

Paul Sweeney

DEVOPS & PLATFORM ENGINEERING LEADER

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PROFILE

Experienced engineering professional with a long track record of building and running reliable delivery platforms in complex organisations. Strong background in modernising legacy systems, supporting cloud adoption, and putting practical engineering platforms in place that teams actually use. Known for fixing hard technical problems, improving stability, and providing clear technical direction when things are unclear. Brings hands-on experience across build, test, deployment, observability, and release, and works closely with engineers to raise standards and introduce automation that reduces operational effort and long-term cost.

CORE COMPETENCIES/TECHNICAL PROFICIENCIES

DevOps & Cloud Platforms: Kubernetes, K8S, AKS, GKE, KubeVela, Docker, Azure DevOps, Git, Terraform, Helm, Crossplane, Linux, Ubuntu

Automation & Scripting: Ansible, Bash, PowerShell, Python, Scripting, CI/CD, Octopus Deploy, TeamCity, GoCD

Monitoring & Observability: Prometheus, Grafana, Alertmanager, Datadog, Greylog

Developer Platforms / IDP/ DevEx: Backstage, Internal Developer Platforms, Platform Engineering, AgenticAI, Agentic Coding

Programming & Engineering: C#, .NET, .NET Core, ASP.NET, Multithreading, SQL, XML, Web Services, C++, C, Fortran, SaaS

Networks & Infrastructure: Cisco, CCNA, WAN, MPLS, BGP, VPN, IPSEC, SNMP

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

TravelRepublic, Part of Emirates Group, Remote

Jan 2013 – Present

Senior Developer & DevOps (Platform Engineering) SME

Act as a senior technical sounding board for platform and architecture decisions while the organisation continues to modernise. Look after six self-managed Kubernetes clusters, keeping them reliable, repeatable to build, and easy to observe when issues arise. Implement practical release management practices, including sensible branching, clear communication, and pipelines that are easy to understand, to coordinate deployments across TeamCity, GoCD, and Octopus. Spend a lot of time improving the existing codebase through steady refactoring, better unit testing, and fixing long-standing legacy issues, including moving older services into C#.

Key Contributions:

- Enabled early adoption of AgenticAI Coding by producing practical introductory material and offering hands-on guidance.
- Reduced operational complexity through consolidation of legacy deployment tooling into a more coherent/maintainable platform.
- Elevated software quality by restructuring critical components to support unit testing and by driving incremental migration from VB.NET to C#.
- Established a unified pipeline standard that improved DevOps consistency across Linux and Windows build and deployment processes.
- Accelerated wider use of AgenticAI Coding by embedding repeatable development patterns that reduced manual effort and increased delivery speed.
- Increased deployment reliability by introducing a release-management approach that aligned communication and integrated cleanly with existing TeamCity workflows.
- Simplified delivery across more than 100 workloads by creating a multi-cloud pipeline that enabled smoother adoption of GKE and AKS without requiring deep Kubernetes expertise.
- Protected business continuity during the pandemic by developing an automated booking-cancellation workflow and resolving recurring currency-conversion issues through a dedicated module.
- Boosted production resilience by enhancing an RPi Ansible playbook to automate bare-metal Kubernetes builds and by implementing Prometheus, Grafana, and AlertManager notifications to Slack/Teams.

Acumentive Ltd, Remote

Aug 2007 – Jan 2013

Software Development Lead

Joined as the sole technical consultant and programmer, working directly with the Managing Director on everything from customer-facing technical discussions to pre- and post-sales support and hands-on development. Wrote Python utility scripts to simplify product build and testing within a third-party framework. Designed and built a common C# application framework to speed up delivery and allow flexible configuration across different hardware and backend systems, supporting Windows, web, and Compact Framework mobile deployments backed by SQL Server 2000/2005/2008. As the work grew, built and led a small technical team of up to four consultants.

Key Contributions:

- Improved testing and demonstration work by introducing Virtual Machine tools such as Virtual PC and VMWare.
- Acted as a key technical contact, keeping up-to-date knowledge of core technologies and maintaining steady working relationships with suppliers in RFID, Ultrasonic ID, and Real-Time Location Systems.
- Supported the organisation's distributed working model by putting practical systems in place for bug tracking, project management, wiki collaboration, change control, data back-ups, and DVCS version control.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

.NET E-Commerce Developer | Commercial Services, Kent County Council, UK, Aug 2005 – Aug 2007

Lead Developer & Website Testing Consultant | SciVisum Ltd, Sittingbourne, Kent, UK, Jan 2004 – Jul 2005

IT Systems Engineer (Advanced CCTV Systems) | Astraguard Ltd, Sevenoaks, Kent, UK, Apr 2003 – Dec 2003

Software Development Engineer | Viewgate Networks, Sevenoaks, Kent, UK, Dec 1999 – Aug 2002

Simulator Maintenance & Development Engineer | Magnox Electric plc, Oldbury Training Centre, South Glos, UK, May 1996 – Dec 1999

Control & Instrumentation Engineer | Nuclear Electric plc, Berkeley Technology Centre, Glos, UK, 1989 – 1996

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATIONS

Chartered Engineer (CEng MIET) | Engineering Council, UK

Master of Electrical & Electronic Engineering (MEng) | Imperial College, London, UK

TECHNICAL CERTIFICATIONS

Linux Foundation CKA, 2021 | IKM C# v4.0 (Score 99/100) | MCAD | CCNA | MCSE NT4

OPEN-SOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Contributor, CNCF KubeVela (Slack & GitHub)

Contributor, Kube-Prometheus documentation

Author, Ansible-Role-Pi-K8S (RPi4 Kubernetes cluster installer)

YouTube: A Hello World for AgenticAI Coding

Created EasyLife null-tolerant LINQ library (NuGet)

PRs to Octopus Deploy Task Template library

Python 2.x core bug repro contributor

Produced engineering explainers (Async/Await deadlocks, SQL transactions, CGroup throttling, etc.)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Private Pilot Licence (PPL) | Advanced Driving Qualifications