Etienne Dallard

Senior SRE / DevOps Engineer

Reliability · Cloud Infrastructure · Distributed Systems · Automation

Linux · Azure · Kubernetes · Terraform · Python · Observability · Recovery

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PROFILE

Senior SRE / DevOps Engineer with 10 years of experience across Linux infrastructure, automation, and reliability. Background spanning systems and data center infrastructure administration through the design and operation of cloud infrastructure and distributed systems. Production experience with Azure and OpenStack, alongside Kubernetes, Terraform, Python, and Go. End-to-end ownership from analysis and proof of concept through architecture, development, production rollout, operations, and handover. Main areas of focus include reliability, automation, observability, security, and recovery mechanisms, including petabyte-scale environments.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ubisoft · Montréal, Canada

Mar. 2017 - Present

Site Reliability Engineer (SRE)

Dec. 2024 - Present

Perforce Backup & Cross-Region Recovery Platform — ~200 instances total · ~1.3 PB source data · ~940 TB backed up · ~US$1M/year

- Architect and primary technical lead for distributed backup and recovery infrastructure using Restic/Azure Blob across ~200 Perforce instances (~1.3 PB of source data, ~940 TB backed up), following a restore-focused Kopia vs. Restic POC; encrypted repositories per instance and ~US$1M/year in savings.
- Operationalized the platform with declarative Chef configuration, Python validation and metrics tooling, Prometheus/Grafana/Azure Monitor, and Vault access via Azure Arc Managed Identity; led production rollout and operational handover with runbooks and restore procedures.
- Designed monthly cross-region replication of ~940 TB and the recovery workflow in Python/Azure Durable Functions: fan-out/sharding to parallelize transfers, checkpoints to resume interrupted work, and Cool/Archive tiering; Managed Identity/OIDC authentication, Terraform infrastructure, and GitLab CI/CD deployment.

db-backup migration to Azure and AKS — OpenStack → Azure · Kubernetes → AKS

- Migrated storage from OpenStack to Azure Blob Storage, then the Kubernetes platform to AKS on Ubisoft's internal infrastructure, adapting the API and Kubernetes components.

Linux Systems Administrator / DevOps

Mar. 2017 - Nov. 2024

db-backup · Database Backup Platform — ~190 Redis/MySQL servers · >US$200K/year

- Contributed to db-backup development and production rollout, then became the primary owner of the service. The centralized platform covered ~190 Redis/MySQL servers, replaced rsync/NAS + NetBackup, and delivered more than US$200K/year in cost savings.
- Maintained and evolved the Django REST API, Go CLI, Ansible playbooks, and Kubernetes components; automated production-backup restores in GitLab CI/CD on ephemeral OpenStack VMs provisioned by Terraform, followed by restore validation and a new backup before environment teardown.

Internal services & Linux operations — Several hundred servers

- Operated several hundred Linux servers with Chef (JumpServer, MongoBackup, PowerDNS, MySQL Server); performed Linux/application migrations and deployed Prometheus monitoring, Alertmanager alerting, and Grafana dashboards.

Incident remediation automation · StackStorm · R&D — 34% reduction in tickets

- Led the R&D effort, selected StackStorm, built the POC, and presented the demo. Another team developed the production service, which is still operated by the Command Center; 34% reduction in tickets.

Skills, Contributions & Education

SRE · Cloud Infrastructure · Distributed Systems · Platform Infrastructure · Automation · Security

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

Mikros Image Canada · Montréal, Canada

2016 - 2017

Linux Systems Administrator

2016 - 2017

Render farm & data center infrastructure ~250 nodes · 40 servers

- Administered a Linux render farm of ~250 nodes and deployed 40 data center servers supporting the studio's 3D/2D compute workloads. Operated CentOS/RHEL, Puppet/PXE, LDAP, Hitachi NAS storage, and Extreme Networks networking; provided Linux/Windows/macOS support.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

CLOUD & INFRASTRUCTURE

Linux, Azure (AKS, Blob Storage, Durable Functions, Monitor, Managed Identity), OpenStack, Kubernetes, Docker, Terraform, Helm

SRE & OBSERVABILITY

Prometheus, Grafana, Alertmanager, Azure Monitor / Log Analytics, Elasticsearch/Kibana, incident response

AUTOMATION & ENGINEERING

Python, Go, Bash, Ansible, Chef, GitLab CI/CD, REST APIs

SECURITY

OIDC, Workload Identity Federation, Managed Identity, HashiCorp Vault, secret management, least privilege, network isolation

DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS & STORAGE

Restic, Azure Blob Storage, object storage, petabyte-scale backup/recovery, cross-region replication, lifecycle/tiering, fan-out/sharding

AI-ASSISTED ENGINEERING & PERSONAL MLOPS

Claude Code, coding agents, LoRA/RAG, MLflow, DVC, ChromaDB

OPEN SOURCE & TECHNICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Restic
Go · Swift · Security
Merged into Restic

Fix merged into Restic: migrated the OpenStack Swift APIKey to `SecretString` to prevent potential exposure in debug logs. **PR #22007**

Kopia
Go · Azure · Identity
Open PR

Open PR adding Azure AD authentication for Azure Blob Storage via Managed Identity, Service Principal, and Azure CLI, with multiple iterations following code review feedback. **PR #4797**

PERSONAL PROJECTS

cve-llm-pipeline · Personal MLOps Project · 2026

Personal MLOps learning project: designed a LoRA/RAG pipeline on CVE data with reproducible evaluation, train/validation/test isolation, and separation between source-backed facts and LLM-generated explanations.

CV / Portfolio Site

Astro, Cloudflare Workers, GitHub Actions, secret scanning, and dependency auditing.

CERTIFICATIONS & COMPETITIONS

- **CKA** · Certified Kubernetes Administrator · 2023
- **eJPT** · eLearnSecurity Junior Penetration Tester · 2026
- **AWS Cloud CTF (Capture the Flag)** · Ubisoft · 2023 · 9th / 117 participants

LANGUAGES

French · native

English · professional working proficiency

EDUCATION

Professional Bachelor's Degree in Computer Systems and Software · IUT de Bayonne · 2011-2012

Study Year in Computer Systems Management · Institute of Technology, Carlow, Ireland · 2010-2011

University Diploma of Technology (DUT) in Communication Services and Networks · 2008-2010