

Brian Dunbar

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Summary

Senior DevOps Engineer specializing in Kubernetes-based platforms on AWS, with deep experience in Crossplane, Terraform, and GitLab CI/CD. Designed and operated “platform as a product” infrastructure in AWS GovCloud and commercial environments, standardizing EKS, observability, and developer workflows across teams. Known for pragmatic automation, cost-aware design, and supporting hardware-in-the-loop and complex engineering workloads.

Skills

Languages: BASH, Python, YAML

Cloud: AWS (including GovCloud), OpenStack

Kubernetes & Platform: Kubernetes, EKS, Helm, Crossplane, KCL, Argo CD, Harbor, Backstage

Infra as Code & Automation: Terraform, Ansible, Chef, GitLab CI/CD

Operating Systems: Linux (RHEL, Ubuntu), Windows Server

Security & Governance: PGP code-signing, AWS tagging and cost optimization, hardened image pipelines (Packer + compliance scanning)

Hardware: Embedded systems; most recently Xilinx ZCU-102 FPGA boards

Professional Experience

Lanteris Space Systems | 2025

Aerospace | Senior Platform Engineer

- Built Crossplane+KCL-based platform for AWS GovCloud and commercial, enabling teams to provision EKS clusters (networking, IAM, observability, ingress) from a single high-level YAML claim.
- Delivered reusable KCL modules and Crossplane Compositions for EKS, Argo CD, Harbor, Backstage, Karpenter, and LGTM, standardizing infrastructure for new programs.
- Led AWS account restructuring, migrating workloads from a shared legacy VPC and runner cluster into Terraform/Crossplane-managed accounts with clear boundaries and guardrails.
- Built Python tooling to inventory GitLab repos, memberships, and artifacts and to reconcile AWS resources (EBS tagging Lambda, WorkSpaces/account recon) for migrations and cleanup.

Cardinal Peak | 2021 - 2024

Product Development | Senior DevOps Engineer

- Accelerated CI/CD pipeline performance, reducing run times from one hour to 20 minutes, resulting in faster releases and improved developer efficiency.
- Integrated hardware testing, connecting the pipeline to Xilinx ZCU-102 FPGA boards, enabling automated regression testing and reducing friction in hardware-software integration.
- Led the consolidation of multiple branches into a single streamlined structure, reducing complexity, enhancing collaboration, and boosting productivity.
- Designed and deployed scalable cloud infrastructure using AWS and OpenStack, expanding customer subscriber capacity from 10k to 50k, enabling growth without service interruptions.

- Built custom Terraform modules, automating provisioning of cloud resources, reducing setup times, and ensuring repeatability across environments.
- Developed flexible Ansible playbooks to manage complex infrastructure environments, reducing manual intervention and supporting critical services across hybrid architectures.

Tacen | 2021

Crypto Startup | DevOps Engineer

- Enhanced infrastructure security by implementing robust code-signing validation using PGP keys, fortifying the company's decentralized finance platform against cyber threats.
- Built and maintained docker and NPM repositories for internal development, automating deployment pipelines with Linode Kubernetes Engine and Helmfile.
- Spearheaded the development of continuous integration pipelines using GitLab, enabling rapid, reliable deployment of application updates.

Universal Music Group | 2020 - 2021

Entertainment | Senior Systems Engineer

- Led the migration of legacy services from an outdated data center to AWS, delivering \$2M in annual savings by optimizing cloud infrastructure.
- Spearheaded initiatives to reduce AWS spend by decommissioning abandoned resources, saving approximately \$60k annually in operational costs.
- Implemented automation strategies for server provisioning and maintenance using Chef, increasing operational efficiency and reducing manual tasks across thousands of servers.

Mission | 2015 - 2020

Managed Cloud Service Provider | Senior Cloud Engineer

- Key architect in standardizing automation with Terraform and Chef, leading cloud migration projects that moved on-premises environments into AWS with zero unplanned downtime.
- Defined a formal tiered support structure, significantly reducing incident response times and improving customer satisfaction.
- Third tier support responsible for all aspects of support for a slate of customers in managed hosting, including engineer engagement, satisfaction and engineering excellence.

Education and Certification

AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate (2017)

Hobbies

Poultry farming