Peter Woods

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Summary

- Strategic and results-driven leader with 15+ years of experience driving operational excellence and leading high-performing technology teams
- Proven ability to shape organizational vision and deliver transformative outcomes through proven ability in DevOps, Cloud, and Agile Methodologies
- Demonstrated success in scaling operations, optimizing costs, and aligning technology strategy with business objectives to drive innovation and growth

Work Experience

Senior Platform Engineering Manager

NCS Pearson, Inc., Hoboken, NJ (08/2023 – Present)
Leads the development and management of scalable, reliable infrastructure and platform services to support product teams. Manages a platform team, sets technical direction, and drives best practices for automation, cloud technologies, and DevOps processes. Collaborates with cross-functional stakeholders to ensure platform performance, security, and scalability while mentoring engineers and fostering a culture of continuous improvement. Drive adoption of AI technology for efficiency improvements. Holds secondary role of Security Accountable Engineer providing security solutions.
Technologies: AWS EKS, AWS Postgres RDS, PgBouncer, SideKiq, Redis, ElasticSearch, Snowflake, Azure OpenAI, Jira, Confluence, ArgoCD, GitHub, LaunchDarkly, Microsoft Copilot, Security Scorecard, Qualys, AI, GitHub CoPilot, Microsoft Azure OpenAI, Microsoft O365 CoPilot
Key Accomplishments:
- Spearheaded the migration of the Credly Kubernetes migration from Heroku to AWS EKS
- Unified Credly observability strategy, consolidating tools from Splunk, Logly, and New Relic into a single DataDog platform, reducing tool sprawl and enhancing monitoring accuracy
- Drove security improvements to increase Security Scorecard score from B- to A for Credly platform

Assistant Vice President of DevOps Engineering

Credit One Bank, Las Vegas, NV (05/2022 – 07/2023)
Led a cross-functional team of DevOps engineers responsible for managing all Kubernetes container platforms. Directed automation initiatives for deployment, configuration, and release processes. Oversaw project management, including scheduling, budgeting, resource allocation, and risk mitigation. Provided strategic guidance and leadership to direct reports and stakeholders, ensuring alignment with organizational goals.
Technologies: RedHat OpenShift, AWS EKS, Google Anthos, Git, GitLab, Sonatype Nexus, Unleash, Dynatrace, Elastic Cloud Enterprise, Elastic Stack (ELK), Kafka, NGINX, Prometheus, Grafana, Postgres, Ansible, Hashicorp Vault, Hashicorp Terraform, VMWare ESX, RHEL, CoreOS, SolarWinds, Delinea Secret Server, Okta, Qualys, Prisma Cloud, KnotDNS
Key Accomplishments:
- Transformed DevOps delivery model by migrating from Kanban to Scrum methodologies, aligning DevOps operations with broader development sprints for improved collaboration and speed to market
- Drove innovation by implementing Elastic ECE for enterprise-level monitoring and Sonatype Nexus for secure code management, significantly improving application performance and security

Director of DevOps

DNSFilter, Washington, DC (03/2021 – 05/2022)

Took over day-to-day DevOps and platform responsibilities from the departing company founder, leading a cross-functional team to deploy and manage DNSFilter's global infrastructure across bare metal, AWS, GCP, and Azure environments. Oversaw infrastructure deployment, maintenance, and high-volume database operations handling 21 billion transactions daily, while ensuring reliability of DNS resolution services. Managed the DevOps budget and participated in on-call rotations for escalations and coverage as needed.

Technologies: AWS, GCP, Azure, Bare Metal Servers, Ubuntu, Postgres, Clickhouse, NGINX, Kafka, Redis, KeyDB, Python, Ruby, Golang, Docker, Dokku, Ansible, Git, Github, PagerDuty, NewRelic, Jira, Confluence, ServiceNow, DNS, KnotDNS, Auth0, Netlify, Vercel, Cloudflare, Sidekiq

Key Accomplishments:
- Increased DNS performance by over 95%, positioning DNSFilter as a performance leader in the industry
- Developed and implemented a comprehensive CI/CD and IAC strategy, reducing manual deployment time and increasing system resilience
- Expanded the team by 5 engineers, significantly increasing operational capacity to meet demand

Director of Engineering

I-View Now, Las Vegas, NV (06/2020 – 03/2021)

Led cross-functional teams (developers, DevOps, and SREs) to develop, deploy, and manage critical applications and infrastructure in a multi-cloud environment (AWS and GCP). Directed projects focused on signal processing, computer vision (CV), machine learning (ML), and artificial intelligence (AI). Provided strategic and tactical technical leadership while mentoring the engineering team in Agile and Scrum practices to enhance efficiency and release predictability. Collaborated with leadership to create resource plans and project timelines across multiple development initiatives. Contract role.

Technologies: AWS, GCP, Ubuntu, PHP, Python, React, MySQL, AWS RDS, RabbitMQ, Jira, Confluence, Git, BitBucket, PagerDuty, Jenkins, Ansible

Key Accomplishments:
- Led prototype integration of ADT image capture from Google Nest cameras
- Completed high-impact object detection project, leveraging AI and ML in a GCP-hosted environment to optimize core product offerings
- Grew engineering team by 400%, enhancing development efficiency and expanding innovation capabilities

Director of Cloud Engineering

Vigilant Technologies, Las Vegas, NV (04/2019 – 09/2019)

Provide contract MSP services to Barrick Gold and other clients. Support client Oracle EBS systems. Architect and implement cloud solutions for client Oracle EBS migrations. Provide expert level support and guidance for client IT systems.

Technologies: AWS, Azure, ESX, Oracle Linux, MS Windows, Oracle EBS, Oracle Cloud, Nagios, SaltStack (certified), Jenkins, Jira, ServiceNow, Nagios

Key Accomplishments:
- Oversaw the transition of Barrick Gold's IT team from internal to contract roles, maintaining operational stability while reducing costs

Manager of Digital Operations
Barrick Gold, Henderson, NV (03/2015 – 04/2019)
Led a cross-functional team of SREs, analysts, and consultants responsible for daily operations of critical infrastructure, applications, and globally distributed Oracle-related Linux and Windows servers. Planned and implemented architecture for Oracle EBS and mining application servers, optimizing efficiency and reducing costs across on-premises VMware ESX clusters, AWS, Azure, and Oracle Cloud environments. Enforced SOX compliance and supported quarterly audits, while developing CI/CD scripts in Python, Perl, and shell for monitoring and configuration. Served as ITIL process owner for event, problem, and change management, and provided infrastructure and security leadership for digital transformation projects.
Technologies: AWS, Azure, ESX, Oracle Linux, MS Windows, Oracle EBS, Jenkins, OpsGenie, Subversion, Git, GitLab, PHP, Python, Jira, ServiceNow, SaltStack (certified), AppDynamics, MySQL, Couchbase, MongoDB, PostgreSQL, Graylog, Nagios, Lieberman ERPM (certified, now BeyondTrust)
Key Accomplishments:
- Achieved a 30% cost reduction by implementing automated configuration management and centralized monitoring tools
- Managed and mentored newly formed Digital Operations team, which provided platform services for other development teams
- Acted as interim CISO as a secondary role, ensuring business continuity and security leadership during a critical transition period

Manager of Data Center Operations / Systems Administrator
Shutterfly, Inc., Las Vegas, NV (01/2014 – 03/2015)
Managed day-to-day operations of Shutterfly's colocation sites at the Switch data center, overseeing a newly formed data center team, including hiring, training, and maintaining staffing levels for critical service periods. Provided mentorship and guidance to staff, prioritizing and scheduling tasks for internal teams and contractors. Monitored Shutterfly's online services and data center infrastructure, ensuring timely escalation and resolution of service incidents. Led a team of UNIX administrators responsible for provisioning Linux and Windows servers, while supporting site operations, communication, and triage across all brands.
Technologies: MS Windows, Linux, KVM, Apache, Cassandra, Hadoop, Nagios, Graphite, Puppet
Key Accomplishments:
- Led a successful 6-month data center migration, installing and configuring over 4,000 devices while maintaining 24x7 uptime.

Assistant Director of Data Center Operations
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (08/2010 – 12/2013)
Directed operations for two network operations centers (university and hospital) and two data centers, overseeing the purchase, maintenance, and lifecycle of critical infrastructure, including facilities, power, UPS, HVAC, and fire suppression systems. Developed and enforced policies and procedures to ensure a highly available, efficient hosting environment, while meeting FERPA, HIPAA, ITAR, and university compliance standards. Managed data center inventory using OpenDCIM and led a team of data center and system administration staff, providing recruitment, mentorship, and guidance. Acted as Change Manager for Core Infrastructure and a liaison to the Enterprise Change Advisory Board, ensuring adherence to ITIL best practices. Successfully replaced wooden tile computer room flooring with concrete tiles, completing the project without unplanned downtime. Promoted from Computer Operations Manager.
Technologies: VMware ESX, MS Windows, RHEL, Apache, Oracle, MySQL, Cisco, F5, Perl, PHP, Python, Remedy ARS, OpenDCIM, DNS, BT DiamondIP
Key Accomplishments:
- Managed two NOC teams and one SRE team (18 direct reports) across 3 data center sites
- Managed large construction projects such as data center roof replacement and live floor replacement
- Promoted from System Administrator, Lead System Administrator, and Operations Manager

Certifications

See my Credly profile for a full list of certifications.
https://www.credly.com/users/peterwoods

AI, ML, and Data Science
- Artificial Intelligence Fundamentals (IBM SkillsBuild)
- Prompt Design in Vertex AI (Google Cloud)
- Data Fundamentals (IBM SkillsBuild)

Technology
- Migrate and Modernize with YugabyteDB Voyager (Yugabyte)
- YugabyteDB Anywhere Operations for Administrators (Yugabyte)
- YugabyteDB for Administrators Yugabyte)
- YugabyteDB Basics of Distributed SQL(Yugabyte)
- Migrate and Modernize with YugabyteDB Voyager (Yugabyte)
- SaltStack Certified Engineer (SSCE)
- Commvault Technical Sales Professional (CVTCP)
- RedHat Certified Engineer (RHCE) for RHEL4 and RHEL6
- RedHat System Monitoring and Performance Tuning
- VMware Certified Professional (VCP)
- Lieberman Enterprise Random Password Manager (ERPM)

IT Management
- Professional Scrum Master I Scrum.org (PSM I)
- Licensed Scrum Master Scrum Inc. (LSM))
- Licensed Scrum Product Owner Scrum Inc. (LSPO)
- Introduction to FinOps (FinOps Foundations)
- Project Management Fundamentals (IBM SkillsBuild)
- ITIL Foundation Certification v2 and v3