Erik Thorsell

DevOps Transformation Leader

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TL;DR

Erik is a DevOps enthusiast and problem solver with robust technical expertise and a proactive approach to everything he does, poised to deliver value – *quickly* – in any environment. He thrives in transformation assignments where an organisation wants to empower their developers to take complete ownership of their deliverables, but is also able to support existing "DevOps Teams" with pipeline development, infrastructure deployments and general automation.

Erik can help you both strategically and practically with anything related to shipping your product to your customers

Experience

Dec '22–Dec '23

TOYOTA

DevOps Lead and Platform Developer, Toyota Material Handling, Gothenburg.
Erik was part of the Infrastructure and Security Team at TMHLS, providing the developers in the organisation with the tools they needed to do their job as efficiently as possible. This included everything from helping developers with particularly complex git issues and creating pipeline templates, to maintaining both the on premise and cloud infrastructure, using infrastructure as code. Erik was also leading an organisational transformation at Toyota to simplify their "release process". The work primarily focused on removing manual steps and handovers, in order to increase the release cadence and shorten the customer feedback loop.

Nov '21–Dec '22

KGH CUSTOMS SERVICES
A Maersk Company

DevOps Transformation Leader, KGH Customs Services (a Maersk Company), Gothenburg.
When KGH was acquired by Maersk, Erik was asked to help them evolve their software suite to a cloud native offering. This included both a technical transformation as well as a change to KGH's way-of-working, where Erik was able to combine his leadership and Kubernetes experience to advice the CTO and architects in their work. By the end of the assignment, Erik had partaken in several successful service migrations and helped formulate the plan for migrating KGH's larger and more complex products.

May '19–Nov '21

ERICSSON

Line Manager, Team Facilitator, Software Engineer, Ericsson (Packet Core), Gothenburg.

Jun '21–Nov '21 **Line Manager (Acting)**
As acting Line Manager, Erik had the opportunity to work with recruitment, change management, and coaching team members in their careers. He managed around 20 people from different countries and answered to the Packet Core department manager.

Jul '20–Jun '21 **Team Facilitator**
As Team Facilitator, Erik was responsible for the performance of four XFTs. He coached the teams in agile principles and helped them perform at their highest level. Erik's goal was to imbue the DevOps mindset in the project and the developers he worked with. Being one of the most senior people in the project (see Software Engineer pos. below), Erik remained involved in architectural/design decisions for the duration of the project.

May '19–Jul '20 **Software Engineer**
Erik was one of the first team members to join the Packet Core's Continuous Delivery & Deployment project. The product (SWDP) automates the upgrade procedure of Packet Cores' network functions, ensuring critical telecom infrastructure receive up-to-date software with zero downtime. Erik was involved in product design, development as well as testing and developing the build/deployment pipeline for the product.

Jun '18–May '19

VOLVO
Volvo Group Trucks Technology

Software Developer, Volvo Group Trucks Technology, Gothenburg.
Erik was part of the Vehicle Automation group and helped Volvo GTT take the next step for automated trucks, buses, and construction equipment. The team — Transport Missions and Route Management — was tasked with fleet management, planning, and communication for the autonomous vehicles and developed a containerised Java Spring Boot microservice application. At VA, Erik developed and was responsible for the Continuous Integration (CI) tool chain for the Java and C++ based products in the project.

Sep '17–Dec '17

Machine Learning Engineer, Machine Intelligence Sweden, Gothenburg.
Worked with the product *Science Router*, a search engine for connecting industry and research. Erik was involved in all steps of the product development but focused primarily on data aggregation and parsing all articles into a unified format, to be stored and used for algorithm training.

Education

Aug '13–Jun '18 **BSc, MSc, MScEng**, *Computer Science*, Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg.
Erik holds a BSc and an MScEng in Computer Science and Engineering. He also has an MSc in *Computer Science, Algorithms, Languages and Logic* and concentrated his studies to machine learning, artificial intelligence and optimisation.
Theses: BSc: `http://bit.ly/2g04d3q` & MSc: `https://bit.ly/2tHBCZD`

Aug '11–Jun '12 **Team Training School West (TTS)**, Dalkarlså Community College, Dalkarlså.
A theological education with emphasis on leadership. Not only did the education cast light upon the complexity that comes with organizing a large community, Erik also got a better understanding of the importance of structuring his everyday work.

Tools

Azure Erik has handled a plethora of different kinds of deployments for various customers: Scale sets for build agents and variable workloads, standalone VM deployments with custom images, managed Kubernetes services, and much more.

Version Control Erik *loves* when all i's are dotted and all t's are crossed and therefore he has a thing for version control. He has experience working with Microsoft's collaboration tools (Azure DevOps and GitHub), Atlassian's suite (Jira, Confluence, Bitbucket) as well as GitLab and gerrit.

Terraform In the same way that it's crucial to have build and deployment pipelines to swiftly test and deploy `code`, Infrastructure as Code is key to enable fast and reliable deployments of *environments*. Erik's IaC tool of choice is Terraform.

Boundary Boundary is an excellent tool for managing VPN-like access for organizations. Erik has worked with both Boundary OSS and HCP Boundary and has configured both variants from scratch, in an Azure + on-premise environment.

Packer When deploying virtual machines on a regular basis, Packer is an excellent tool to reduce deployment times and increase reproducibility. Erik has experience building images for various Linux distributions and Windows server versions, using Ansible and Azure as the backend.

Ansible TMHLS use Ansible wherever possible; both in combination with Packer for ensuring consistent VM images, but also for on-prem infrastructure deployments. Erik has written Ansible roles for Ubuntu, RHEL, SLES and Windows Server.

Docker Used both professionally and for personal projects. TMHLS' product is composed of dozens of containers and KGH targeted Kubernetes with Docker images. At Ericsson, Erik set up GitLab with Docker runners and he configured the CI/CD pipeline at VA with Docker and Docker Swarm.

Kubernetes Kubernetes is a complex beast but Erik has spent the past couple of years in an attempt to tame it. He has experience both as a Kubernetes administrator (mostly using AKS, but also on-prem installations using Rancher) and as an application developer.

Python Unless there's a good reason to pick something else, Erik will pick Python. He just really like the language and for his use cases (mostly scripting or non-performance critical projects) Python is great.

Bash Erik has a solid experience with Bash, having working predominantly (and preferably) with Linux deployments. Coming pre-installed on most systems, Bash in an excellent tool for automations due to its portability.

DevOps In order to win the marketplace, your company must deliver higher quality software – faster. Making "the speed at which you deliver your high quality product" your highest priority, will force you to scrutinize all parts of your organization. Erik has both the technical and managerial background necessary to help your organization forward; and believes we do so by drawing from the DevOps principles.

Key interests `DevOps | Improvement of Daily Work | Automation | FOSS/Open Source | Transparency`
`Continuous Integration and Deployment | Agile | Continual Learning |` 🏊 🚴 🏃