

Aaron Braundmeier

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Engineering Leader | Cloud-Native Platforms | Scalable Infrastructure | DevSecOps

Innovative engineering leader with a strong track record of building and scaling cloud-native platforms, developer tooling, and core infrastructure. Experienced in leading global teams, managing product managers, and mentoring senior engineers. Passionate about delivering high-impact internal platforms—from zero-to-one products like the Tanzu Developer Portal at VMware to custom dashboards and automation pipelines at CVS that improve visibility, velocity, and operational reliability. Adept at aligning infrastructure strategy with business needs, scaling distributed systems on GCP and Kubernetes, and fostering a culture of technical excellence.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CVS Health

Senior Engineering Manager (2024 – Present)

- **Lead a global engineering organization of 50+ engineers and 2 managers**, overseeing the transformation of mission-critical pharmacy systems.
 - **Defined and executed the technical roadmap** for migrating legacy applications to a **cloud-native microservices architecture** on **Google Cloud (GCP), Kubernetes (GKE), and Cloud Spanner**.
 - Personally developed a **Python**-based executive dashboard that integrated data from Jira, **SonarQube, Snyk, GitHub**, and **ArgoCD** via **REST APIs**, offering a real-time, single-pane-of-glass view into engineering health, velocity, and risk for product and executive stakeholders.
 - Implemented a **CI/CD pipeline** with **GitHub Actions** to **containerize** the dashboard application and deploy it to **GKE** using **ArgoCD**, enabling **automated, secure, and scalable** delivery.
 - **Partnered with business, security, and compliance teams** to ensure all modernization efforts aligned with business priorities and regulatory requirements.
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VMware

Engineering Manager (2021 – 2024)

- **Led the development of the Tanzu Developer Portal**, driving adoption and usability across enterprise Kubernetes environments.
- **Managed the deployment and operations of multi-cloud Kubernetes clusters** on **GCP, Azure, and AWS**, ensuring **99.99% uptime** and high availability.
- **Optimized cloud infrastructure** by reducing operational overhead and automating provisioning, improving developer experience across teams.
- **Led incident response and reliability engineering initiatives**, decreasing downtime by **30%** and improving monitoring/logging strategies.
- **Championed cross-team collaboration**, establishing engineering best practices for cloud-native development.

Mastercard

Engineering Manager (2018 – 2021)

- Managed **three engineering teams** responsible for API-driven payment lifecycle products, processing **millions of transactions daily**.
- **Led the migration from monolithic payment systems to cloud-native microservices**, improving system scalability and reducing operational costs.
- **Ensured 99.99% uptime** for mission-critical payment infrastructure, supporting seamless global transactions.
- **Played a key role in the Apple Card launch**, leading backend API development and integration with Apple's ecosystem.

Senior Big Data Engineer (2016 – 2018)

- **Designed and implemented Hadoop-based big data solutions**, improving payment transaction efficiency.
- **Collaborated with data security teams** to ensure compliance and data integrity.

Distributed Systems Engineer (2015 – 2016)

- **Scaled Mastercard's global data center infrastructure**, optimizing network and compute resources.
- **Automated server provisioning**, reducing manual errors and deployment time.

Systems Engineer (2013 – 2015)

- **Led enterprise macOS integration**, deploying **JAMF-based device management** across corporate teams.
- **Designed IT automation solutions**, cutting manual tasks and boosting operational efficiency.

CERTIFICATIONS

- **Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA)**
- **Kubernetes and Cloud Security Associate (KCSA)**
- **Kubernetes and Cloud Native Associate (KCNA)**
- **AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner**
- **Google Cloud Cybersecurity**
- **Certified Argo Project Associate (CAPA)**

TECHNICAL & LEADERSHIP SKILLS

- **Cloud Platforms:** Kubernetes, Docker, GCP, Azure, AWS
- **Development & Automation:** Python, Shell, SQL, CI/CD, Argo CD
- **Cybersecurity:** DevSecOps, Cybersecurity Kill Chain, Vulnerability Management
- **Agile & Leadership:** Stakeholder Management, Project Execution, Jira, Scrum, Kanban

SIDE PROJECTS

kube-scan – Kubernetes Penetration Testing Tool (*Creator & Maintainer*)

- Developed an open-source tool for **identifying vulnerabilities and misconfigurations** in Kubernetes clusters.
- Automated security checks to help DevSecOps teams improve cluster security.
- Built using **Python** and Kubernetes APIs.

Kubernetes Study Guide (*Founder & Author*)

- Developed a structured **self-paced Kubernetes learning guide**, helping engineers and certification candidates.
 - Covers **Kubernetes components, networking, security, and deployment strategies**.
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EDUCATION

Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville

B.S., Management Information Systems (2013)

VOLUNTEERING

- **St. Peters Hockey Club Coach**