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Cloud-native engineering leader with a focus on reliability, scalability, and security for the modern web.

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Work Experience

[McGraw Hill](#) — Remote (since COVID), previously Seattle, WA

Principal Engineer, Cloud Center of Excellence (January 2024—October 2024)

- Joined a team whose mission was to provide guidance and support in the cloud journey of the entire organization.
- Proposed best practices, guardrails, and security measures to ensure a secure and efficient cloud environment.
- Identified opportunities to extend the security measures and guardrails devised for AWS to other cloud platforms.

Principal Cloud and Platform Engineer (June 2020—January 2024)

- As every school in America transitioned to online learning during the COVID-19 lockdowns, I was the technical/development lead on the team who supported all SRE and product engineering teams, working on core platforms and services.
- Managed the Base [AMI](#) program. Leveraged insights from [CIS](#), security patching, and internal needs to develop a unified build pipeline integrating best practices.
- Conducted comprehensive scans of [Route 53](#) to obtain a mapping of the company's thousands of active websites. Prioritized identifying and remediating misconfigurations, rotating certificates, and increasing visibility.
- Spearheaded the [Artifactory](#) Rebuild project. Ran the project from inception to completion, including the majority of development. Directed effort across ~80 teams and ~300 services to complete the project.
- Led dozens of smaller projects, offered guidance to engineers on best practices, and documented knowledge.

Engineering Manager, Site Reliability (October 2018—June 2020)

- Led the [Site Reliability Engineering](#) (SRE) team in addressing macro-oriented problems affecting engineering teams, empowering greater self-service.
- Established a process for maintaining reusable [Terraform](#) modules which teams leveraged to compose infrastructure with minimal effort.
- Customized the [Amazon Linux](#) AMIs to comply with Level-2 [CIS](#) Guidelines for both Amazon Linux and [Docker](#). Liaised with cybersecurity, operations, and business units to ensure compliance.
- Invented custom security and operational tooling to understand the current posture of ~200 AWS accounts where off-the-shelf tools did not meet the needs of the organization.
- Reduced the time to deploy a new service from dozens of weeks to a single meeting by implementing a *Monitoring-as-Code* methodology, and defining broad-use [Service Level Objectives](#) (SLOs).

Staff Software Engineer (October 2016—October 2018)

- Led the development of Tier-1 services within the educational content authoring pipeline, leveraging technologies such as [REST](#), [GraphQL](#), API design, [Amazon ECS](#) (similar to [Kubernetes](#)), [Docker](#), [Terraform](#), [ePubs](#), and security best practices.
- Led the development of the authoring component of the [SmartBook 2.0 product](#), and the internal system which indexes authored content, builds ePubs, and encodes images/video for the ePub CDN using [ffmpeg](#).
- Established the technical direction of these projects, promoted adoption across the organization, published comprehensive documentation, and offered ongoing integration guidance.
- Accelerated the adoption of CI/CD, rapid deployment practices, and Docker containers, shortening the feedback loop for developers and increasing the reliability of deployments.

[WePay](#) — Redwood City, CA

DevOps Engineer (April 2015—September 2016)

- Led a cross-company initiative to upgrade the monolithic application from [PHP](#) 5.4 to PHP 5.6 (the latest at the time). Facilitated cross-team collaboration among all major engineering teams and QA departments to achieve results.
- Initiated a program to automate the creation of base server images for cloud servers. This allowed new servers to boot and begin serving traffic ~75% faster.
- Invested in monitoring and alerting systems to prevent customer-facing issues.

Senior API Engineer (April 2014—April 2015)

- Led the company's [HackerOne](#) program, coordinating across teams to address security issues.
- Built a development environment for engineering teams. Reduced new engineer onboarding time from 2 weeks to 1 day.

- Expanded WePay's payment security offerings by designing MFA-as-a-Service (U.S. patent filing [US15042104](#)).

Amazon Web Services — Seattle, WA

Web Development Engineer II (March 2010—April 2014)

- Created the [AWS SDK for PHP](#), enabled AWS to reach the largest developer group — [PHP](#).
- Initiated the creation of [AWS SDK for PHP](#) v2 to address changes in the PHP language and growth of AWS services.
- Led one of the first teams to provide reusable UI building blocks for the [AWS Management Console](#), by collaborating directly with the AWS Design team.

Skills

API design, API versioning, CI/CD, CLI tools, [AWS](#), [Bash](#), [CircleCI](#), [Docker](#), [GitHub Actions](#), [Git](#), [Go](#), [GraphQL](#), [JWT](#), [NFS](#), [PHP](#), [Python](#), [REST](#), [Redis](#), [Subversion](#), [Vagrant](#), [WordPress](#), [XSLT](#), [ffmpeg](#), [twelve-factor applications](#), agile, architecture, authentication, authorization, automation, automation, building platforms, cloud, code generation, containerization, continuous delivery, continuous deployment, continuous integration, debugging, defensive cybersecurity, design, development, distributed, integration, microservices, multi-platform development, optimization, performance, refactoring, scalability, scrum, security, software library design, software testing, standards, tdd, technical documentation, test-driven development, testing.

Education

*Silicon Valley College (now [Carrington College](#)), San Jose, CA. Bachelor of Arts, *Design and Visualization**