

Alexander T. Hovel

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PROFILE

Versatile and fast-learning Engineer bringing over 15 years of experience across a wide range of operating systems and enterprise hardware. A creative problem-solver and clear communicator, consistently delivering strong individual contributions and fostering positive team dynamics.

SKILLS

Cloud & Infrastructure: AWS (EKS, EC2, Lambda, S3, ALB/NLB, WAF, ElastiCache, SSM, Inspector, IAM, CloudWatch, ASG), Azure, Hyper-V, ESX/vCenter, Proxmox

Orchestration: Kubernetes, Istio, Karpenter, Helm, Helmfile, Docker, Podman

CI/CD & Automation: GitLab CI, GitLab API, CI Components, Terraform, Ansible, CloudFormation, TeamCity, Maven, npm

Monitoring & Security: Datadog, Splunk, Grafana, Zabbix, AWS Inspector, CVE management, WAF, OAuth, SAML2, PKI, Vault, Secrets Manager

Languages: Bash/Shell, Python, PowerShell, HCL, YAML

Databases & Messaging: DocDB, Kafka, Redis, RabbitMQ, MSSQL

Networking & Storage: LAN/WAN design, DHCP, DNS, VPN, Firewalls, SANs, iSCSI, Fiber Channel, S3, CEPH

OS: Linux (RHEL, CentOS, Ubuntu, Debian), macOS, Windows Server

CERTIFICATIONS

Amazon Web Services SysOps Administrator – Associate Issued Sep 2022 · Expires Sep 2025

Credential ID LHTHBQCC6EQQX5Y

Amazon Web Services Solutions Architect – Professional Issued Sep 2023 · Expires Sep 2026

Credential ID 9PE2GQYK8MV1QHWD

EDUCATION

Northern Kentucky University — BS Computer Information Technology -- Minor in Computer Science — Graduated Dec 2016

CURRENT AND PREVIOUS ROLES

Charter Communications — Devops Engineer IV — Nov 2023 - Present

- Own and operate 16+ EKS clusters across 4 AWS accounts with blue/green deployment orchestration and ALB traffic shifting for zero-downtime releases using GitLab automation
- Lead Graviton/ARM64 migration — multi-arch container builds, Karpenter scheduling, workload validation across all environments
- Architect and maintain GitLab CI pipelines with reusable CI components, multi-environment promotion chains (Dev → UAT → Preprod → Prod), and semantic versioning
- Design and manage self-hosted GitLab Runner infrastructure — custom AMI pipelines, ASG autoscaling, SSM config injection, and Datadog monitoring

- Develop Terraform modules (S3, IRSA, Lambda, WAF) for multi-account infrastructure with least-privilege access patterns
- Manage Istio service mesh (Ingress gateways, mTLS, traffic policies) across all environments
- Build internal developer tools — MR bot, release automation framework
- Drive monthly CVE lifecycle management — AWS Inspector analysis, Excel reporting, triage, and remediation tracking
- Mentor engineers on infrastructure standards, CI/CD practices, and operational runbooks; establish code review culture and governance tooling

MedStudy Corp — Lead Devops Engineer — June 2023 - Nov 2023 — Devops Engineer — Oct 2020 - May 2023

- Coordinated team members on projects and managed projects as a lead
- Communicated to managers and product owners' daily updates and cross team needs.
- Responsible for creating team initiatives and quarterly planning
- Managed AWS budgets and billing analyzing for cost optimization
- Designed, built and maintained corporate enterprise storage and compute AWS Cloud infrastructure Using Terraform.
- Managed corporate customer facing infrastructure.
- Implemented Always on VPN using Microsoft RAS, NDES, NPS Radius, Microsoft PKI infrastructure for AD, Intune for device management
- Maintaining Grafana, Azure hybrid AD, DHCP, DNS, Kubernetes with Rancher OS, Docker, Portainer
- Responsible for OS configurations and management. Windows Server and Linux flavors
- Worked independently on projects while coordinating with the team for various projects.
- Used Jira for project tracking and communication and Github for git repository.

Kore Wireless — Systems Engineer III — July 2018 - Oct 2020

- Designed, built and maintained corporate enterprise storage and compute infrastructure.
- Managed global corporate customer facing infrastructure.
- Maintaining ESX, Vcenter, Zabbix, Grafana, Ansible, AD, DHCP, DNS, Kubernetes, Docker, AWX, Rabbitmq, OOB
- Administration of SANs. Dell EQL, IBM Storewize, and HP Nimble. iSCSI and Fiber networks.
- Responsible for OS configurations and management. Windows Server and Centos
- Global datacenter deployments and management both onsite and remote.
- Maintained storage and compute hardware in all datacenters. Coordinating with onsite techs and technical engineers to restore ideal state.
- Worked independently on projects while coordinating with the team for multi-year endeavors. On-call work for 24/7 availability of services.
- Used Jira for project tracking and communication.
- Disaster recovering planning through Veeam backup

Rotex Global, LLC — Information Technology Department Various Roles — Jan 2017 - July 2018

- Managed onsite and remote hardware. Purchasing and configurations including mobile computer scanners, servers, workstations, laptops, UPSs, company cellphones, Cisco IP phones.
- Administrator for Windows XP, 7, 10, server 2003, 2008r2, 2012r2, 2016
- Supported end user software including SolidWorks PDM client/server, MS Office, VPN, and other in house custom applications.
- Created new workflows for system state management and recommendation of standard equipment with preventative maintenance. Deploying virtual, physical servers, and end user systems. Lenovo and HP.
- Managed and diagnosed network, storage, AD, security, DHCP, DNS. SCCM, MDT, VPN, backups.
- Assisted in maintaining and supporting company ERP and CRM applications.

TECHNICAL CO-OP

Center for Applied Informatics — Mobile Application Developer II — April 2016 - Dec 2016

- Developed Android applications that met client design and feature requirements for example taking client ideas and presenting them with a detailed plan for timelines, execution, and end result.
- Conducted client management by communicating with projects leads and providing bi-weekly updates on projects.

Yamazaki Mazak — Co-op — May 2014 - Aug 2015

- IT helpdesk and customer support

Software and Hardware

- Assisted in maintenance of company IT infrastructure implementing Microsoft Deployment Toolkit writing installers for company software and customized Windows images for company needs

LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Odyssey of the Mind — State Problem Captain — 2016 - 2022

- Provide training for volunteers and coordinate my competition site and teams.
- Judged Regional and State competitions for Kentucky Odyssey of the Mind
- Helped organize and setup tournaments at Universities throughout Kentucky