Alex **Wicks**

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ABOUT ME

IT professional with a keen personal interest in technology since early childhood. I have a propensity for automating tasks wherever possible and pragmatic. I value reliability and availability, and treat them as core tenets in my decision making process. I like to collaborate with others in a team, but can work autonomously as required. I'm a quick learner, and I enjoy finding better ways to solve problems.

EXPERIENCE

January 2022 – Present

Speechmatics   **Site Reliability Engineer**

Operations in a hybrid cloud environment (Azure, self-hosted colocation). VMware, ToR switching, firewalls, edge connectivity (Azure ExpressRoute), high-speed storage (NFS, iSCSI, vSAN, S3). NVidia GPU environment for machine-learning training. Azure architecture (networking, DNS, AKS, PostgreSQL flexible server, virtual machines).

July 2021 – December 2021

CapGemini - HMRC Market Unit   **Platform Engineer**

Platform monitoring in a cloud-native (AWS) environment. Large-scale Prometheus monitoring (10,000s of pods), Thanos aggregation, Alertmanager. Kubernetes monitoring & autoscaling integrations (kube-state-metrics, Prometheus adapter, Prometheus operator). Helm, Terraform deployments. Packer for building immutable AMIs. Consul, consul-template for service discovery/configuration. Hashicorp Vault secret management.

September 2020 – June 2021

Flextrade Systems   **DevOps Engineer**

Cross-functional working, unifying operations & development teams, primarily working on automation & build environments. In-house automation tooling (Python), Ansible. Continuous delivery (Jenkins pipelines as code, GitLab CI). DR Datacentre migration to VMware Cloud on AWS. Bare-metal Kubernetes on-premises (PXE). Metrics-based monitoring (Prometheus, Grafana). Infrastucture-as-code (Packer).

March 2019 – August 2020

Flextrade Systems   **Systems Administrator**

Operations in a SaaS environment. Supporting 1,000s of Linux VMs. Citrix, VDI, Active Directory, LDAP. Firewalls, L2 switching, iptables, tcpdump, mitmdump, TLS troubleshooting. HAProxy & nginx. PostgreSQL, MongoDB. Nagios.

August 2017 – February 2019

Vyper Networks   **Junior Systems Administrator**

First line desktop support. On-premises customer visits.
Linux web & mail server administration.

EDUCATION

2018

Certification ID 180-199-853   **Red Hat Certified System Administrator**

2015 – 2017

Northgate Sixth Form   **A Levels**

Mathematics, Physics, Computer Science

LANGUAGES

English - Native
Polish - Proficient
German - Proficient
French - Beginner
Russian - Beginner

HOBBIES

Home lab - I enjoy creating labs to learn new tech on my own hardware
Cars - Wrenching on my old Mercedes, watching motorsports
Cycling - Lovely to go for a ride at the weekend
Photography - Love to capture some nature
Cooking - Food is a great gateway into different cultures