Brian Rogers

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OBJECTIVE

My name is Brian Rogers. I'm a technology professional with over 10 years of experience looking to break into a more leadership focused role.

With my years of experience supporting some of the largest organizations in the US, I have developed a keen eye for detail and I have been entrusted with systems with downtime costs in the millions. The rare failure is dealt with gracefully and I turn such situations into learning experiences.

I seek to analyze, optimize, and enhance systems using the latest technology, but I also have an eye for legacy technology.

Some things I am playing with now: Docker, AWS Codebuild/CodePipeline, Hashicorp Vault, Consul, and Terraform, Ansible, KVM, VFIO, Octopus Deploy, Powershell, BASH, NextCloud, ngnix, Envoy, EC2, ECS, ELB, AWS Private CA, and much more.

CURRENT ROLES

Owner/Operator - tucson.social

June 2023 - Present
Tucson.social | Tucson, Arizona

Aiming to be a non-profit. Tucson.social is a link-aggregator style social media site that is intended to be run for community solidarity as its primary purpose.

My responsibilities include:

- Literally everything
    - Site operation on OCI
    - Upstream and related project contribution and bug reporting
    - Marketing, advertising, and social media outreach
    - Site moderation and administration
- And soon, more!
    - Financial/Fiscal duties (ahhh non-profit regulations)
    - Fundraising
    - Getting staffing

Cloud Software Reliability Engineer (Cloud SRE)

May 2022 - Present
Aerospike | Mountain View, California

I was hired on as a Cloud Operations Engineer II - which was then converted to the title of Site Reliability Engineering to better align with the role's purpose.

My responsibilities include:

- Delivered Customer Environments through use of Infrastructure as Code (Packer, Terraform, Ansible)
- Maintain and Troubleshoot Customer environments using Grafana and Prometheus as well as direct SSH access to the environment.
- Research and Implement new features for the ACS (Aerospike Customer Services) platform - particularly updating our OpenVPN stack to Tailscale (wireguard).
- Assist other teams and departments with their Infra as Code, deployment methods, and other areas involving a deep understanding of Operating Systems.
- Develop new terraform and ansible modules and enhance existing ones.
- Assist with architecting major platform changes.
- Improve monitoring thresholds to increase system visibility and reduce alert fatigue.
- Drive enhancements to our reliability by investigating cross-cloud solutions, improving high availability architecture, and increasing guardrails around operations though automation.
- Last, but certainly not least, perform manual and automated operations as needed for customers.

PREVIOUS ROLES

Lead DevSecOps Engineer

April 2021 - April 2022
Propstream | California

This role is a bit more than just a typical DevSecOps engineer and includes some organizational security / infosec responsibilities.

Notable Achievements:

1. Reduced TTR by 50% by implementing modern AWS tooling into EC2 images allowing developers to perform approved troubleshooting as defined by their role.
2. Increased team momentum by 20% by introducing common branching strategies, automated build/integration checks, and simplifying deployment patterns.
3. Introduced a new password paradigm to decrease incidence of forgotten credentials and enhance organizational security.

Duties:

- Maintain, Fix, and Improve legacy infrastructure through use of Infrastructure as Code (IAC), well defined image pipelines, and enhanced management capabilities.
- Plan, architect, and support new work - particularly around security, integration, and stability.

- Help lead a cross functional development team by:
    - Advising the team on appropriate technologies for microservices and apps.
    - Provide easy-to-use templates, wrappers, and applications to increase team momentum.
    - Automate QA and Development environment tasks to increase reproducibility of issues.
- Lead a team of contracted DevOps engineers to implement new pipeline patterns, enhance existing tooling, and provide rich templates and documentation.
- Work with external security vendors to perform penetration tests and vulnerability scans.
- Implement policies and procedures around information security, employee workstations, password management, PCI environment standards, and much much more.
- Introduced company-wide password management software and training employees on its appropriate use.
- Continuously improve email deliverability and spam filters through use of common email security features.
- Plan, implement, and perform onboarding and offboarding to sensitive systems.

DevOps Engineer

June 2019 - Present
Navex Global | Lake Oswego, Oregon

General duties:

- Maintain code compilation and deployment pipelines.
- Drive progress in full CI/CD.
- Research and implement new technologies/software to enhance development.
- Migrate local build processes to cloud infrastructure.
- Build docker containers for use in AWS codebuild.
- Research and propose new technologies to solve certain business problems.
- Coordinate with architecture teams to implement technologies in preparation for Service Discovery.
- Assist devs by creating bootstrap projects to enforce certain patterns from first commit.
- Build TeamCity agent containers for internal CI/CD infrastructure. These containers are highly specialized and can build legacy .NET code.
- Document and improve automation around environment and pipeline creation.
- Manage git repositories and branching strategies to enable dev teams to move faster
- Work with leads and managers to adjust processes to better suit changing needs.
- Maintain multi-environment octopus deploy configuration with many complex inter-dependencies.

Systems Engineer

July 2017 - June 2019
InComm Digital Solutions | Portland, Oregon

In July of 2017 - I transitioned from an Application Support Specialist to a Systems Engineer with the Incomm Infrastructure Support team. My duties have not substantially changed in the transition. The Application Support team transitioned away from interacting with the Production Environment directly and was re-focused to work with mostly customer data, monitoring, and reporting issues.

My responsibilities include:

- Maintaining the stability of high value production systems

- Aid in the development of Continuous Delivery and Continuous Deployment procedures
- Work with new technologies and large projects affecting large portions of our business. In particular:
    1. Implement Consul in each of our environments as a service fabric and service discovery layer.
    2. Plan new data pipeline processes
    3. Plan and execute large SQL and RAVENDB migrations
    4. Research, plan, and implement changes in preparation for new .NET Core services.
    5. Implement HashiCorp Vault to integrate, automate, and secure secret and credential rotation.
    6. Also utilize HashiCorp Vault to serve as an internal Certificate Authority allowing for certificate based authentication.
    7. Implement Ansible playbooks to create build machines and production base images for Web servers.
- Plan and Execute infrastructure change requests.
- Develop Powershell/DSC Scripts to facilitate automated deployments from our Continuous Delivery chain.
- Work with Product and Development teams to prepare environments for upcoming changes and new services/products.
- Create and maintain updated documentation in regards to common issues with our software and common fixes.
- Audit environment security and plan necessary changes to remain PCI and HIPAA compliance.
- Create training material to cross-train other team members.
- Analyze system and platform metrics in order to improve performance.

Application Support Specialist

Nov 2015 – Jul 2017
InComm Digital Solutions | Portland, Oregon

A more accurate description for this role is a Production Support Specialist. I administer and support an entire production environment rather than a single application.

Responsibilities include:

- Maintaining the stability of our extremely large financial transaction database with proactive monitoring and alerting.
- Create and Maintain deploy projects within Octopus Deploy to deploy to multiple environments.
- Create, Optimize, and Update automated monitoring and alerting leveraging LogicMonitor, New Relic, and Splunk.
- Plan infrastructure change requests with our datacenter provider, Rackspace.
- Develop SQL and Shell scripts to fix customer data issues such as incorrect order data, malformed or incorrect financial data, localization, and more.
- Work with Product and Development teams to identify high priority bugs and represent our customers to management.
- Interface with Operations department to provide ad-hoc SQL and SSRS reports on customer data and provide technical assistance.
- Create and maintain updated documentation in regards to common issues with our software and common fixes using confluence.
- Create training material to cross-train other team members on the use of Third Party and internal tools.
- Analyze system and platform metrics in order to improve performance. Such as identifying problematic SQL calls, application resource contention, and network performance issues.

SCM/Release Engineer

May 2014 - Nov 2015
NTT America Inc | Boca Raton, FL

- Build, maintain, and configure code releases internally and to clients based on client and developer requirements.
- Automate release process using shell scripting such as BASH and Powershell as well as Bamboo Task engine.
- Work with the team to improve standards as well as procedure to offer timely iterative releases.
- Build and automate MSI/EXE installer creation using Installshield, Bamboo, Artifactory, and Jenkins.
- Work with developers and management to enhance installers with Installshield and add dynamic configuration functionality for rapid automated deployments using Powershell, BASH scripting, and .NET C#.
- Facilitate migrations to new and updated platforms with the assistance of System administration.
- Create standardized Selenium tests to ensure new platforms are stable and pass a basic smoke test.
- Create RPM packages for RHEL and CentOS.
- Maintain build servers and processes.
- Maintain build software such as Maven, Gradle, MSBuild, Visual Studio and more.
- Enhance our Continuous Integration environment by automating API calls between applications and creating simplified models for complex user actions.
- Create custom Java API calls when REST api lacks certain functionality.
- Work with System Administration departments to outline Puppet and Chef configurations so they are compatible with the rest of Continuous Integration.

Unix/Linux Administrator - Wal-Mart Systems

November 2013 - May 2014
CompuCom Systems, Inc. (CONTRACT) | Bentonville, AR

Release Manager/Engineer - Wal-Mart POS Systems

September 2013 - November 2013
L.J.Smith And Associates (CONTRACT) | Bentonville, AR

Junior Release Engineer

February 2013 - September 2013
Ipro Tech, Inc | Phoenix, AZ

Software Quality Assurance Analyst and Support Liaison

July 2012 - February 2013
Ipro Tech, Inc | Phoenix, AZ

EDUCATION

High School
August 2006 - May 2010
Casa Grande Union High School | Casa Grande, AZ

SKILLS

Microsoft Windows | Linux | Networking | TCP/IP | AGILE | SQL Server | Consul | Octopus Deploy | Virtualization | Web Hosting | HTTP | Shell Scripting | High Availability | Clustering | *NIX | PERL | Bamboo | Integration | MSBuild | GIT | Jira | Continuous Integration | Continuous Delivery | Java | Node.js | Javascript | Vault | nginx | traefik | Docker | kubernetes | containers | scaleable infrastructure | cloud infrastructure | AWS | Azure | OCI | GCP | Google Cloud | Machine Learning | pytorch | GPU Accelerated Containers | NoSQL | AerospikeDB | Ansible | Terraform | Infrastructure as Code | Prometheus | Grafana