


Dan Achim

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Summary

Freelance DevOps Engineer and Cloud & Systems Architect specialising in AWS based infrastructures, automation, containers, DevOps best practices and CI / CD pipelines.

Trying to bridge the gap between Dev and Ops and evangelising infrastructure as code. Business-minded and good communicator. Ever-curious spirit, I love learning new things.

Experience

Freelance DevOps Engineer & Cloud Architect

Hostatic

Sep 2016 - Present (5 years 2 months +)

Providing cloud or bare-metal infrastructure design, scaling, automation and DevOps consultancy under the Hostatic moniker (self-employed).

Helping companies of all sizes architect, automate, scale or launch their infrastructure, either in cloud services or on bare-metal, with a focus on AWS and Terraform.

Working with developers to define their CI/CD pipelines, implement infrastructure-as-code, prepare their applications for Docker containers and deal with their growth pains.

I have collaborated with several organisations as a freelancer under this "umbrella", you can see below the list of projects I was a part of.

Chief System Architect

Creative Fabrica

Jan 2019 - Present (2 years 10 months +)

Designing and implementing Creative Fabrica's AWS infrastructure. Writing the Terraform code to automate their infrastructure deployment.

Helping their developers split the application into a microservices architecture and to prepare it for Docker containers.

Defining the local development workflow and the CI / CD pipelines using CircleCI for fast, reliable and safe deployment of each part of the application.

Cloud Architect

56K.Cloud

Mar 2019 - Mar 2021 (2 years 1 month)

Cloud architect and Automation specialist

Designing and deploying fully automated infrastructures using various Cloud services, with a focus on AWS and Terraform.

Helping companies of all sizes design and scale their Cloud infrastructure, deploy it as infrastructure-as-code, create their CI / CD pipelines, prepare their applications for Docker containers and run them on various container platforms like Kubernetes and AWS ECS.



Cloud Native Consultant

Container Solutions

Sep 2018 - Mar 2019 (7 months)

Working alongside other Container Solutions engineers to advise and implement cloud migrations and automation and containerisation projects for their clients.

The main technologies used were AWS, Kubernetes, Docker and Terraform.



DevOps Consultant

NearForm

Apr 2018 - Sep 2018 (6 months)

Working together with nearForm's developers to design, implement and scale cloud-based infrastructures and applying DevOps best practices for the company's clients.

Deploying Node.js applications on various cloud providers (AWS, GCE, Azure). Automating the cloud infrastructure using Terraform. Creating container based CI/CD pipelines. Orchestrating the application containers with ECS and Kubernetes.



DevOps Consultant

creative.ai

May 2017 - Apr 2018 (1 year)

Designing and implementing the infrastructure on which the creative.ai platform will run.

Created an easy to use development environment based on Docker containers. Implemented a continuous integration system using Travis, NodeJS and Docker. Deployed a staging and production environment using Docker Swarm on top of AWS' EC2 for backend hosting and CloudFront / S3 for frontend serving. Automated everything using a mix of Ansible and Terraform.



DevOps Consultant

iMedicare

Oct 2016 - May 2017 (8 months)

Helping iMedicare scale and improve their AWS infrastructure.

Introduced monitoring tools like Graphite, Grafana and the Elasticsearch / Kibana / Logstash stack for better insight into their infrastructure. Improved the load balancing and CDN setup with a mix of AWS ELB, S3 and Nginx. Development environment based on Docker and Jenkins powered CI pipeline.

B. Senior Linux Systems Engineer

Booking.com

Aug 2013 - Jul 2016 (3 years)

- * Have been directly involved in growing the company's infrastructure from around a thousand servers in one datacenter to over ten thousand spread across three datacenters, all while scaling Puppet and its recipes to keep up with this growth.
- * Wrote tools to help manage the multi-DC setup and failover easily using Django, Zookeeper and Redis.
- * Introduced Docker, Mesos and Marathon in a single, easy to use and smooth to adopt platform.
- * Helped my team move to a new paradigm in monitoring, based on Bosun, Grafana and Kibana.
- * Wrote a http REST API to manage F5 load balancers using Python, Flask and Redis.
- * Created an automated Wordpress deployment and hosting infrastructure backed by Puppet, Nginx and Php-fpm.
- * Handled capacity testing and improved server deploy automation by tweaking the Puppet recipes.

B. Linux Systems Engineer

Booking.com

Apr 2010 - Aug 2013 (3 years 5 months)

- * Deployed, maintained and automated hundreds of Nginx based web servers and F5 load balancers.
- * Managed the Puppet infrastructure and refactored many of the internal core modules. Taught at Puppet intro classes for new employees.
- * Deployed a top-notch, KVM based, development environment that reduced the setup time for a newly hired developer from one day to two hours.
- * Helped grow the team from 10 to 22 members by on-boarding newly hired engineers.
- * Improved capacity, reliability, monitoring and documentation of the Memcached infrastructure.

As a member of Booking.com's production team I also shared responsibility for a very large number of Linux servers spread across multiple data centers. Being an exclusively online business, uptime of the website is critical.

Linux Systems Administrator

Gameloft

Dec 2008 - Apr 2010 (1 year 5 months)

Part of the Global Network Services team inside Gameloft. Worked on maintaining and implementing new services on Gameloft's internal Linux Debian servers.

Administered the company's Apache and MySQL clusters, that powered the on-line shop, where always up and running. Automated server deploys and configuration.

Linux Systems & Network Engineer

Spanning

Oct 2006 - Nov 2008 (2 years 2 months)

Engineering and maintaining everything from Linux servers to Cisco routers and firewalls.

Network design, infrastructure services (mail, web, file-sharing, databases), VPNs, network security.

Education



Liceul Bilingv "George Cosbuc" din Bucuresti

2000 - 2004



Universitatea „Spiru Haret” din București

Bachelor, Marketing

2007 - 2009

Skills

Amazon Web Services (AWS) • Continuous Integration • Terraform • Configuration Management • System Administration • Scalability • Network Security • High Availability • Cloud Computing • Kubernetes