Tom Duffield

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A conscientious, people-focused engineering leader with over 10 years of industry experience and a passion for building robust, healthy remote-first teams and reliable, high-quality software.

EXPERIENCE

Security Architect 2021–2022

CircleCI

Responsible for coordinating with product and engineering leaders to ensure their technical designs were secure and architecturally sound.

Designed, architectured, and coordinated the development of security-focused product features including a declarative policy DSL that allowed customers fine-grained control of CI/CD permissions and activities.

Mentored engineers on software development and technical architecture best practices.

Established and led cross-team initiatives to replace manual SDLC processes with more resilient automatable ones.

Sr. Principal Release Engineer

2020-2021

Chef Software (acquired by Progress Software in 2020)

Managed three globally distributed teams composed of a combination of Chef employees, Progress employees and contractors responsible for the CI/CD and E2E testing of all Chef software.

Successfully used remote-first team building activities, including online board games, to establish rapport amongst newly formed teams following the Progress Software acquisition.

Architected and managed the consolidation of disparate legacy hosted applications into next-generation Kubernetes deployment leveraging GitOps tooling to achieve true continuous delivery using blue/green and canary deployments.

Member of several Progress Software groups including their internal patent committee, agile methodology task force, and cloud computing security standards group.

Principal Release Engineer

2018-2020

Chef Software

Team lead for remote-first release engineering team responsible for the CI/CD of all Chef software.

Architected, built, and maintained a hybrid CI/CD ecosystem, available both publicly and internally, that included AWS, Azure, MacStadium, and on-premise hardware.

Redesigned a key open source tool used to track software dependencies and their licenses to leverage a more modern and declarative implementation to reduce the maintenance burden, improve the overall user experience, and increase the number of programming languages it supports..

Key contributor to architectural design committee for Chef SaaS offering of existing on-premise software.

Software Development Engineer

2015-2018

Chef Software

Designed, built, and maintained a custom CI/CD engine called Expeditor that consisted of administrative and webhook APIs, custom Slack and GitHub integrations, and a full Angular UI with user and administrative capabilities.

Wrote over 50,000 words of user documentation describing how to understand and automate every aspect of Chef's build, test, and release process.

Successfully used Expeditor to standardize and automate the full post-merge release process of over 150 individual Chef software projects including all core Chef products, almost all open source projects, and most internal projects.

Team lead and engineering representative on UX/Product/Engineering leadership triad responsible for designing, developing, and shipping key product features for early versions of Chef Automate.

Automation Consulting Engineer

2013-2015

Chef Software

Worked one-on-one with Fortune 500 customers, in person and remotely, to be successful with their Chef and Chef Server deployments. Responsibilities included installation walk through, developing reference documentation, and training for every day operational tasks.

Developed and presented training materials for public and private training classes.

Onboarded and trained new hires to Chef's consulting organization.

Technical Architecture Consultant

2010-2013

Accenture

Led the design and implementation of several large-scale cloud-based web applications at a Fortune 100 company using infrastructure automation and continuous integration tools to install applications on top of a variety of open source technologies.

Responsible for L2/L3 support of production and non-production Unix and Windows-based applications at a multi-year SAP application for a global commodity trading company.

Responsible for onboarding, delegating tasks to, and coordinating task completion with offshore teams based in Southeast Asia.

EDUCATION

Bachelors of Science in Computer Science

2008-2010

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Co-winner of the 2010 Hirsch Family Award for my team's work in a theoretical redesign of the university's course registration system.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Organizer for DevOpsDays Minneapolis (2014–2016) and DevOpsDays Austin (2017).

Invited by Target Corporation and Thomson Reuters (2015) to present on healthy technical workplace culture.