

JASON KÖLKER

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SUMMARY

Skilled IT strategist and solution developer, with more than 15 years of cross-platform expertise and a strong background in software and networking development. Red Hat Certified Engineer, with fluency in multiple programming languages and a diverse skill set encompassing software defined networking, data storage and backup, and fleet automation.

TECHNICAL HIGHLIGHTS

Cloud:	AWS, GCP, Azure, OpenStack
Containers:	Kubernetes, Podman, Docker
Languages:	Go, Python, C, C++, Java, C#, bash, Erlang
Networking:	VxLAN, OpenVswitch, OpenFlow, STT, BGP, EVPN
Services:	Apache/nginx, Bind, OpenLDAP, Active Directory, Elasticsearch, HAProxy
Systems:	Linux, Windows, *BSD, Solaris

EXPERIENCE

2024 – Present

Lambda

San Jose, CA – Remote

Staff Software Engineer

2024 – Present

- Run Lambda's Neutron/OVN-based SDN stack for the GPU cloud, hardening and operating deployments across thousands of nodes while maintaining strict multi-tenant isolation.
- Designed and implemented an API-driven DirectConnect / Interconnect platform that enables self service ingress/egress from isolated tenant networks to external environments via BGP/MPLS, WireGuard, VPNs, or any interface presented connection, unlocking new enterprise connectivity options.
- Built CI, deployment, and versioning pipelines for the SDN stack, reducing manual intervention and making software rollouts repeatable and auditable.
- Introduced automatic version management with Renovate for networking components, enabling faster upgrades, reduced security exposure, and lower maintenance toil for the SDN and DPU software ecosystem.
- Serve as the subject matter expert for NVIDIA DPUs and the DOCA platform, owning the networking roadmap and integration with other teams, and routinely consulting on architecture and implementation patterns for high-performance cloud networking.

2023 – 2024

Twilio

San Francisco, CA – Remote

Principal Software Engineer

2023 – Present

- Implement next generation streaming platform for Twilio Segment. Develop APIs and SDKs to enable developers to focus on business logic, instead of streaming infrastructure.
- Provide technical leadership and mentoring to a team of engineers.
- Build composable CDP platform allowing for activation on data sourced from customer warehouses.

2023 – 2023

Impossible Cloud

Hamburg, Germany – Remote

Principal Software Engineer

2023 – 2023

- Implement multi-region, multi-cloud object replication system.
- Architect Poof of Concept S3 compatible storage platform using IPFS and Filecoin for persistence.

2021 – 2023

FloatMe

San Antonio, TX – Remote

Principal Software Engineer

2022 – Present

- Architect streaming processing system for data ingestion and notification between micro-services.
- Implement Developer and QA driven release process simplifying code deployment.

Staff Software Engineer

2021 – 2022

- Re-Architect App from monolith code base to micro-services.
- Champion repo organization with a focus on CI/CD, developer productivity, and Infrastructure as Code.
- Institute “Guild” system for cross team collaboration and specialization.
- Redesign authentication system to proxy through CloudFlare workers, providing additional tools to prevent abuse.
- Implement mTLS between app and API with option for certificate rotation outside of app deployment life cycle.
- Co-Lead with Head of Product re-organization of product and development interaction with a focus on agile software development.
- Provide Technical Leadership and Mentoring growing team from 7 Software Engineers to over 30. Define roles and levels for Engineering Org providing clear responsibilities and career progression path.

2008 – Present

Banadushi Enterprises LLC

Live Oak, TX – Remote

Software Engineering Consultant

2008 – Present

- Various consulting activities related to distributed systems, software development, devops, and automation.
- Specializing in Kubernetes, ClusterAPI, and OS Image Generation for clients.

2018 – 2021

D2iQ / Mesosphere

San Francisco, CA – Remote

Senior Software Engineer – Mesosphere

2020 – 2021

- Took over maintenance and Point of Escalation duties for the DCOS Network stack.
- Worked with customers and stakeholders to standardize Edge-LB “Self-Service” and set deprecation schedule for Marathon-LB.
- Ensured continuity of support for customers via on-call and escalations, troubleshooting the entirety of the DCOS stack.

Senior Software Engineer – Kubernetes

2019 – 2020

- Spearheaded CI testing of charts for Pull Requests and main branch.

Senior Software Engineer – Networking

2018 – 2019

- Lead development efforts of “Self-Service” Edge-LB. Defined Mesos task labels to drive templated Edge-LB pool configuration, allowing end users to expose their applications automatically.
- Championed maintenance of Marathon-LB. Reviewed and merged backlog of community contributions, refactoring where needed to work with current project codebase.

2017 – 2025

ColorBit LLC

Midlothian, TX – Remote

Co-Owner / Technical Lead

2017 – 2025

- Developed patent pending LED light controller. Leader of all technical aspects of the business including device schematics, PCB production, firmware development, and API definition.
- Worked with potential customers to identify bugs and wanted features, translating into actionable items to improve product.
- Provided support and guidance to Marketing team to track and derive various metrics.

2016 – 2018

JungleDisk

San Antonio, TX

Senior Developer / Architect

2016 – 2018

- Spearheaded the efforts to modernize the desktop client build system from separate platform specific systems to shared CMake based system.
- Provide Architecture and Deployment assistance transitioning services off dedicated bare metal into containers.
- Lead migration of client data from Rackspace Cloud Files to Google Storage.

2007 – 2016

Rackspace Hosting

San Antonio, TX

Senior SDN Developer

2013 – 2016

- Lead a team of five in the design and deployment of software defined networking products for the leading managed hosting company's Public Cloud, with responsibility for providing secure bridged publicnet and servicenet connectivity, and serving as development lead in the effort to decouple from vendor-controlled connectivity
- Research and implement OpenFlow controllers to provide floating IP connectivity from public internet IP space onto isolated private networks
- Implement VIF-to-VIF L2 connectivity via STT and VxLAN encapsulation coordinated through BGP and EVPN

Ozone Openstack Developer

2011 – 2013

- Worked on a wide range of projects for the Rackspace Openstack platform, including Nova, Quantam, Melange (core-dev), and Openstack-Common
- Re-wrote most of the Nova networking code to allow for external services (Quantum/Neutron) to control network allocation and management
- Bootstrapped the Openstack-Common project to centralize code common to multiple Openstack projects, reducing copy-and-paste bit-rot
- Created the Openstack-Nose project to provide common test output across Openstack projects as a nose plugin, enabling test failures to be masked when previously each project was subclassing TestRunner directly
- Provide technical leadership to the product management team and junior developers for the Cloud Networks initiative following Agile and iterative development methods

Backup Automation Developer

2007 – 2011

- Developed applications and tools to administer and troubleshoot backup and storage offerings, including backup failure notification, backup set management, tape tracking, storage reporting, and storage provisioning
- Grew position from a sole-contributor role to a team of four developers during four years in role
- Re-designed and implemented a backup reporting database, including consolidation of data from more than 50 MSSQL servers into a single reporting database, allowing for arbitrary queries to be run against the set of MSSQL servers and aggregating/normalizing into consistent formats
- Initiated, architected, and assisted in the development of the "Holland Backup System" to replace legacy MySQL backup solution, including creation of a council of developers and advocates to lead the project, coordination and hosting of Code-Jams to bootstrap the project, and championing open sourcing efforts
- Led the backup platform migration from Legato to Commvault for more than 10,000 servers, developed application and tooling scripts to automate 90% of the migration, and created guidelines for QC/QA efforts

PATENTS

- US 9141410** Pluggable allocation in a cloud computing system
- US 9628328** Network controller with integrated resource management capability
- US 9967111** Software-defined multinet network bridge