# Matthew Evans

[mattevans.cloud](mattevans.cloud) | me@mattevans.cloud | [ 704-207-6585 ]

**Site Reliability Engineer with a strong belief in [K.I.S.S.](K.I.S.S.), judicious usage of AI to improve productivity, and a love of automation, observability, and working collaboratively to achieve the impossible.**

## Skills

`site reliability engineering`  `programming`  `devops`  `databases`  `containers`
`linux systems administration`  `webservers`  `project management`  `system architecture & design`
`hybrid-clouds`

**SRE**: Grafana, Loki, Prometheus / Victoria Metrics, Datadog, New Relic
**DevOps**: Puppet, Ansible, Terraform, Jenkins, ArgoCD, Kubernetes, Docker
**Cloud**: AWS, Azure, AWS CDK, Hybrid (VMware, Proxmox, Hyper-V)
**Programming**: Bash, Python, Go, Github Actions
**Databases**: Postgres, Aurora Postgres, MongoDB, sqlite
**Linux**: RHEL & Derivatives, Debian & Derivatives

## Experience

### Director of Site Reliability Engineering, Cyware

2023 to Present, Charlotte, NC (remote)

- Hired to separate SRE function from DevOps, but remain very hands-on.
- Led team of 5 Senior Site Reliability Engineers, reporting to Senior VP of Engineering.
- Evaluated several observability platforms and settled on continuing with Grafana stack due to highest ROI.
- Wrote numerous custom API solutions in Python to ingest crtitical metrics from Cyware core applications into Prometheus and automate mundane tasks, like EC2 disk expansions.
- Deployed 'masterless Puppet' GitOps-based state configuration for legacy EC2 platform, to stabilize and prevent recurring issues due to inconsistent configurations.
- Wrote custom solution (Python + Go) to pull metrics for all alerts to move to data driven based decision making.
- Wrote logic and Grafana dashboard to track 'all-customer' and 'per-customer' uptime and SLA metrics.
- Built-out follow-the-sun on-call rotation in Opsgenie, blameless post mortem, and established first set of SLIs, which led to achievable SLOs and SLAs.
- In < 1 year, decreased number of average monthly alerts from over 1,000 to less than 50, and brought uptime from 95% to 99.98% across all customers.
- Partnered with DevOps to champion "Next-Generation" Kubernetes based GitOps platform, rolled out in January 2024.
- Responsible for disaster recovery and cloud-related BCP architecture and SOPs.
- Championed and deployed hybrid-cloud for non-production workloads, decreasing monthly AWS spend by over 50%.
- Finally, championed a "document-all-the-things!" approach, to prevent accumulation of tribal knowledge, prevent errors and inconsistencies, and improve operational time to resolution.

**Technologies used:** Python, Bash, Terraform, AWS, Azure, Grafana, Loki, LogQL, Prometheus, PromQL, ArgoCD, Puppet, Kubernetes, Helm, Docker

### Director of Site Reliability Engineering, Prometheus Alternative Investments

2020 to 2023, Charlotte, NC (remote)

- Joined this mobile-first startup, which unfortunately lost funding in early 2023 and closed shop.
- Led team of 4 employees and 6 contractors in Pakistan.
- Led the development and execution of the cloud strategy, resulting in a 400% reduction in AWS costs while improving reliability from < 90% to > 99.99%, as measured by BetterStack.
- With no defined DevOps function, combined DevOps & SRE into one team, greatly improving collaboration from

developer workstation through production deployment.
- Re-architected AWS platform using AWS Fargate and MongoDB Cloud to reduce costs and complexity, while allowing platform to scale rapidly to meet MAU target.
- Worked in partnership with Datadog Partner to quickly deploy full RUM and observability stack, while transfering operational knowledge to my team, saving both time and money versus the go-it-alone approach.
- Established SLIs, SLOs, and resultant SLAs.

**Technologies used:** AWS, CDK, Terraform, Fargate, Datadog, BetterStack, Opsgenie, Github Actions

### Director of SRE & CISO, Alpha Theory / Centerbook Partners

2011 to 2020, Charlotte, NC (remote)

- As a member of the executive team, participated in organizational planning and direction, interviewing of all new hires, and ensuring security had a voice at the highest levels of the organization.
- Managed team of 5 employees and 4 outsourced contractors.
- Led the organization from startup, through midlife, and finally to a parent organization, while acting as interim-CTO to the wholly owned hedge fund subsidiary, Centerbook Partners.
- Led the efforts to move from on-prem to an AWS/Azure hybrid infrastructure, allowing the SaaS application to utilize ephemeral virtual machines, reducing various daily jobs' time by several orders of magnitude.
- As CISO, led annual black-box penetration testing for infrastructure and application, responsible for vulnerability management program, and overall security posture across the entire organization.

**Technologies used:** AWS, Azure, VMware, pfSense, Cisco, Datacenter, Megaport, Puppet, Bash, Jenkins

### Other Noteworthy Employment

2023 to 2023, Wells Fargo
2009 to 2011, Honda Aircraft
2007 to 2009, IBM
2005 to 2007, AIG (United Guaranty)

## Awards & Recognition

- Won bid to deploy first public WiFi in Center-City Park in Downtown Greensboro, NC.
- Honored by Honda Aircraft CEO Michimasa Fujino for last-minute save of Oshkosh Airshow debut of Honda Aircraft when satellite company could not honor broadcast commitment.

## Projects

***ipcheck.sh*** (Python to Golang learning project)

## Certifications

### Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP)

- 2017-Present
- Verify at Credly

### AWS Solutions Architect, Associate

- 2023-Present
- Verify at Credly

### Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA)

- 2024-Present

### Certified Kubernetes Security Specialist (CKS)

- 2024-Present

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