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I'm an Integrator Specialist in the field of DevOps/SRE with over twelve (12) years of empirical operational experience. I not only architect and design, but also implement and maintain the infrastructure thereafter, the whole nine yards, soup to nuts.

I'm an autodidact, I didn't take courses, go to technical schools or get certifications to learn what I know, everything I know is self-taught and from empirical knowledge. I venture out of my comfort zone to learn unfamiliar things, I thrive in the unknown, digging into finding root cause and coming up with tangible solutions.

I'm a high performer, I don't have a concept of 9-5, I believe in getting things done by whatever means necessary. I'm very opinionated and I want to be working with people who are equally if not more capable than me. Capable doesn't mean one has to know everything, I can confidently lead 10 capable junior engineers so they in turn lead 10 more, you know, teach a person to fish. I don't like to hoard knowledge, whatever I know I share in whatever medium necessary.

Now that you know a little bit about me, I would like to talk about what kind of company I'm looking to be part of next. I need to be part of company that not just tolerates but embraces me. I would like to be part of a culture that is open, honest and transparent. The company needs to fully trust me, my decisions, and involve me in critical infra related projects for me to be 100% effective at my job.

Let's talk about the interview process for a second. I expect the interview to be productive like a whiteboarding session, talking about my operational experience, understanding the complex problems the company wants me to tackle and the culture/team I'll be working with. I like wearing a lot of hats where assignments often require me to "figure it out" on my own. So if the interview involves asking me to do coding challenges or recite specific versions or features of a tool then I'm probably not the right person for the job, my code samples and arch diagram samples can be found on GitHub. But if you are looking for someone who will go above and beyond to deliver with over a decade of empirical operational experience who can actually implement, then please reach out so we can have a mutually beneficial meaningful conversation.

Skills

- Monitoring, Logging and Tracing applications and systems.
- Implement Highly Available and Scalable datastores.
- Manage systems with Infrastructure as Code (IaC).
- Troubleshooting and Diagnosing Systems.
- Write simple services where OSS falls short.
- Implement complex CI/CD Pipelines and Automation.
- Lead a small group of highly capable engineers.
- Excellent pull request code review skills.

Coding and Architecture samples

Terraform: https://github.com/aj-jester/terraform_examples

Puppet: https://github.com/aj-jester/puppet_examples

GCP: https://github.com/aj-jester/google_cloud_platform_examples

Configrr (ruby): <https://github.com/aj-jester/configrr>

ccmcmd (python): <https://github.com/aj-jester/ccmcmd>

sstkcfn (ruby): <https://github.com/aj-jester/sstkcfn>

Architecture Diagrams: <https://github.com/aj-jester/architecture>

Open Source contribution:

- Puppet Consul (<https://github.com/solarkennedy/puppet-consul>)
- Consulr (<https://forge.puppetlabs.com/venmo/consulr>)
- Puppet Fluentd (<https://github.com/venmo/puppet-fluentd>)
- Puppet Hound (<https://github.com/venmo/puppet-hound>)

Toolset

Tools: Terraform, Kubernetes, Docker, Jenkins, Artifactory, Packer, Consul, Vault, Vagrant, Puppet 6, Chef, Nagios, Icinga 2, Sensu, AWS (EC2, VPC, S3, ELB, RDS, CloudFront, CloudFormation, ElasticSearch, ElastiCache, Elastic Beanstalk, Service Directory, etc.), Google Cloud Compute, OpenStack, RedHat oVirt, RabbitMQ, Nginx, Apache, Redis, Memcached, MySQL, Thrux, Uchiwa, Jira, Confluence, Stash, Ansible, Capistrano, PagerDuty, Slack, Git, Cacti, Munin, RedHat FreeIPA, OpenLDAP, Rancid, Nmap, Kibana, ElasticSearch, Elastic Beats, InfluxDB, Cassandra, Cloudera Hadoop, Neo4J, Logstash, Fluentd, Monit, Zendesk, Func, Kickstart, PXE.

Operating Systems: RHEL, CentOS, Scientific Linux, Debian, Ubuntu.

Languages: Ruby, Python, Bash/Shell, and a little Go.

Networking: Cisco, Juniper, Arista.

Hardware: Dell, HP, Sun, IBM, EMC Symmetrix, EMC EMR.

Experience

Collectivei - New York City, Mar 2017 to Present

Site Reliability Engineer, Cloud Evangelist

- Push company towards cloud initiatives. Coming up with a migration plan and cost estimations.
- De Facto owner of datastores: MySQL, Redis, ElasticSearch, Neo4J, Cassandra, PostgreSQL, etc.
- Onboard and Mentor new Ops members. Lunch n' Learns.
- Help build supporting systems for KMS with Vault to unlock LUKS.
- Migrate Cloudera to the latest version with upgraded OS.
- Push and Upgrade systems from CentOS 6 to 7.
- Stabilize MongoDB Cluster and implement restorable backups.
- Upgrade Virtualization platform from VMware to oVirt.
- Migrate Monitoring Nagios 3 to Icinga 2 w/Consul automation.
- Move configuration management from Puppet 3 to Puppet 6.
- Upgrade MySQL from MySQL 5.5 to MariaDB 10.2.

Shutterstock - New York City, May 2016 to Feb 2017

Site Reliability Engineer, APIDI (API Driven Infrastructure)

- Work with Backend and Software engineers to come up with a roadmap to move the entire company to AWS.
- Wrote many of the core cloud infrastructure modules in Terraform for AWS, such as Unbound DNS for hybrid DNS resolution.
- Migrate our configuration management (CM) systems from Puppet 2 and Chef to Puppet 4.
- Shutterstock.com Dual-DNS Dyn/Verisign: SSTK was affected by the [2016 Dyn DNS outage](#). I worked with Network engineers to implement a Dual-DNS solution in 28 hours over the weekend with zero downtime to mitigate further downtime due to DDoS.
- Deployed Shutterstock Adobe Photoshop Plugin using Elastic Beanstalk. This was a nodejs app with an ElastiCache Memcached service to store sessions.

Venmo - New York City, Apr 2015 to Apr 2016

Site Reliability Engineer

- Used consul to automate configuration generation for various services.
- Wrote in-house app (nimbus) to automate spinning up stacks using CloudFormation and for devs to easily spin up their own stacks for end-to-end testing in AWS.

- Migrated all 700+ instances from EC2 classic to VPC network.
- Automated PCI standards across entire infrastructure and made Venmo PCI compliant for the first time.
- Built multiple Elasticsearch logs cluster (ELK stack) for nginx and puppet logs to view in Kibana and query logs easily; automated indices backup and cleanup as well.
- Migrated monitoring systems from Nagios to Sensu.

Tumblr - New York City, Nov 2012 to Mar 2015

Site Reliability Engineer, Ops Team Lead

- Setup the first virtualization infrastructure using OpenStack.
- Managed Puppet infrastructure, BIOS upgrades and other automation for over 3000+ physical servers.
- Built headless (no master, no server/client daemons, no certificates) puppet infrastructure to deploy manifests and packages to EC2 instances for Image Resizer.
- Built an internal assets (JS and CSS) pipeline backed by 2 CDNs and cached using Nginx for internal frontend applications.
- Built a frontend dashboard (Halcyon) from the ground up which configures Icinga checks, contacts, notifications, etc. on the fly all built atop of REST/API principles.
- Ported monitoring infrastructure from Icinga 1 (with over 90,000+ checks and hundreds of scripts) to Icinga 2.

HoneLive - New York City, May 2007 to Oct 2012

Datacenter Operations Engineer

- Monitor and troubleshoot over 2,500 circuits across the globe.
- Upgrade and configure cisco routers and switches
- Install and configure Linux (RHEL) on servers.
- Monitor server health across 2 data centers and troubleshoot when necessary.
- Troubleshoot BGP, MPLS, EIGRP and Voice PRI issues.
- Troubleshoot memory, network, cpu and other hardware issues.
- Crimped and ran cables across datacenter and communicated with vendors for circuit deployments.
- Built barebone SuperMicro servers
- Patch kernels and custom build RPM packages
- Troubleshooting client server issues based on tickets
- Configured and upgraded cisco routers and switches
- Troubleshoot network and cabling issues.