

OLEKSANDR PONOMAROV

Platform & Site Reliability Engineer

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I build the platform other engineers build on – the systems that make infrastructure changes safe to review, quick to ship and possible to undo. Ten years in infrastructure, the last four owning the foundation a few hundred engineers deploy through. Case studies and writing: oponomarov.com.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Site Reliability Engineer

Two Hundred, consulting for a global SaaS leader in construction IoT

📅 August 2022 – Now

📍 Remote, Denmark

- Own the platform a few hundred engineers ship through, in front of a product serving thousands of requests per second. Joined when infrastructure was still changed by hand
- **Made every change reviewable.** Moved all infrastructure onto pull requests that show what will happen – the plan for cloud resources, the exact cluster diff for everything else – and only then turned on automatic deployment. The review bot I wrote for that is still commenting on pull requests three and a half years later
- **Environments on demand.** Designed and built cell-based architecture: one command creates a self-contained environment – network, cluster, identity, delivery – and one command proves it is gone, refusing to forget it while anything still runs. A new region became a reviewed change instead of a multi-week project
- **Rebuilt the network nobody dared touch.** Moved live production routing onto explicit, reviewable resources without applying a single change, then onto a policy-defined network where environments are genuinely separated
- **Turned the shared Terraform estate into a product.** Golden paths teams could actually follow: released and changelogs modules, a layout scaling to hundreds of environments, an internal registry, and the source code, chat, on-call and service catalogue of a new team created from one reviewed file
- **Raised the security posture by making it automatic.** Container images, dependency updates, cluster upgrades and machine patching became continuous flows with a human at the merge gate rather than quarterly fire drills, so staying patched stopped depending on anyone remembering. Secrets moved out of configuration and into a vault, and the checks that once took seven seconds now run in milliseconds, before you commit rather than minutes later in CI
- **Put AI to work without new attack surface.** Built the gateway that lets AI assistants reach operational systems through the identity people already have – read-only in production, no new credentials anywhere – and encoded change review into supervised playbooks that merge only what they can prove is safe, clearing a months-old backlog roughly twenty times faster than by hand

EXPERTISE

AWS

EKS Lambda Step Functions
Cloud WAN ECR IAM SSM
DynamoDB

Kubernetes and platform

Flux Argo CD Crossplane
Karpenter Kyverno Helm Strimzi

Infrastructure as code

Terraform Terramate Atlantis
Ansible Private registries

Delivery and developer experience

GitOps CI/CD GitHub Actions
Pre-commit Renovate
Release automation Golden paths

Security

Policy as code Secrets management
OIDC federation Supply chain
Patch automation

Networking and cost

VPC design DNS Cost optimisation

Data and streaming

Kafka Flink

AI in production

MCP gateways Supervised agents
Agent skills

Code

Python Go Shell

Working across teams

Decision records Standards
Knowledge sharing Mentoring

- **Cut cost where it hides.** Moved the whole organisation off Docker Hub onto our own mirror – no migration day, no manifests to edit, nobody noticed, and the bill went away. Saved thousands a month more on the network path nobody looks at, and made cheaper processors the default. Also absorbed an acquisition onto the platform in a summer, and shipped self-service functions running customer code in isolation

Core: AWS, Kubernetes, Terraform & Terramate, GitOps, Python & Go

Infrastructure Engineer

Appsilon, consulting for Apple and Fortune 500 pharma

📅 June 2021 – March 2024 📍 Remote, Poland

- Ran the analytics platform behind one of Apple's finance departments for eighteen months – availability, patching, upgrades and InfoSec compliance – on a contract overlapping the role above
- Before that, designed highly available analytics platforms for Fortune 500 pharma clients on AWS and Azure, entirely as code, leaving a reusable base other teams used to stand up their own
- Migrated the company's own infrastructure to AWS – accounts, access, networking, budgets and alerting – with 95% of it as code and every change through a reviewed pull request
- Supported data-science teams with delivery pipelines and containerization, and joined client architecture and sales calls

Core: AWS, Azure, Terraform, Ansible, Atlantis, Docker, Python

Senior DevOps Engineer

S3 Connected Health

📅 August 2020 – May 2021 📍 Wrocław, Poland

- Built the delivery path for regulated medical software: the firmware pipeline behind an electroporation platform for treating gastrointestinal cancers, and a paediatric vision-therapy service shipping into Philips HealthSuite with security scanning in the way
- Put fifty-plus TypeScript repositories on staged rollouts, and wrote a project template so a new service arrived with delivery already working
- Described an on-premise lab as code, and ran hardened Kubernetes clusters on it

Core: Kubernetes, Terraform, Ansible, Argo CD, Drone, Python

Senior DevOps Engineer

Capgemini

📅 May 2019 – July 2020 📍 Wrocław, Poland

- Automated multi-tenant Kafka and Flink infrastructure for trading and risk systems, described as code, and containerized the Java services running on it
- Built the pipeline that unseals a production secrets cluster, and put single sign-on with smart-card certificates in front of internal tooling

Core: Kubernetes, OpenShift, Kafka, Flink, Vault, Terraform

EDUCATION

MSc, Computer Science in Medicine

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

📅 2017 – 2019

BSc, Computer Science

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

📅 2013 – 2016

LANGUAGES

Ukrainian, Polish, English and Russian, all fluent.

HOW I WORK

Decisions get written down. I introduced decision records at two companies and wrote the standard for them.

Measure, don't assert. Benchmarks before rewrites, proof that a migration changes nothing before it runs, rehearsals before deletions.

I teach what I build. Community channels, recorded walkthroughs and regular sessions on what I have found – lately on getting AI agents to do real work. Tooling without teaching just creates a new priesthood.

Build it once, for everyone. The hooks, templates and agent skills I write are meant to be picked up by teams I am not in the room with.

Honesty over optics. When a change of mine turns out wrong, the revert comes from me, the same week, with the root cause following.

Automation over heroics. Big mechanical migrations run as scripted, repeatable campaigns.

EARLIER

Margo Consulting – DevOps Engineer, 2018–2019. Ansible automation, and moving secrets out of thousands of legacy configuration files, which is what passed the project's security audit.

Nokia Networks – Software Configuration Engineer, 2017–2018. Internal cloud as code, the company's Subversion to Git migration, release automation.

Tieto – Test Engineer, 2016–2017. Build automation and continuous integration servers.