Ryan Gerstenkorn

Professional Summary

Ryan Gerstenkorn is an experienced Cloud Security and DevOps expert with a broad background of knowledge spanning sixteen years. Known for his innovative research, contributions to open source projects and ability to identify critical vulnerabilities, Ryan possesses deep knowledge of AWS, automation, and infrastructure security. His career is marked by a proven ability to tackle complex challenges and deliver robust solutions to multidisciplinary problems.

Experience

Bug Bounty Hunter — *Aug 2022 - Present*

- 99th percentile impact and 97th signal on HackerOne.
- Developed a distributed scanner and a set of custom proxies to test for allowlisted access across various SaaS services.
- Wrote a series of deep dive blog posts digging into attacks against the previous implicit self-assume IAM Role behavior.

Senior Cloud Penetration Tester, Rhino Security Labs — *Jan 2021 - Present*

- Led cloud penetration testing projects for AWS and GCP environments.
- Developed and maintained Pacu and CloudGoat, key cloud security tools.
- Published original cloud security research on the company blog.
- Improved cloud penetration testing processes, documentation, and tools.

Senior DevOps Engineer, SailPoint — *Jan 2020 - Sep 2020*

- Developed deployment infrastructure for continuous integration/deployment systems.
- Worked closely with development teams to identify operational tasks early in the development lifecycle.
- Served as the on-call contact for production infrastructure issues.

Senior DevOps Engineer, Brave — *Mar 2018 - Oct 2018*

- Designed and implemented the update infrastructure for the Chromium-based Brave browser.
- Managed on-call duties for infrastructure-related security issues.
- Automated AWS infrastructure and processes.

Lead DevOps Engineer, Amazon / Curse — *Sep 2014 - Mar 2018*

- Responsible for IaC and automation for Curse Media, Curse Voice, and Amazon device forums.
- Designed and executed the migration of Curse Media's infrastructure to AWS.
- Migrated the Amazon device forums to Curse Media managed AWS infrastructure.
- Maintained operational availability as part of an on-call rotation.

Enterprise Network Technician, API Digital — *Jun 2014 - Sep 2014*

- Provided emergency network support for Cisco and Adtran networking equipment.

Systems Administrator, Digital Fortress — *Apr 2012 - Jun 2014*

- Maintained multi-platform web hosting and colocated services.
- Led projects to consolidate monitoring systems, implement resilient backups, and redeploy authoritative DNS services.

Repair Technician, Various — *Oct 2008 - Apr 2012*

- Repaired hardware and software for Windows, Apple, and Linux devices.

Key Contributions and Research

- **IAM Role Trust Policy Behavior**: Researched unexpected behaviors in IAM Role Trust Policies, covered in a series of deep-dive blog posts.
- **Original Research**: Conducted original security research including CDN attack vectors, Little Snitch bypasses, CloudFormation Template Injection, and more.
- **Open Source Software (OSS) Projects**: Contributed to numerous OSS projects, with a full list available upon request.

Skills and Qualifications

- Expertise in programming languages such as Python and Go.
- Strong background operations, development, networking, and security.
- Extensive experience with AWS products and services.

Ryan Gerstenkorn's career highlights his dedication to enhancing security practices and knowledge sharing within the tech community. His work spans critical areas of security research, development, and operational excellence in high-stakes environments.