



LEAD DEVOPS & CLOUD ENGINEER

## Hajed Khlifi

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Luxembourg, Luxembourg

**Lead DevOps & Cloud engineer** with strong expertise in cloud-native architectures, CI/CD, and automation. Certified Kubernetes Champion (**Kubestronaut**) skilled in managing large scale microservices environments, distributed systems, Batch processing, Cloud and production environments support. Passionate about optimizing deployments and advancing open-source innovation. Proactive CNCF contributor driving cutting-edge DevOps strategies and technical speaker.

### Degrees

#### Engineer's degree - Software Engineering

Esprit University , 2023 (nightly courses)

#### Bachelor of Computer Systems Networking and Telecommunications

Monastir University, 2019

### Certifications

#### Linux Foundation

- Prometheus (PCA), 2024
- [Kubestronaut](#), 2024
- KCNA, 2024
- KCSA, 2024
- Certified Kubernetes Security Specialist, 2024
- Certified Kubernetes Administrator, 2023
- Certified Kubernetes Application Developer, 2022
- LFS142: Introduction to Backstage

#### Amazon Web Services

- AWS Solution Architect Associate, 2023
- AWS Cloud practitioner, 2022

### Technical skills

- **CI/CD:** Deploy and secure pipelines using GitLab CI, Jenkins, Tekton, XL Deploy, XL Release, ArgoCD, SonarQube, and Sonatype and more.
- **Kubernetes/OpenShift (OCP):** Install, configure, and maintain OCP clusters; manage operators; prepare Helm charts; and ensure production readiness with support for CSI, CNI, CRI, upgrades and vulnerabilities.
- **Operating Systems:** Manage and support Linux systems, primarily RHEL.
- **Monitoring/Alerting:** Implement solutions using Prometheus and Grafana.
- **Cloud:** Design and deploy AWS solutions, monitoring costs and performance.
- **IaC:** Automate provisioning with Terraform and CloudFormation for on-premises and cloud.
- **Programming Languages:** Proficient in Bash, Python, and Java.
- **Architectures:** Expertise in Monolithic, SOA, and Microservices architectures and migrations.
- **Servers:** Configure and support JBoss/WildFly, Httpd, and Nginx.
- **Databases:** Skilled with PostgreSQL, Oracle, and MySQL.
- **Other:** Design solutions for large microservices environments using HashiCorp Vault, Kafka, Spring Cloud Config, Keycloak, and WSO2.

### Functional skills

- **Project Management:** Lead teams to deliver projects on time and within budget, ensuring effective

## Languages

**English** Fluent

**French** Fluent

**Arabic** Native

communication and risk management.

- **Methodology:** Open to any but experienced in Promoting Agile Scrum, facilitating sprints and fostering team collaboration for continuous delivery.
- **Soft Skills:** Strong leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills, with a focus on team motivation and conflict resolution.

## Previous experience

**LIA: Lombard International Assurance** DevOps consultant

04/2024 – 12/2024

**Context:** Upgraded OpenShift clusters to newer major versions across multiple environments

(Dev, TEST, Staging) on VMware vSphere. Set up and integrated tools such as OpenShift Data Foundation (ODF), ELK stack, ArgoCD, GitLab Runner, HashiCorp Vault, and Prometheus to ensure scalable, automated, and secure infrastructure. Focused on optimizing CI/CD, secrets management, monitoring, and logging to support efficient development and operations. Actively participated in the CAB, proposing improvements for change management and production upgrades.

### Responsibilities

- **Cross-Functional Collaboration:** Worked closely with development, infrastructure, and security teams to ensure smooth deployment cycles, high availability, and adherence to best practices for security and performance.
- **Upgrade Openshift:** upgrade OCP top 4.14 version, operators configuration (ODF, Gitops, Kafka, Gitlab-runner..), and prepare manifests to be automatically synced by ArgoCD).
- **Network analyses:** provide networking and routing tables for infra teams to manage firewalling.
- **Migrate Applications:** Migrate Xldeploy manifests and Spring Cloud config to support the new environment using python scripts to automate the process.
- **Install Vault:** Install Hashicorp Vault with vault unsealer for api unsealing and migrate secret engines.
- **Install ELK:** Install openshift logging and kibana and Elastic search with Fluentd for logs centralisation.
- **GitlabCI:** Install, configure and support Gitlab runner with kubernetes executor on openshift.
- **Continuous Improvement:** Drove continuous improvement initiatives by analyzing performance metrics, identifying bottlenecks, and optimizing infrastructure to ensure high system uptime and performance.
- **Write Documentation and Guides:** Developed comprehensive documentation and step-by-step guides for each process and task, ensuring clear, consistent procedures for team members and facilitating knowledge transfer across departments.

### Technical environment

- **Infrastructure:** On premise VMware is managed by Vsphere suites with mainly CoreOs VMs and REHEL 8 VMs..
- **Environment:** Three Openshift Container platforms clusters ( TST, STG, PROD) managed by a fourth cluster using the Redhat ACM: Advanced cluster Management tools (Machinesets and Machineconfigs ) in version 4.14.
- **CI/CD:** GitlabCI, XLDeploy, ArgoCD
- **Monitoring and Alerting:** Icinga , prometheus, checkMK.
- **Applications stack:** Angular / Spring / SpringBoot.
- **Project management tools:** Jira, Confluence.

## **BIL: Banque Internationale Luxembourg** DevOps Consultant

01/2024 – 04/2024

**Context:** As a member of the Containers and Development Platforms team, I successfully managed and administered the OpenShift platform, including OC, AAP, Pipelines, and EDA, within just four months. I was responsible for upgrading and managing key BuildFactory tools such as RHEL, Docker, Jenkins, GitLab, and DigitalAI Deploy. Additionally, I implemented monitoring and alerting solutions using Prometheus and Dynatrace to ensure system performance and reliability.

### **Responsibilities**

- **OCP Administration:** Managed and administered OpenShift platforms across multiple environments, ensuring high availability and smooth operation.
- **Build Factory :** Upgraded and maintained key BuildFactory tools, including RHEL, Docker, Jenkins, GitLab, and DigitalAI Deploy, to optimize deployment pipelines.
- **Design and Implement monitoring solution:** Implemented monitoring and alerting systems using Prometheus and Dynatrace, ensuring proactive performance management and issue resolution.

### **Technical environment**

- **Infrastructure:** On premise VMS managed by Kyndril.
- **Environments:** Two OCP cluster Prod and Non-prod, Docker in VMs for build tools.
- **Automation:** Ansible automation platform (AAP).
- **CICD:** Gitlab, Jenkins, XLRelease, XLDeploy and ArgoCD.
- **Monitoring:** Prometheus and Dynatrace
- **Application Stack:** Angular, Java / Spring.
- **Project management tools:** Jira, Confluence.

## **VERMEG for Banking & Insurance Softwares** DevOps Lead engineer

06/2022 – 12/2023

**Context:** As a DevOps & Cloud Engineer, I led the VEGGO team in deploying and optimizing microservices within the Banking business line in AWS/Kubernetes (EKS) environments and facilitated cloud migration. This role involved designing and implementing AWS architectures, administering Kubernetes clusters, and supporting development teams in transitioning to cloud-native solutions.

### **Responsibilities**

- **AWS Architecture Design:** Developed and implemented scalable AWS architectures for deploying microservices, leveraging services such as VPC, EC2, EKS, RDS, Lambda, and ALBs.
- **Kubernetes Management:** Administered Kubernetes environments on EKS, managing deployment, scaling, and maintenance to ensure reliable container orchestration.
- **Microservices Deployment:** Led the migration of applications to cloud-native and containerized architectures, optimizing deployment pipelines and system performance.
- **Dev Team Support:** Acted as a key advisor to development teams, providing cloud migration strategies and best practices for AWS and Kubernetes, including weekly advisory meetings.
- **CI/CD Enhancement:** Enhanced GitLab CI/CD pipelines to improve development workflows, streamline deployments, and support continuous integration and delivery.
- **Infrastructure Administration:** Managed infrastructure tasks, including the configuration and optimization of virtual machines, system administration, and SaaS support.
- **Release Management:** Oversaw release management processes, ensuring smooth deployments and efficient application release handling.

## Technical environment

- **Infrastructure:** AWS Cloud (VPC, EC2, EKS, RDS, Lambda, ALBs).
- **Kubernetes:** EKS for container-orchestration.
- **CI/CD:** GitLab, ArgoCD, Helm charts for pipeline management and validation.
- **Monitoring & Alerting:** AWS cloud watch , Prometheus and Grafana.
- **Applications stack:** JAVA/ Spring and Angular.
- **Project management tools:** Jira, Confluence.

## VERMEG for Banking & Insurance Softwares Deployment Analyst

06/2021 – 06/2022

**Context:** Promoted to Deployment Analyst within the Tec team due to my expertise in system administration, containerized environments, and backend development. I led critical initiatives for the Insurance Business Line product, Solife, overseeing production deployments, SaaS migration, and cloud compliance for major clients like Cardif LuxVie, Lifetri, and others.

## Responsibilities

- **Deployment Support:** Ensured smooth production transitions and supported clients, enhancing operational efficiency and application performance in both standalone and domain modes for HA..
- **SaaS Migration (POC):** Led the POC of themigration of Solife to a SaaS model, architecting and deploying containerized applications using Docker and Kubernetes, including implementing a proof of concept for high availability on-premises and in the AWS cloud.
- **System Administration:** Applied advanced system administration and backend development skills to support critical initiatives for the Insurance Business Line.
- **Cloud Compliance:** Managed cloud compliance, ensuring the infrastructure adhered to industry standards, and authored design specifications for developer changes.
- **Automation & Deployment:** Developed automation scripts to streamline deployments, adapt infrastructure for new releases, and improve operational efficiency.
- **Client Support:** Provided dedicated support to Vermeg clients (BNP Cardif, LuxeVie, LifeTri, and MAIF), ensuring the Solife application was production-ready and optimized for high availability.

## Technical environment

- **Infrastructure:** REHEL 7 Linux VMs with Jboss EAP / Wildfly AS.
- **Automation:** Developed scripts for deployment automation and infrastructure adaptation(Gradle Groovy, Python and Bash).
- **Applications stack:** Solife Core application : JAVA 11 / Spring / OracleDB.
- **Project management tools:** Jira, Confluence.

## VERMEG for Banking & Insurance Softwares Software developer

06/2019 – 06/2021

**Context :** As a Java Backend Developer for the Solife Business Line (R&D), I was part of the TEC team, a Scrum team focused on maintaining and enhancing a multi-framework JEE insurance application. I contributed to various aspects of application development, including bug fixing, API development, batch processing, and framework improvements.

## Responsibilities

- **Solife Standard Support:** Fixed bugs, implemented Swagger, and documented all Solife endpoints to ensure clear and accessible API references.
- **Framework Development:** Developed new features for frameworks, including cache management, JMS core implementations, multi-database support, and batch processing.

- **Bug Fixing & API Development:** Addressed bugs, configured APIs, and managed Spring Batch ETL jobs and Hibernate ORMs to optimize application functionality.
- **Batch ETL Development:** Designed and implemented efficient Batch ETL processes, handling large-scale data workflows using Spring Batch jobs and custom batch builders.
- **Performance & Security:** Optimized JVM performance, implemented security measures with Spring Security and Keycloak, and performed performance benchmarking and improvements.
- **Server Upgrades:** Upgraded WildFly servers, optimized high-availability clusters, and configured message-driven beans (MDBs) for communication using Spring JMS and ActiveMQ.

## Technical environment

- **Programming Languages:** Java 8 / 11, Groovy, Shell
- **Frameworks & Tools:** Spring, Hibernate, JMS, Spring Batch, ActiveMQ, Swagger.
- **Server Environment:** Jboss/WildFly, high-availability clusters.
- **Security:** Spring Security, Keycloak for authentication and authorization, PKI.
- **Batch Processing:** Spring Batch for large-scale ETL workflows.
- **Databases:** Multi-database support within the Solife application( Postgres , Oracle).