google Cloud Platform (GCP) AI services and models (e.g., Vertex AI) to enable intelligent capabilities.
- Develop and support conversational AI agents (virtual agents/chatbots) and integrate them into business workflows via APIs.

Collaboration & Documentation:

- Create and maintain detailed technical documentation, including API specifications.
- Collaborate with development teams on the API/integration middleware platform and provide input on solution design and integration patterns.
- Mentor junior and mid-level engineers, fostering technical growth and best practices across the integration team.

Qualifications & Experience:

- A relevant tertiary qualification in Computer Science, Information Technology, Engineering, or a related field.
- Previous experience in API Platform administration or infrastructure engineering for **8+ years** is required.
- **Google Cloud Certified** - Professional Cloud Developer certification or related.
- Proven experience in the administration and configuration of **API Gateways (Apigee) and Messaging Platforms (RabbitMQ)**.
- Strong knowledge and practical experience with **Google Apigee** (Apigee X) is highly desirable.
- Strong knowledge of **CI/CD automation tools**, such as Jenkins, Harness, Gitlab CI or equivalent.
- Solid experience with API-first architectural governance and platform stability frameworks.
- Strong **SOA and Microservices understanding**.
- Hands-on experience designing and developing inbound and outbound integration interfaces.
- Good understanding of **industry standards and technical adapters** like GraphQL, REST, SOAP, OpenAPI/Swagger, etc., and hands-on experience in XML, JSON, XSD, JavaScript.
- Understanding of integration security standards such as OAuth 2.0 and JWT.
- Experience with the **Google Cloud Platform (GCP)** ecosystem.

Key Competencies:

- Strong analytical and debugging skills to resolve complex performance bottlenecks quickly.
- Self-motivated and capable of driving initiatives with minimal supervision.
- Able to take a proactive approach in identifying technical debt early and ensure strict platform reliability and policy enforcement.
- Ability to look beyond basic user stories to understand how integrations impact the broader business.

- Excellent communication skills with a proven ability to partner across teams.
- Eager to adapt and continuously learn emerging tools, cloud techniques, and platform innovations.

Advantageous:

- Experience with Google Cloud Platform (GCP) and its related services, particularly: **Vertex AI**
- *Vertex AI Agents for conversational AI development.*
- *MCP for LLMs to access and interact with external data sources and tools.*
- GCP platform operations for serverless integration logic (Cloud Functions/Run).
- Experience with Python or other scripting languages commonly used for AI/ML model consumption.
- Knowledge of the use of container technology such as Docker and Kubernetes.
- Exposure to Agile methodologies, such as SCRUM and KANBAN.
- Experience with Message Queues (AMQP) or streaming platforms (e.g., RabbitMQ).

APPLICATION PROCESS

If you are interested in the above position and meet the requirements indicated above, please submit your CV to vacancies@pepkorit.com REF: SeniorAPI-PE

Alternatively, you may apply directly on our current careers website: <https://pepkorit.com/careers>. Please note the new website link <https://pepkor-nextech.com/job-listings/senior-api-platform-engineer>, is currently in progress for direct application submission.

Pepkor NexTech strives for equal opportunity in terms of its employment equity guidelines. By submitting your application, you are giving Pepkor NexTech implicit consent to the storage and processing of your personal information. If you do not hear from us within 3-4 weeks of the closing date of this position, please regard your application as being unsuccessful.

*Closing date for applications: **31 July 2026***