

Paul Mayer
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PROFILE

An experienced Software and Infrastructure Engineer who has influenced business efficiency and operational success through the development and deployment of efficient, cost-effective cloud solutions.

CAREER HISTORY

Azure DevOps Engineer in Civil Service (March 2022 - Present).

Completing requirements capture and user need analysis in order to specify new/improved web-service applications, and define development strategies. Engaging with key customers to improve service access and delivery, within a quality driven process of CI/CD. Maintaining the Commission's web services, through a proactive strategy of continuous monitoring, measuring and improvement.

Working closely with external consultants and third-party developers within agile project teams, to rapidly define and deliver a digital transformation from AWS to Azure cloud services. Measuring and recording progress and process to create new standards documentation and operating procedures.

As the sole DevOps engineer, exploiting Site Reliability and Cloud Engineering principles to help develop and maintain robust and resilient services. Evangelising those principles to colleagues and stakeholders.

Building and deploying IaaS and PaaS, through Linux VMs and Kubernetes (AKS) clusters. Creating pipelines employing JSON ARM Templates managed in Jenkins, and YAML files in Azure DevOps. On the manual management plane (CLI), regularly using PowerShell, Bash, and Kubectl. Also, familiar deploying and managing IaC, using Terraform. Proficient using Azure Repos and GitHub, source control systems; Azure Container Registry and Docker Hub, container repositories; and, Azure DevOps and Jenkins, automation pipelines.

Managing the Commission's code revision and service deployment strategy in Azure (and Azure DevOps). Working to improve the service reliability and availability, by deploying tools to monitor/measure KPIs and automate exception alerting. Collecting and analysing performance data to improve SLI visibility and accessibility.

ICT Teacher and Assessor (2016-2022).

Coaching L3 and L4 apprentices in ICT engineering practices for software and infrastructure project management and delivery. Promoting agile development with DevOps doctrine of CI/CD.

Tutoring test-driven development and automated testing techniques. Modelled development and deployment using open-source tools like Git, Jenkins, and Docker. Modelled IaC for AWS, using Terraform and LocalStack. Teaching software coding in Java and Python, on open-source (Linux) platforms.

Offering leadership and guidance to apprentices, and in some cases, their line-managers. Tailoring tuition to align with operational imperatives. Coaching general engineering and business best practices, and applying these to the specific business sector.

ICT Service Consultant (2012-2016), on digital Communications Command and Control Systems (C3S). Offering independent advice, and design expertise for the implementation of robust, cost-effective communications solutions. Designing and building the software front-end for Telex and CSS C3S management terminals. Managing the installation and commissioning of mission critical C3S; predominantly (though not exclusively) based on computerised management consoles, resource servers, and digital (LAN/WAN) distribution networks. Helping clients to virtualise their C3S, transitioning to cloud environments. Designing and building PoC software emulations to scaffold client confidence prior to infrastructure investment.

Application Engineer (DevOps) for Bosch Security Systems (2006-2012). Providing technical support for a world-wide customer base. Responsible for pre-sales, installation, and post-sales engineering support for digital data C3 and IT solutions. Managing C3/IT software development projects. Coding in C# to create the bespoke front-end (UI) that processes and presents visual and audible information to emergency dispatchers and call-handlers. Providing technical support and training appropriate for all stages of the service lifecycle. Drafting technical, operational and training manuals.

C3S Manager with The Derbyshire Police Constabulary (2003-2006). Responsible for quality management of the Force's digital C3S, including digital data platforms for integrated services (data processing, storage and presentation) and peripheral APIs.

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

MEng - Research, development, design, and project management, in the field of digital infrastructure engineering.

BSc (Hons.) - A broad technology degree based on computer science, digital communications, and software development.

HNC - Multi-Disciplinary Engineering. Including: electrical, electronic, and software engineering, quality management, and project delivery strategies.

PGCE - QTS teaching mathematics and ICT, in FE, from functional-skills to A-level.

AiCore DevOps Engineer - Full DevOps lifecycle (Python app development, Git version control, Docker containerisation, and Kubernetes orchestration. Azure DevOps CI/CD pipelines and Terraform IaC).

Microsoft Certified DevOps Engineer (AZ-400) - Inc. prerequisites: Azure Fundamentals (AZ-900), Administrator (AZ-104), Security (AZ-500), and Developer (AZ-204).

Terraform Associate (003) - HashiCorp infrastructure automation. Declarative state configuration and workflow definition for the efficient deployment and maintenance of IaC.

Python PCAP - Software design and development in Python-3. Inc. test-driven.

Cisco DevNet Associate - DevOps and net automation. Implementing Cisco IaC.

Object Oriented Programming - OO programming techniques in Java and C#.

Cisco CCNA - Design and maintenance of stable, scalable, secure digital networks.

PADI OWSI - Master Diver and Open Water SCUBA Instructor.