

ANDREAS MERTEN

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

DevOps-focused Infrastructure QA Engineer with 6+ years building secure, reproducible QA/Dev environments and automating systems using Kubernetes, Docker, Terraform, and Ansible. Point engineer for DISA and FISC compliance with strong sysadmin expertise across DNS, networking, LDAP, Active Directory, Linux, and Windows Server. Strong QA testing mindset focused on identifying inefficiencies and process improvements. Designed continuous deployment infrastructure that saved hundreds of team hours and consistently enabled QA sign-off multiple days ahead of schedule. Currently pursuing Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA) certification.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior QA / DevOps Engineer

Aspera, an IBM Company | February 2020 - Present

- Implemented automation and parallel testing strategies, reducing QA cycle times by 50% and accelerating release schedules
- Executed comprehensive QA and validation testing across distributed systems, containerized applications, and cloud infrastructure, ensuring defect-free releases
- Developed turnkey test environments that reduced setup time by 50%, improved team collaboration, and enabled timely delivery of high-quality projects
- Validated Faspex 5's true high-availability capability using Keepalived multi-proxy failover and MaxScale + MariaDB Galera cluster, proving elimination of single points of failure present in legacy Faspex 4 architecture
- Managed annual DISA Security STIG testing as sole engineer for five consecutive years, coordinating with external security teams and ensuring federal compliance across multiple government entities
- Led AWS cloud deployments and implemented CI/CD pipelines with Jenkins, improving deployment reliability and delivery speed
- Developed and containerized automation scripts using Docker to streamline operational workflows and improve process reliability

Software Engineer Apprentice

Aspera, an IBM Company | February 2019 - February 2020

- Selected as the sole apprentice from cohort to receive full-time employment offer upon program completion
- Completed intensive hands-on program specializing in software development, quality assurance, and testing methodologies
- Acquired practical experience deploying, testing, and maintaining enterprise applications in both on-premises and cloud environments
- Contributed to quality assurance processes and test automation development for IBM Aspera products

Open-Source Contributor

InfoSet-ng (Open-Source Project) | August 2017 - February 2018

- Contributed to design and development of data-gathering application for efficient collection, processing, and analysis of diverse datasets
- Designed and deployed MySQL-based backend infrastructure with connection pooling for high-volume transactions
- Deployed and maintained network monitoring agents, ensuring reliable performance

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Cloud & Infrastructure: AWS, Azure, GCP, Kubernetes, Docker, Jenkins

Programming & Scripting: Python, Bash, PowerShell

DevOps & Automation: CI/CD Pipelines, Infrastructure as Code, Ansible, Terraform

Databases: MySQL, MariaDB, MariaDB Galera Cluster, MaxScale

Security & Compliance: TLS Certificate Management, DISA STIG, FISC, Security Testing, Secrets Management

High Availability: Keepalived, Load Balancing, Blue-Green Deployments

System Administration: DNS, Networking, SMTP, LDAP, Active Directory, Linux, Windows Server

Version Control & Collaboration: Git, Jira, Agile Methodologies

IBM Technologies: IBM Aspera (HSTS, Faspex, AsperaProxy, HTTP-Gateway, OTFV)

EDUCATION

IBM Software Apprenticeship

IBM Apprenticeship Program | February 2019 - February 2020 | Emeryville, CA

Certifications:

- Certified IBM Apprenticeship Program
- IBM Software Engineer Apprenticeship
- Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA) - In Progress