TODD E THOMAS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Platform Engineering Leader with nearly 30 years of systems engineering experience. Builds platforms that let developers focus on what matters—functionality—by abstracting away pipelines, infrastructure, and operational complexity. The result: dramatic reductions in cognitive load, faster delivery cycles, lower cloud costs, and higher-quality software. Leads from the front: architecting solutions, writing code, mentoring engineers, and presenting to stakeholders. Always keeping the final stakeholder in mind: the end user.

LEADERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Delivered **6,000% efficiency gain** at PIMCO through Kubernetes-centric GitOps implementation; solution continues to support **$1.4T in managed assets**
- Achieved **82% EC2 cost reduction** for USAF by enabling Karpenter on AWS GovCloud—fix now benefits all US Government agencies
- Led Panasonic Avionics cloud migration (VMware → GCP), realizing **4,800% efficiency gain** in software delivery while securing global satellite infrastructure with Istio and Vault
- Authored technical proposals resulting in multi-million dollar cost savings across EKS, KubeDB, and process flow improvements

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Engineer – Consulting | VivSoft (FTE) | September 2023 – Present
USAF Contract – Platform Engineering & Team Leadership

- Led consulting engagement for military tech refresh; translated client goals into epics and actionable stories
- Increased deployment efficiencies by 1,500% and upgrade efficiencies by 1,800% via Argo/Kustomize
- Filed issues enabling Karpenter on AWS GovCloud—82% EC2 cost reduction now available government-wide
- Introduced HashiCorp Vault and Boundary; authored technical proposals for EKS, KubeDB, and process improvements

Senior Manager – Consulting | Cognizant (FTE) | January – May 2023

- Led engagements for Verizon (FinOps/ML pipeline), Lincoln Financial (Kubernetes), Toyota (global K8s rollout)
- Contributed to CoEs for Security, Platform Engineering, and Kubernetes; assembled teams; negotiated vendor contracts

Technical Principal | Contino (FTE, acquired by Cognizant) | November – December 2022

- Initiated Verizon FinOps engagement; architected AWS infrastructure for cloud spending analysis

Principal Cloud Architect | IBM (FTE) | January – June 2022
Dun & Bradstreet / GCP
- Led GCP environment setup for AWS-to-GCP migration; deployed Kubernetes clusters; implemented MLOps

Principal Cloud Architect | Taos (FTE, acquired by IBM) | July – December 2021
Dish Networks / 5G Service / AWS
- Architected global network infrastructure; sold and deployed Kubernetes clusters supporting GitOps
- Leveraged satellite communications expertise to accelerate 5G infrastructure delivery

Cloud Infrastructure Architect | Panasonic Avionics (Contract) | August 2018 – June 2020
Global Satellite Network & Inflight Entertainment Platform
Led 3-person team through architecture and execution of global ground network supporting satellite comms, inflight WiFi, entertainment, and transaction processing.
- Architected Kubernetes-centric solution; migrated from on-prem VMware to GCP
- Implemented GitOps achieving **4,800% efficiency gain** in software delivery
- Secured infrastructure with Istio service mesh and HashiCorp Vault

Sr. DevOps Engineer | PIMCO via TEKsystems (Contract) | August 2017 – August 2018
Financial Services – High Performance Computing
- Architected Kubernetes-based HPC solution with Okta (infra) and Auth0 (service) authentication
- Implemented GitOps and Kafka achieving **6,000% efficiency gain**
- Solution continues to support **$1.4T in managed assets**

EARLIER CAREER

Sr. Security Architect | Teradata | 2014
Enterprise clients: Johnson & Johnson, Royal Bank of Canada, Ford Motor Company, The Gap
Government clients: Navy Cyber Command (NCDOC), Naval Support, US Air Force, US Army
Secret Clearance (2012–2016) | Expert in DISA STIG and IRS SCSEM security procedures
Owner / Engineer | Secured Systems Integration, LLC | 2009–2012 | SMB solutions: sales, design, implementation

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Infrastructure: Kubernetes (EKS/GKE), Terraform, Docker, Buildpacks, Karpenter
GitOps & CI/CD: Argo CD, Flux, GitHub Actions, GitLab Auto DevOps, Kustomize
Security: HashiCorp Vault, Boundary, Istio, Linkerd, Okta, Auth0, ExternalDNS
Observability: Datadog, Grafana, Prometheus
Cloud Platforms: AWS (including GovCloud), GCP, Azure
Compliance: HIPAA, PCI, ISO 27001, DISA STIG, IRS SCSEM
Process: Agile, Release Management, Security Compliance Reviews, Running with Scissors

EDUCATION

Hamilton Technical College | **Des Moines Area Community College**