

Karsten Gorskowski

Freelance DevOps & Platform Engineer

Karsten Gorskowski
Kußmaulstraße 5
76187 Karlsruhe, Germany
Phone: +49 151 44986459
Email: hallo@karsten.cloud
Web: karsten.cloud

Technical Focus

- Kubernetes Platform Engineering – design, operation, and migration of clusters (k3s, AKS, EKS) including air-gapped deployments
 - GitOps & Continuous Delivery (ArgoCD, Helm, Kustomize, GitLab CI, Azure DevOps)
 - Observability & SIEM – Prometheus, Thanos, Grafana, Elasticsearch/ECK, Kibana, Vector
 - Security & Secrets Management – HashiCorp Vault, cert-manager/PKI, Keycloak/OIDC
 - Event Streaming – Apache Kafka (Strimzi), high-volume data pipelines
 - Infrastructure as Code – Terraform, Ansible
 - Cloud Platforms – AWS, Azure, GCP
 - AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner
 - Scrum.org Professional Scrum Master I
 - LFS458: Kubernetes Administration
-

Freelance DevOps & Platform Engineer

Under NDA – SOC/SIEM Platform, Public Sector

2022 – present, Karlsruhe (remote)

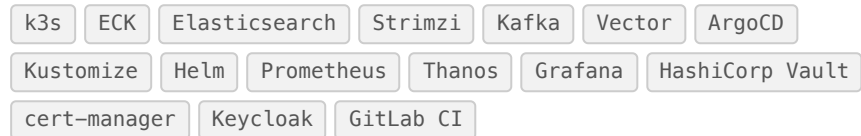
Long-running engagement as senior engineer for a SOC/SIEM enablement platform in the public sector.

Designed and operated an air-gapped Kubernetes platform (k3s) with a full GitOps workflow based on ArgoCD and Kustomize.

Built a high-throughput event ingestion pipeline using Vector, Apache Kafka (Strimzi), and Elasticsearch (ECK).

Implemented full observability infrastructure (Prometheus, Thanos, Grafana), PKI and secrets management (HashiCorp Vault, cert-manager), and identity management (Keycloak/OIDC). Mentored team members.

Technologies:



Cloud Engineer

Under NDA – Industrial Sector

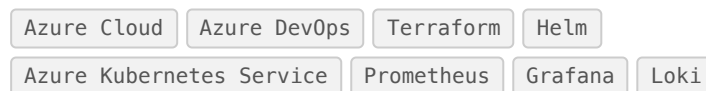
06.2022 – 12.2022

Developed and expanded the company-wide cloud strategy and migrated big data applications to Azure Cloud.

Architected and implemented a service platform based on Azure Kubernetes Service.

Built a centralised monitoring platform based on Kubernetes, Prometheus, Grafana, and Azure monitoring solutions.

Technologies:



Cloud Engineer

Under NDA – Logistics Division, Drugstore Chain

10.2021 – 05.2022, Karlsruhe

Responsible for migrating on-premises workloads to Azure Cloud.

Iteratively replaced legacy deployments with an Infrastructure-as-Code model driven by Azure DevOps Pipelines.

Implemented and migrated individual workloads to managed Azure Kubernetes clusters.

Technologies:



DevOps Engineer

Under NDA – On-Demand Mobility Platform

04.2018 – 01.2019, Karlsruhe

Built, maintained, and operated multiple Kubernetes clusters on AWS infrastructure across Europe and China in an agile (Scrum) environment.

Provided GitLab and tooling for CI/CD, monitoring, logging, and alerting for both the platform and developer teams.

Operated and was on-call for a central HiveMQ MQTT cluster; handled operational tasks and incidents in Kanban mode.

Technologies:

Kubernetes

Terraform

AWS

ELK

GitLab

HiveMQ

Keycloak

OpsGenie

Work History

Self-employed / Freelancer

Freelance DevOps & Platform Engineer

01.2023 – present, Karlsruhe

Freelance project work in platform engineering, Kubernetes, observability, and GitOps. Primary engagement: long-running SOC/SIEM platform project in the public sector.

inovex GmbH

Senior DevOps Engineer

04.2018 – 12.2022, Karlsruhe

Responsible for designing and delivering cloud-native products and platforms for enterprise clients across Germany in a wide range of industries.

Designed cloud infrastructure, deployment pipelines, and operational processes. Built logging, monitoring, and alerting solutions.

codemonauts UG

DevOps Engineer

12.2014 – 04.2018, Frankfurt am Main

Responsible for migrating existing and building new client infrastructures on AWS following the Infrastructure-as-Code principle. Monitoring, automation, CI/CD workflows, and 24/7 on-call within agreed SLAs.

Senckenberg Research Institute

System Administrator

10.2012 – 10.2014, Frankfurt am Main

Windows Server & Client support and administration.

Leistritz AG

System Administrator

10.2011 – 10.2012, Nuremberg

Windows Server & Client support and administration.

MCF Microcomputer GmbH & Co.

Apprentice / System Administrator

09.2007 – 09.2011, Nuremberg

Apprenticeship as IT Systems Integration Specialist. Retained as System Administrator after qualifying.

Education

IT Systems Integration Specialist (Fachinformatiker Systemintegration)

MCF GmbH und Co KG

09.2007 – 07.2010

Magister: German Studies, English Studies & Philosophy

University of Osnabrück

10.2002 – 03.2007

No degree awarded

Cognitive Science

University of Osnabrück

10.2000 – 10.2002

No degree awarded

Abitur (German A-levels)

Kreisgymnasium Haren (Ems)

1999

Grade: 2.0 (Good)

Skills & Competencies

- Agile working in distributed teams (DevOps, Scrum, Kanban)
- Scrum.org Certified Professional Scrum Master I
- Structured, autonomous delivery with low overhead
- Technical communication to developers, management, and stakeholders
- Cross-disciplinary problem solving; mentoring of colleagues
- Continuous learning and fast onboarding of new technologies
- Native language: German
- English: fluent (spoken and written)