Paul Sweeney

DEVOPS & PLATFORM ENGINEERING LEADER

Sherborne, Dorset, UK | +44 7970 044442 | paulsweeneycv@kolossi.co.uk | https://www.linkedin.com/in/paulsweeneycv/

PROFILE

Experienced engineering professional with a long track record of building and running reliable delivery platforms. Strong background in modernising legacy systems, supporting cloud adoption, and putting practical engineering platforms in place that teams actually use. Acknowledged as 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. Modernise existing codebase through steady refactoring, better unit testing, and fixing long-standing legacy issues, including moving older services into C#.

Key Contributions:

- Championed 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 migration from VB.NET to C#.
- Established a unified pipeline standard that improved DevOps consistency across Linux & Windows build & deploy processes.
- 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 creating an Ansible playbook to automate bare-metal Kubernetes cluster builds and by implementing Prometheus, Grafana, and AlertManager with notifications to Slack/Teams.

Acumentive Ltd, Remote   **Aug 2007 – Jan 2013**
Software Development Lead

Joined as the sole technical consultant & developer, 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. As the work grew, built and led a small technical team of up to four consultants.

Key Contributions:

- Improved testing swed 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, Jun 1989 – May 1996

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATIONS

Chartered Engineer (CEng) | Engineering Council, UK, since 2005

Institution Member (MIET) | Institute of Engineering and Technology (formerly IEE) , since 1993

Master of Electrical & Electronic Engineering (MEng) | Imperial College, London, UK, since 1992

TECHNICAL CERTIFICATIONS

Linux Foundation CKA | Kubernetes Admin, 2021

IKM C# v4.0 | Developer, Score 99/100, 2012

MCAD C# | Developer, 2003

Cisco CCNA | Network Admin, 2002

Microsoft MCSE NT4 | System Admin, 1999

OPEN-SOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

CNCF KubeVela Project | Contributor | GitHub & Slack community

A Hello World for AgenticAI Coding | Creator | YouTube - https://youtu.be/t88im_V3zQg

K9S (Kubernetes CLI UI) | Contributor | Github & Slack community

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

Kolossi.EasyLife null-tolerant LINQ library | Author | NuGet & GitHub

Octopus Deploy Task Template library PRs | Contributor | GitHub

Python 2.x core finalizer bug repro contributor | Contributor | Python.org community

Kube-Prometheus documentation | Contributor | GitHub

Engineering explainer docs and talks (Async/Await deadlocks, SQL transactions, CGroup throttling, etc.) | Author

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Private Pilot Licence | JAA-PPL(A)/SEP, 180 hours in the logbook

 Advanced Driving Qualifications | IAM

Previously voluntary roles | Parent Governor, Parish Councillor

Pickleball player | DUPR rating 3.0-3.5