Michael Oberlauder

Senior DevOps / Platform Engineer · Israel · hybrid or remote

mdba770@gmail.com · oberlauder.com · linkedin.com/in/oberlauder

Senior DevOps engineer: 5+ years in DevOps, 10 on Linux. Since 2021, the only DevOps engineer at my last two companies, and on call for everything I run. At T-REX/FINSIGHT, a SOC 2-audited platform with 50–60 developers: moved it from Ansible-managed VMs to EKS with Terraform, ArgoCD and GitHub Actions, and replaced New Relic with self-hosted Grafana, Loki, Tempo and Mimir, cutting observability costs by about 75%. Before that, built a 10-host VMware vSAN cluster with Kubernetes on top. AWS, GCP and on-prem.

Experience

DevOps Engineer

Jul 2022 – Present

FINSIGHT (May 2024 – Present) · T-REX (Jul 2022 – May 2024), acquired by FINSIGHT

- Sole DevOps engineer for the T-REX platform, and on call for it: about 20 microservices on EKS across several environments, used by 50–60 developers, plus the Airflow and BI platforms.
- Migrated production from VMs to EKS while it stayed live. Split the monolith into microservices, wrote the Helm charts (later merged into one shared chart) and set up HPA per service. **Builds went from up to 25 minutes to about 10.**
- Switched all infrastructure from Ansible to Terraform and wrote our own EKS module with Karpenter.
- Handle all upgrades, including EKS and Kubernetes versions and cluster add-ons.
- Introduced GitOps with ArgoCD and moved all CI/CD from Azure DevOps to GitHub Actions. We release twice a week with blue-green deploys through Argo Rollouts, and hotfixes go out whenever needed.
- Took the infrastructure through **SOC 2 audits at both T-REX and FINSIGHT**: private EKS clusters behind zero-trust access, centralized secrets, keyless OIDC from CI to AWS and Dependabot. Implemented the controls and prepared the evidence.
- Merged the T-REX and FINSIGHT infrastructure after the acquisition: AWS accounts, networking, and SSO through IAM Identity Center with per-team permission sets.
- Replaced New Relic with self-hosted Grafana, Loki, Tempo and Mimir (LGTM), **cutting observability costs by about 75%**. Alerts go to PagerDuty.
- Run PostgreSQL on RDS in all three environments: upgrades, replication, migrations, cross-region backups and a yearly disaster-recovery test.
- Ported the regression tests, which run on every pull request, from ECS to Kubernetes with Karpenter, KEDA and HPA, **cutting the cost of each run by about 70%**.
- Help developers and data scientists track down performance problems.

Stack: AWS (EKS, RDS, ECS, IAM Identity Center), Kubernetes, Helm, ArgoCD, Argo Rollouts, Karpenter, KEDA, Terraform, GitHub Actions, Grafana, Loki, Tempo, Mimir, PagerDuty, PostgreSQL, Airflow

DevOps Engineer

Mar 2021 – Jul 2022

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- Sole DevOps engineer across AWS, GCP and an on-prem VMware vSAN cluster, and on call for all of it.
- Moved standalone servers, including about 8 TB of databases (largest about 1 TB), onto a **10-host vSAN cluster running up to 100 VMs**, with minimal downtime.
- Frozen servers used to be restarted by hand. Now VMs fail over and move between hosts automatically, and the cluster grows by adding hosts.
- Set up EKS for production and development on AWS, and self-managed Kubernetes on vSAN with Kubespray, Calico and MetalLB.
- Introduced Prometheus for cluster monitoring.

Stack: VMware vSphere and vSAN, AWS (EKS), GCP, Kubernetes, Kubespray, Calico, MetalLB, Prometheus

Linux System Administrator

Feb 2016 – Mar 2021

SPD Hosting (Mar 2019 – Mar 2021) · Host&Found (Feb 2016 – Mar 2019)

- Ran production Linux at an Israeli hosting and managed cloud provider: thousands of servers and websites, including large e-commerce stores where downtime meant lost sales.
- Worked with Magento, custom e-commerce stacks and the major hosting control panels, and managed clients' AWS accounts.
- On call for production incidents and the first point of escalation for clients, handling each case through to the fix.

Stack: Linux, Bash, Magento, hosting control panels, AWS

Technical skills

Cloud: AWS, EKS, EC2, ECS, VPC, S3, RDS, Lambda, SQS, SNS, CloudFront, API Gateway, ElastiCache, OpenSearch, EFS, FSx, GCP

Kubernetes & GitOps: Kubernetes (EKS and bare metal), Helm, ArgoCD, Argo Rollouts, Karpenter, KEDA, Cluster Autoscaler, AWS Load Balancer Controller, NGINX Ingress, cert-manager, external-dns, Kubespray, Rancher, Calico, MetalLB, Docker

Infrastructure as code: Terraform (custom modules), Ansible

CI/CD: GitHub Actions, Azure DevOps, Blue-green deployments

Observability: Grafana, Prometheus, Loki, Tempo, Mimir, PagerDuty, New Relic

Security: SOC 2, IAM Identity Center (SSO), OIDC workload identity, AWS Secrets Manager, External Secrets Operator, Zero-trust network access, Dependabot, HashiCorp Vault

Databases: PostgreSQL (RDS), MySQL, MongoDB

Virtualization: VMware vSphere, vCenter, ESXi, vSAN

Data platforms: Apache Airflow, BI platforms

Languages & OS: Linux (10 years), Bash, Python

Networking: Cloudflare, DNS and CDN, Networking fundamentals (CCNA training)

Training and languages

- RHCSA/RHCE preparation course, John Bryce College (2017)
- MSSQL 2014 DBA course, John Bryce College (2016–2017)
- CCNA course, John Bryce College (2015)

English proficient **Hebrew** fluent **Ukrainian** fluent **Russian** native