**Austin Ford**

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| AWS Cloud Engineer, IaC, and DevOps / DevSecOps Engineer  ***cloud-native and cloud-agnostic solutions***  Focused on PaaS and modern-day DevOps strategies, adapted for either cloud-native ecosystems or locally hosted. Extensive experience with DevOps lifecycle, open source systems architecture, enterprise storage and networking. |

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| **AWS Cloud Services** | **\*nix SysAdmin** | **DevOps** |
| * EC2 and securing Security Groups on public subnets * IAM roles / policies, assume\_role * S3 buckets plus versioning * RDS deploy and mgmt * CloudFront and web caching * Lambda as a cron service * Terraform-backed resource mgmt, stored in s3 * AWS ALB/ELB for kubernetes ingress * Route53 hosted zones and domain mgmt * Expert AWS CLI scripting for improving operations efficiency and automation * CostExplorer insights and SecurityHub hardening | * DNS - BIND and AD-based DNS configuration, nslookup, dig, host * Monitoring – Nagios, op5 * HA – F5, AWS ALB/ELB * HTTP Servers: Apache, Nginx, Tomcat * Linux service and network configuration * GCC/MINGW compilers * Wine and emulation * Ubuntu, RHEL, CentOS, Fedora, Backtrack/Kali * 802.1Q VLAN, routing tables, and iptables local firewall * Debug – troubleshoot syslog, auth.log, and /var/log/messages * Enterprise Storage – iSCSI, NAS * Virtual Networking – VLAN, vSwitch and distributed vSwitch * ansible-based host and OS configuration | * Configuration automation – ansible, puppet * Containerization – docker, docker-compose, kubernetes, Rancher * Project management – git(Lab|hub), svn * Terraform providers * Documentation – mkdocs via gh-pages, gitlab docs * Expert bash scripting * GitLab CI/CD * configuration templating – jinja2 * Image Repositories – Artifactory, Nexus * Monitoring - Elastic stack with kibana visualization, ntopng for packet analysis and IDS |

**Professional Experience**

**Federal Reserve Bank via Apex Systems May 2024 - present**

***DevSecOps Consultant* – Software Assurance for the Federal Reserve ( SAFR )**

Automated security compliancy for existing cloud-based systems as well as develop infrastructure for supporting the MITRE framework, utilizing flagship products like Vulcan, Heimdall, and SAF CLI. Helped to design, implement, and maintain tools for a broad customer base, supporting all 12 districts of the Federal Reserve System.

***Key Achievements:***

* Designed and built a scoped cloud infrastructure following strict cloud security rules and conventions within a small team.
* Built several GitLab pipelines for automating customer code compliancy and transfer to cloud-hosted services.
* Developed Python-based pipeline tooling for security auditing and ingestion.

**Lockheed Martin ( Space ) March 2023 – May 2024**

***Senior DevSecOps Engineer* – Assemble, Test, and Launch Operations ( ATLO )**

Developed a number of GitLab-driven tools used in CI and CD automation in AWS gov cloud as well as integrated our team’s various projects into existing DevSecOps toolsets (1LMX ) within LM. Worked in an exceptionally secure environment, enforcing government-mandated standards for security compliancy; both in AWS Gov and the company intranet.

***Key Achievements:***

* Built an entire IaC stack from scratch ( ansible and terraform mostly ) for managing all of the teams cloud resources and automating infrastructure patching operations and the software development lifecycle.
* Spearheaded onboarding efforts and DevOps cross-training with a team, unfamiliar to the typical DevOps flow; playing both engineer and DevOps *evangelist.*
* Responsible for designing and managing CI infrastructure, leveraging both Linux and Windows platforms.
* Leveraged cost-optimization tactics in automation to accommodate high expectations in a modestly-budgetted cloud space.

**Charter Communications October 2019 - January 2023**

***Senior DevOps Engineer* – PDE**

Worked in an ever-expanding team ( Product Development Enablement ) providing CI/CD and IaC resources in the Cloud via GitLab and AWS. Also supported a platform of web applications, hosted on Rancher and Kubernetes.

***Key Achievements:***

* Maintained an AWS ecosystem of over 20 accounts, used by several mission-critical teams.
* Used a stack of GitLab, Terraform, and AWS CLI to automate cloud infra as IaC for thousands of cloud resources simultaneously.
* Developed Python-based Lambda functions in automating scheduled cloud operations.
* Performed several, highly-visible and critical cloud migrations in consolidating various accounts.
* Worked closely in the AWS SecurityHub to enforce cloud security standards ie. IAM policy standards and security group exceptions.

**Comcast Business via TEK Systems March 2017 - October 2019**

***Systems Engineer* – Mercury**

Used Ansible and Puppet to manage virtual machines on OpenStack for Comcast's Video ingestion services. Also provided general support for everything from on-site datacenter administration to maintaining their Cassandra NoSQL clusters.

***Key Achievements:***

* Built ansible stack entirely from scratch to manage a +200 server infrastructure built on CentOS
* Automated various deployments around ansible and docker.
* Liasioned between Comcast and their HA/F5 providers to guarantee zero customer downtime.
* Responsible for Automation and Operations and proxied between the virtualization teams and the team’s developers.

**Comcast Business via TEK Systems January 2016 - December 2016**

***Infrastructure Engineer* – Vader Team**

Maintained Comcast’s video packaging and processing infrastructure. Worked on a team of systems engineers automating OpenStack and VMware infrastructure through ansible.

***Key Achievements:***

* Deploying new infrastructure both manually and through automated solutions
* Applied patching and configuration changes across a broad array of different systems within RHEL/Ubuntu-based systems.
* Used automation solutions such as Puppet to maintain an ever expanding infrastructure built on NoSQL
* Worked alongside cloud-based infrastructure as well as installing physical servers and networking equipment at one of Comcast’s datacenters.
* Provided security and network analysis for my team for over 300+ dedicated Linux VM’s (98% being CentOS distro).

**VMware September 2013 - October 2015**

***Technical Support Engineer* - Systems Operations, GSS**

Returned to the same position I was in 2012 as I had moved back to the area from Centennial. Essentially the same job, just under a different manager and around the release of vSphere 5.5. Also provided more of a scripting role to help other TSE’s and customers with the same issues.

***Key Achievements:***

* Built a number of automated scripting processes to help with the support queue such as an automation for vSphere 5.x custom certificate and custom PKI installs.
* Updated live KB directory per customer-related issues.
* Received intuitive training for vSphere 5.1and 5.5

**NagraStar May 2013 - July 2013**

***Junior Systems Engineer***

Managed a security solution that delivered encrypted set-top boxes to various factory locations around North America. These systems were built in-house in custom server closets that could then be shipped to the various sites and secured to the point that other engineers could retrieve data without exposing the backend network.

***Key Achievements:***

* Responsible for KMS system management and distribution which was an entirely-linux, key server setup responsible for deploying encrypted keys.
* Constructed new KMS systems which dealt with virtualization, networking, Linux system management.
* Managed inventory processes for maintaining constant updated data from various sites around North America.

**VMware August 2012 - December 2012**

***Technical Support Engineer* - Systems Operations, GSS**

Worked in a callcenter environment that was the frontline in troubleshooting vSphere ESXi and vCenter-related issues. Also provided support for various infrastructure-related issues: iSCSI and networking.

***Key Achievements:***

* Handled large and small scale virtual environments.
* Updated live KB directory per customer-related issues.
* Received intuitive training for vSphere 5.1

**Micro Center March 2012 - May 2012**

***Service Technician I***

Carried out services such as data migration, data backup, password removal, virus removal, and OS restore, hardware and software diagnostics in a face past environment. Also handled custom PC builds and network consultation for a number of small business needs as well as having experience in dealing with various manufacturers for parts and warranty.

***Key Achievements:***

* Perform PC and laptop tasks including repair and OS restoration.
* Responsible for selling and installing software related to customer issues i.e. anti-virus, cloning, backup, and malware protection.
* Build cusmotized hardware to satisfy small business and personal PC needs, set up VLANs and isolated network topologies via managed switches and routers.

**Micro Center June 2010 - March 2012**

***Technical Sales Associate***

Responsible for Build Your Own department sales which included consulting both personal PC and small business client needs and staying on top of the market’s latest hardware. Had to identify customer needs and align those needs with the correct hardware, given clients sometimes with little to no computer experience.

***Key Achievements:***

* Helped customers build high-performance computer systems, generally in ATX form-factors.
* Helped connect small business clients with required networking hardware and helped troubleshoot configuring those networks to their needs.
* Built a network of local customers over the years which over time, increased my commission through the word-of-mouth of my experience.

**Education**

**Metropolitan State University of Denver August 2007 – May 2010**

Took computer and CS-related classes which were designed around CompTIA A+ certification course materials. Also studied Journalism and Political Science. **NO DEGREE.**

**Roaring Fork High School August 2001 – May 2005**

Attended computer classes and managed school IT resources performing generic tasks such as upgrading systems, replacing failed hard drives, and installing new school software.