

Nathan Kift

Technical Lead / Senior Platform Engineer & SRE

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I am a results-driven Technical Lead and Senior Platform Engineer with 8 years of experience in startup environments. I have successfully led the migration and modernization of three companies infrastructure to the cloud, leveraging containerization and Kubernetes, optimizing performance, and enabling scalability. I'm experienced in leading cross-functional teams, providing technical guidance, and fostering collaboration to achieve project milestones. Previous experience as a software engineer provides me deep understanding of software engineering principles, enabling effective communication and collaboration with development teams.

SKILLS

Cloud

AWS Kubernetes Helm
Terraform Cloudflare
Postgres Redis Kafka
ElasticSearch Flink

CI/CD

Github Actions ArgoCD
Jenkins

Monitoring

Prometheus Grafana
FluentD Honeycomb
Sumo Logic OTEL

Code

Python Bash Ruby Java

WORK EXPERIENCE (5)

Tech Lead / Senior Platform Systems Engineer II | Wrapbook | <https://wrapbook.com>

Jan 2022 - Current

- Led the design and execution of a migration off of Heroku to AWS EKS, providing production infrastructure and a platform to allow developers to self-serve.
- Cut build times in half by optimizing docker builds, caching, and parallelizing. Reducing costs and allowing for shorter development cycles for product engineers.
- Reduced CI/CD costs by 60% moving to self-hosted Github Actions Runners and leveraging ARC and Karpenter for dynamic provisioning and auto-scaling.
- Define and enforce SLAs and SLOs across the org to meet customer expectations and improve service quality.
- Collaborate with cross-functional teams including security and analytics to automate infrastructure provisioning and configuration as well as enforce best practices in secret management, automatic dependency updates, and monitoring.
- Provide technical guidance and mentorship to team members, and lead company wide demos and training sessions for internal tooling.

Senior Platform Systems Engineer I | Wrapbook

Devops Engineer | Create Music Group | <https://createmusicgroup.com>

Jun 2020 - Dec 2021

- Led and managed a team of 3, covering all company infrastructure, IT, and QA operations.
- Successfully migrated legacy architecture to Kubernetes, improving Laravel application deployment and management lifecycle.
- Led the transformation of operations practices from legacy methods to continuous deployment and containerization, enabling faster and more efficient software releases.
- Developed and implemented guidelines and standard practices for cloud security and governance, ensuring compliance with industry regulations and best practices.
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to automate infrastructure provisioning, configuration, and monitoring, resulting in streamlined operations and reduced manual efforts.
- Conducted performance analysis and optimization of cloud resources, identifying areas for improvement and implementing cost-effective solutions.

Director of Engineering | Cognitive3D | <https://cognitive3d.com>

Feb 2016 - Apr 2020

- Led and managed an engineering team of 5.
- Designed and implemented ETL systems, including an analytics pipeline built with Flink, Kafka, and Cassandra. The pipeline efficiently processed tens of thousands of requests per second from consumer devices, providing the core product offering.
- Collaborated with Fortune 100 clients on large-scale cloud integrations and deployments of PaaS (Platform as a Service) solutions, ensuring seamless integration and meeting client requirements for security and compliance.

- Spearheaded the migration of the company's legacy infrastructure to containers and Kubernetes, leveraging KOPS on AWS.
- Assisted in coding tasks using Java / Play framework, actively contributing to the development of critical components and features.
- Developed a 3D data viewer utilizing Three.js and AngularJS, contributing to the front end development efforts and creating an immersive visualization experience for users.

Software Engineer | Cognitive3D

EDUCATION (1)

Bachelor Business Technology Management / Marketing | University of British Columbia

2011 - 2015

CERTIFICATIONS (2)

Certified Solutions Architect – Associate | Amazon Web Services (AWS)

May 2020

Web Development | Lighthouse Labs

Aug 2015

PROJECTS (1)

Home Network / Home Lab

- PfSense. Proxmox Cluster. 4 node K3s cluster. A place to mess around with new/interesting tech.