

Derek Milbert

EXTENDED TECHNICAL PROFILE

Platform / DevOps / Infrastructure Engineer

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Platform / DevOps / Infrastructure Engineer with 7+ years of hands-on IT infrastructure experience, including 4+ years of post-qualification professional experience. Career progression runs from physical servers, Linux administration and configuration management through CI/CD and containers into Azure, Kubernetes, Terraform, GitOps and enterprise observability. Currently operating a multi-environment Azure/AKS platform for a regulated enterprise insurance environment, alongside independently designed and operated private infrastructure and web products. Looking to continue growing across infrastructure, platform and cloud engineering disciplines.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DevOps / Cloud Infrastructure Engineer

Jun 2024 – Present

adesso SE — regulated insurance environment

Official role: Consultant

- Engineer and operate a multi-environment Azure/AKS platform using Terraform, Kubernetes and Helm, including supporting platform services such as Key Vault, ACR and API Management, spanning development, testing, integration and production environments.
- Operate a GitOps-based deployment model using Argo CD and Argo Workflows on top of GitLab CI/CD.
- Manage cloud-native secrets and integrations using Azure Key Vault and Kubernetes-based secret-management patterns.
- Established containerisation and deployment foundations that were subsequently handed over to application development teams.

Infrastructure / DevOps Engineer

Jan 2023 – Jun 2024

CGI — international consumer brand

- Operated production infrastructure for a business-critical Magento-based e-commerce platform running on dedicated CentOS 7 physical servers with round-robin load balancing.
- Introduced and maintained infrastructure configuration management using Puppet and Ansible.
- Performed production incident investigation and troubleshooting across Linux, application, deployment, logging and infrastructure layers.
- Administered dedicated physical CentOS 7 servers, including OS-level configuration and troubleshooting.
- Managed application releases and production deployments through Jenkins-based CI/CD.

Infrastructure / Systems Engineering

Aug 2018 – Dec 2022

Symgenius GmbH & Co. KG

Internship → Fachinformatiker Systemintegration apprenticeship → post-qualification infrastructure role

Qualification completed June 2022

- Administered production Linux systems — physical and virtual — across hosting, web, DNS, mail and storage infrastructure.
- Managed physical server lifecycle activities including installation, component replacement, diagnostics and RAID, alongside Proxmox/Virtuozzo virtual infrastructure.
- Deployed and managed Prometheus and Node Exporter across the hosting estate for infrastructure metrics collection.
- Designed and owned a centralised monitoring platform covering 200+ VMs and 10 physical systems, including Grafana dashboards, Icinga/Slack alerting and a downsampled InfluxDB retention model across 1-, 5- and 10-year periods.
- Developed automation and configuration-management experience through Bash and Puppet.

CURRENT ROLE — EXPANDED TECHNICAL SCOPE

Cloud & Platform

Provision and evolve cloud infrastructure across multiple application environments using Terraform, including environment-specific configuration, state management and platform changes.

Azure · AKS · Terraform · Key Vault · ACR · APIM

Kubernetes & Delivery

Built the initial containerisation and deployment foundations for multiple applications — Docker images, Helm charts, Kubernetes configuration and secrets integration — before transferring day-to-day ownership to development teams. Operate ongoing GitOps-based delivery through Argo CD and Argo Workflows.

Kubernetes · Helm · Argo CD · Argo Workflows · Traefik · GitOps

Observability

Operate enterprise observability using Fleet-managed Elastic Agents, Elasticsearch, Kibana, APM and Heartbeat uptime monitoring, with custom Painless ingest pipelines for structured log parsing and enrichment.

Elastic Cloud · Fleet · APM · Heartbeat · Custom ingest pipelines

Database / Data Infrastructure

Administer database users, roles, schemas and permissions on Microsoft SQL Server / Azure SQL Managed Instance, implement Liquibase-based deployment workflows, and support SQL Server CDC integrations feeding downstream Microsoft Fabric data-processing workflows.

SQL Server · Azure SQL Managed Instance · Liquibase · SQL Server CDC · Microsoft Fabric

Operations

Support production operations and cross-team troubleshooting spanning Kubernetes, Azure infrastructure, applications, databases, networking, observability and CI/CD, and contribute to FinOps-related cost evaluation and optimisation.

Production support · Troubleshooting · Environment lifecycle · Monitoring · Infrastructure automation · FinOps

PRIVATE INFRASTRUCTURE

Privately designed and operated infrastructure used for production web applications, source control, CI, documentation, monitoring and operational experimentation — covering Linux hosting, core services, monitoring/alerting, backups/recovery, DNS/TLS and full operational ownership.

Linux · GitLab · BookStack · Grafana · Prometheus · Loki · Plesk · Cloudflare

INDEPENDENT WEB PROJECTS

ToolboxLane PRODUCTION

Independently developed and operate a production web utilities platform, including application development, deployment, hosting, DNS/TLS, edge protection and monitoring.

Independent ownership · Web development · Infrastructure · Deployment · Operations · Cloudflare · Monitoring · Privacy-first / client-side processing

TECHNICAL CAPABILITY INVENTORY

CORE	Azure · AKS · Kubernetes · Terraform · Helm · Argo CD · GitLab CI/CD · Elastic Cloud · SQL Server · Linux
SUPPORTING	Ansible · Puppet · Prometheus · Grafana · Jenkins · Liquibase · Plesk · Nginx · MariaDB
ADDITIONAL	Proxmox · Virtuozzo · Citrix XenCenter · Icinga · InfluxDB · Postfix · WordPress · PHP · Laravel · Physical servers · RAID

EDUCATION

Fachinformatiker für Systemintegration

Symgenius GmbH & Co. KG · Qualification completed June 2022

LANGUAGES

English (Fluent) · German (B2 Certified) · Afrikaans (Fluent)

HOBBIES

Gaming · Leather working · Bookbinding · Reading · Screenprinting · Laser cutting/engraving crafts