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PERSONAL SUMMARY

I have worked within the infrastructure and DevOps space for over 13 years now, developing my skillset and mentality to be a self-driven and honest individual, working with integrity and approachability as well as being adaptable to fluctuating goals and demands, which has been a highly valuable skillset in my various roles.

This experience stretches across a plethora of different areas including Continuous Integration, Continuous Delivery, Continuous Automation, Deployment Pipelines, Cloud Administration and Automation as well as other areas including Middleware/Application servers and OS Administration experience. More recently, this has also included adapting into the Security and Architecture space demonstrating my flexible aptitude towards diving into fresh new areas and being able to develop and mature my skillset in order to add the most value to my team and the organisation.

KEY SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES:

Automation, Testing and Build Tooling: Puppet, Ansible, Chef, Jenkins, CircleCI, AWS CodeBuild, AWS CodePipeline, Gitlab, Docker, Robot Framework, Selenium.

Infrastructure and Orchestration Systems: AWS EC2, AWS ECS, AWS EKS, AWS Lambda.

Version Control and Artefact Management Systems: Git, SVN, Artifactory

Cloud Administration and Infrastructure as Code: AWS, Oracle Public Cloud, OpenStack, Terraform, Terragrunt, CloudFormation, Checkov.

Server, Application and OS Monitoring: Nagios, Cacti, Munin, Sensu, Sensu Go, Graphite, Grafana, ELK, Graylog, AWS Cloudwatch

Hashicorp Suite: Vault, Packer, Terraform, Consul

Application and Web Servers: Weblogic, Tomcat, JBoss, Apache Web Server, Nginx, Websphere, MS IIS.

Databases: Oracle, MySQL, Postgres, MongoDB.

Operating Systems: Solaris, RedHat Linux, Oracle Linux, Windows Server.

Languages: Python/Jython, Shell Scripting, Ruby, Perl, PHP.

WORK HISTORY:

Leading Security July 2023 - Present

CTO and Freelance DevSecOps Engineer

Duties:

- Building a Cybersecurity and DevSecOps consultancy offering affordable and relevant consultancy services to businesses.

Sohonet April 2022 – May 2023

DevOps Team Lead

Duties:

- Leading a DevOps team and working closely with the Head of Infrastructure to define business and technical roadmaps, help define ways of working and ensure the team is continually running in an optimal way.
- Responsible for creating and maintaining and supporting an estate consisting of redundant and multi-AZ AWS and on premise infrastructure across multiple products from Development environments through to Production. These products ranged from supporting the business's main product which was to allow video and movie editors to collaborate together in a web based streaming solution to a web based file storage system.
- For a complex estate, this comprised of maintaining a GitOps approach to running and supporting the estate, with CircleCI and Github Actions mainly used for CI, Terraform used to maintain the AWS infrastructure, Ansible and Packer to maintain and build AMIs and Puppet to maintain on premise infrastructure.
- Helped establish the use of standardised practices across all product sets to reduce technical complexity across both Terraform and Ansible structure through the use of modules and environment setup and CI through the use of Orbs in Circle. This was also done for our monitoring stack which consisted of Sensu, Graphite, Grafana, AWS Cloudwatch, Prometheus and Statsd.

Sainsbury's Digital Tech and Data August 2020 – March 2022

DevOps Engineer (Data Tech)

Duties:

- Working mainly with data engineers to educate and build a framework consisting of Terraform, AWS, CircleCI and custom Data pipelines enabling our squad to build out infrastructure use cases and patterns in a very high-level catalogue style. This was originally uplifted from a fractured state where only a single senior engineer was managing this to a place where all data engineers of all levels in the squad were able to understand and contribute to.
- Was also part of an additional squad where I architected and delivered a framework solution consisting of Terragrunt, Checkov, Tftest, CodeBuild/CodePipeline and an inner-source multiple squad-wide contribution model that enabled multiple squads to deliver and build out their data pipelines in a consistent manner as an iteration over the previous framework above.

This enabled squads to get up and running and delivering at a much greater pace while also meeting mandated Infosec controls automatically and adopting other aspects such as monitoring and alerting automatically.

- Delivered and maintained multiple Terraform modules and use cases for multiple AWS services but also data pipeline architectures consisting of AWS ECS, AWS EMR, AWS S3, AWS Lambda.
- Responsible for architecting and maintaining an end-to-end data pipeline consisting of AWS ECS running Kafka Connector clients for data ingestion, EMR for data processing and Airflow and custom written DAGs to assist with the visibility of data landed and processed and moving it through to Snowflake.
- Responsible for re-architecting and implementing a shift in our data ingestion process, moving from EMR to a Serverless solution consisting of both an AWS ECS always on solution to a solution where an Airflow DAG launches ECS tasks dynamically.

Mimecast February 2019 – May 2020

Senior Security Engineer (DevSecOps)

Duties:

- Work closely with the key stakeholders such as the Security Engineering Manager and CISO, in order to identify and the current gaps in the Commercial SIEM and drive innovation of our current architecture. This includes areas such as, availability, redundancy, integrity and security.
- Architected, designed and built a multi-terabyte throughput, DC redundant, Elastic based SIEM deployed across 5 regions in the commercial platform. These included introducing a maturity scale within the team, aligning the design, deployment and management of the platform in accordance with DevOps best practices, through the use of automation via Puppet, version control and infrastructure automation with Terraform and Foreman.
- Architected and deployed SENSU Go, Graphite and Grafana as part of the operational monitoring stack, including the various checks, metric based scripts to gather and report on the health status of the SIEM and be able to respond incidents.
- Collaborated closely with the SOC team to ensure that we had defined processes for the introduction of new data sources, pipelines for existing data sources and collaborating to ensure we met the various compliances that we needed to meet.
- Architected and designed future phases and growth of the SIEM platform as well as a version that is designed to be FedRamp ready compliant, meeting various FIPS 140-2 controls.

HM Revenue and Customs April 2018 – September 2018 (Contract)

Digital DevOps

Duties:

- Returned back with the CDOS team having key responsibilities to maintain, improve as well as educate other contractors and employees on the framework that I helped originally design and contribute to in my previous time at HMRC.

- This included working on integrating Terraform as another tool in our framework via the creation of an Ansible role that dynamically templated the Terraform configuration based on the environment inventory and variables to create the necessary resources such as EC2 instances, DNS and Subnets for each environment with appropriate sizing based on each distinct service required for CDS.
- Ensuring the use of Jenkins in getting key pipelines setup enabling routine tasks such as environment builds, deployments and key security integrations working and used for Production.
- I was also tasked with getting key components fully automated, integrated and working that were critical to the first Production release of the Customs Declaration Systems. This included technologies such as Oracle Database Cluster (Primary, Active Standby, Passive Standby), MySQL InnoDB Cluster, IBM Websphere, Spring Boot-based microservices. Through the completion of these tasks, I was also with another mainly responsible for the first Production build and the subsequent versioning through Git Flow of hotfixes and the change log.
- Mentoring, teaching and collaborating with senior colleagues, peers and architects around best practices as well as usage of Ansible, Jenkins and AWS and becoming a key knowledge person on the architecture of the CDS system and its underlying technologies.

Infomentum April 2017 – March 2018

DevOps Lead

Duties:

- Responsible for the creation, lead and drive of a DevOps transformation project for the organisation. This included changing the working practices from top to bottom for our existing and new clients including the introduction of Infrastructure as Code, version control and defining standard working practices.
- Defining and driving a clear roadmap for the introduction of these working practices, including liaising with various levels of the organisations, from scrum masters and technical resources including educating and working with the CTO.
- Creation of our configuration management framework, mainly consisting of Puppet to standardize and deliver some required elements, such as the Password management system Hashicorp Vault as well as the monitoring and logging platforms in Sensu, Graphite and Graylog
- Extending and creating new Puppet modules as well as training and coaching technical resources through the DevOps mind-set and the importance of re-usable, idempotent code.
- Working with various cloud platforms in AWS and Oracle Public Cloud to provide managed services support and to deliver projects when required as well as working with Oracle Virtual Manager and Oracle Enterprise Manager to deliver a fully integrated private cloud for customers.

HM Revenue and Customs August 2016 – April 2017 (Contract)

DevOps and Environments Lead Analyst

Duties:

- DevOps Analyst responsible for the contribution and maintenance of a DevOps platform and DevOps processes to be used organization wise. This stack included a set of industry standard processes with the tools being Ansible, Jenkins, RobotFramework and Git alongside a standard tech stack to deploy (Redhat, ELK, Graphite, Sensu).
- Creation of Ansible roles to perform several jobs, from the creation of the monitoring platform to architecting and implementing a backup solution to be used and then integrating this to be used in environments going forward through the use of Jenkins.
- Responsible for the definition and implementation of environments each with unique stacks, all written and built using code and configuration. These ranged from Oracle Fusion Middleware products to Docker micro services.
- Continuously educating, training and empowering team members with the platform and skills necessary to use what was continuously being developed through documentation, hands-on training and code reviews
- Participating in Agile driven sprint and programme increment planning, continuously contributing ideas and improvements and educating other delivery teams around DevOps and importance of automation.

International Financial Data Services September 2015 – July 2016

Integration Provisioning Specialist

Duties:

- Technical lead with a mandate to deliver a cost-effective automation platform to replace the existing Cloud/Automation platform.
- Capabilities of solution had to include automation and delivery of functions such as OS, compute, security config, middleware, software delivery, application deployment and more.
- Proof of concept environments created using a variety of solutions ranging from Octopus Deploy, IBM UrbanCode, VCenter Orchestrator and OpsCode Chef
- Final solution included the architecture, build, implementation and use of VCenter Orchestrator and Chef
- Creation of production and organization workflows within VCenter Orchestrator to fit IFDS's needs as well as plugin integration into Chef
- Creation of the Chef platform including the outline of repository, development processes, training and development of several cookbooks to enable IFDS to meet outlined requirements.