

> Ricky Cook_

> Objectives

I love using technology to be a multiplier of human effort, especially when helping people pursue a cause for social good. I've spent the large majority of my career enabling all kinds of organizations achieve their social purpose, by ensuring that doctors are efficiently communicating, community services can provide accurate and timely help, ensuring developers can iterate and deliver quickly, and helping organizations safeguard the vulnerable people in their care. All of these objectives have been achieved through a interesting mixes of both new, and "boring" technology. I'd like to continue working to multiply the effectiveness of causes that I believe in through my love of software.

Details

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> Code Skills

The core skillset that I've been using has been centred around Python, node.js, and React. I've also had prior experience with many other languages, and can pick up new Frameworks, infrastructure, and languages with ease. Most of my experience lie with both software, and infrastructure back-end specifics of either monolithic, or microservice-based RESTful services. I am also a competent front-end developer, and have created UIs that are in every day use by end-users.

> Infrastructure Skills

I am a passionate Linux user, and though I currently use MacOS for my development environment, I am well versed in using Linux for every day desktop tasks as well as using both Docker, and Virtualized Linux almost every day. I always focus on getting security right, and building on top of a solid foundation of infrastructure on any variant of *nix that is required.

Other technologies I've had every-day use of include AWS (EC2, EKS, RDS, CloudFormation, Lambda, etc), Elasticsearch, PostgreSQL/PostGIS, and Kubernetes. I've also had experience with many more infrastructure automation and management tools not listed here; some of these are listed in my employment history below.

> Employment History

> Highlights

- *dutyof.care*: Developed the dutyof.care platform, from scratch into a highly scalable, resilient, fast product
- *Redbubble*: AWS and Docker SME on the team tasked with moving to containers, and AWS
- *Odecee*: Helped implement a PCI-compliant, continuous-deployment environment on AWS
- *Odecee*: Nominated for an internal award for simplicity on a complex project

- *Infoboxchange*: Before Docker, implemented a containerised build system using LXC, auFS, and Puppet. I then presented the solution in a talk at [Infracoders Melbourne](#)[1]

> **Tech Lead @ dutyof.care**

September 2017 – March 2020

> **Responsibilities**

- Create the dutyof.care platform, associated infrastructure, user experience, design many and build many product features
- Ensure that the dutyof.care platform remains in operation, at a high level of performance
- Collaborate with both technical, and non-technical customers to help them integrate the platform into their business either via software integrations, or additional features to aid in human interaction
- Conduct employment interviews, and build a quality development team

> **Achievements**

- The dutyof.care platform produces results to the 99th percentile of its validation requests, discluding latency of source databases, in less than 50ms
- Stability of the platform is excellent. Very few single points of failure, and those that are singletons are not time-critical services, allowing recovery without users seeing downtime
- Platforms security is excellent; Hashicorp Vault is used accross all services to ensure that secrets are time-limited where possible, and are at the very least highly controlled, and access is audited

> **Technologies**

Great: Python, Docker, AWS, PostgreSQL, React, Kubernetes(EKS), nodejs

Good: SQLAlchemy, Flask, Hashicorp Vault, Hugo

Competent: Lambda(AWS), Prometheus, RabbitMQ

> **Senior Software Engineer @ Blue Bike Solutions**

April 2017 – September 2017

> **Responsibilities**

- Create, and manage both software, and infrastructure solutions for a variety of not-for-profit clients, mostly with limited budgets
- Act as a technical resource to allow other consultants to design appropriate, achievable solutions

> **Achievements**

- Developed a prototype app for the Australian Red Cross to aid in disaster relief in developing countries. The end product showed how a light-weight app could sync an inventory database when offline, and allow search and update when out of connectivity
- Moved a legacy, but important software product from a single dedicated server, to load-balanced, highly-available AWS architecture that ended up as good as a cloud-native solution

> **Technologies**

Great: Python, Docker, AWS, PostgreSQL, React, Flask

Good: SQLAlchemy, Framework7

Competent: Java, Domo

> DevOps Engineer @ Redbubble

September 2015 – March 2016

> Responsibilities

- As part of the delivery engineering team, it was our job to "help teams deliver value faster", carefully balancing new technology and process with business demands to deliver features
- Acted as the team's AWS, Docker, and general DevOps expert
- Built a new Docker-based platform for very fast, and safe deployment of microservices

> Achievements

- Reduced deployment time from 40min on the old platform, to less than 1min on the new
- Built many tools for comparison-based testing of refactored services, similar to [GitHub scientist](#)[2]
- Built an application platform that replaced unhealthy nodes with zero downtime for deployed services
- Implemented a centralized logging stack to help diagnose issues across many disparate (including legacy) systems

> Technologies

Great: AWS, Docker, BuildKite, systemd, Debian

Good: Ruby, Rails, Packer, Logstash, Kibana

More employment history available on request, or at [thatpanda.com](#)

> Education

> Swinburne University of Technology, 2008 – 2009

Bachelor of Science (Computer Science and Software Engineering) / Bachelor of Multimedia (Games and Interactivity) [Incomplete]

This course gave me a stable footing in systems design, usability design, Java programming, C and C++ programming, 3D modeling and various other facets of the game development profession. I left to pursue take a job offer to work in professional software development.

> References

> Damien Whitten

Senior DevOps Engineer @dutyof.care

Damien and I worked together to build dutyof.care

phone Contact for info

email Contact for info

> Liam Mann

Senior Project Manager @Blue Bike Solutions

Liam managed some of my projects at Blue Bike Solutions

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email Contact for info

[1]: <http://www.meetup.com/Infrastructure-Coders/events/127899532/>

[2]: <https://github.com/github/scientist>

[3]: <http://www.meetup.com/melbourne-search/events/187267272/>