ROGER ANDREAS MERTEN

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Platform Engineer–focused professional transitioning from a Senior QA Engineering background, with hands-on experience supporting internal platforms, cloud infrastructure, Docker, Kubernetes, CI/CD pipelines, and infrastructure-as-code (IaC). Strong foundation in Linux (RHEL, Debian/Ubuntu) and Windows administration, with a reliability-driven approach to automation, system stability, and operational excellence. Proven ability to improve internal tooling, streamline deployment workflows, identify operational and security risks, and support scalable, highly available environments. Seeking Platform Engineer roles or infrastructure-focused DevOps Engineer positions centered on internal platforms, reliability, automation, and operations rather than application development.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior QA / DevOps Engineer

Aspera, an IBM Company | January 2025 - December 2025

- Optimized application performance and automated deployment pipelines, reducing release cycles by up to 35% and saving hundreds of engineering hours annually
- Led research, testing, and validation of a new containerized app, eliminated prior single points of failure, and authored the official HA documentation, becoming the Webapps team SME
- Designed and maintained secure, reproducible internal environments, improving reliability, developer productivity, and QA testing efficiency
- Led, organized, setup and configured IBM Aspera WebApps Products for DISA and STIG Testing for potential Government Entity contracts
- Contributed to key product releases, including HSTS, Aspera Proxy, HTTP-Gateway, OTFV, and Faspex 5 (5.0.0–5.0.14), enhancing stability, high-availability, and customer satisfaction

QA Automation Engineer

Aspera, an IBM Company | February 2023 - January 2025

- 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
- Ensured software security and compliance by reviewing dependencies and enforcing long-term support (LTS) standards, reducing vulnerability exposure
- Led AWS cloud deployments and implemented CI/CD pipelines with Jenkins, improving deployment reliability and delivery speed

QA Engineer

Aspera, an IBM Company | March 2020 - May 2022

- Adept in process improvement initiatives, identifying areas for optimization and implementing effective solutions
- Proficient in defining comprehensive test plans, crafting detailed test cases, identifying crucial use cases, and creating effective test matrices
- Solid expertise including Test Automation, Functional, Regression, Integration, System, Cross-platform, and Performance testing
- Knowledgeable in security and compliance requirements, incorporating them into the QA processes

- 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

California Culinary Academy

Associates Degree in Culinary and Hospitality Management | May 2005 - November 2007 | San Francisco, CA