

Paul Hale

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Profile

I have over 30 years professional IT experience beginning my career as a computer engineer working for SD-Scicon in 1988. I began programming computers on my dad's Sinclair ZX81 back in 1981 when I became mesmerised by computers. I'm truly passionate about software development and IT. I'm looking to work in friendly environments where I can add value and share knowledge whilst continuing along a career path of continuous learning.

Over the years I have accumulated a wealth of technical experience but have never stood still. I'm a polyglot programmer who enjoys learning new languages and implementing them where best appropriate. Ideally, I would like to work within and help build a modern, agile development environment incorporating fully automated DevOps driven projects. I especially like architecting and building orchestrated containerised microservices using Golang, gRPC, Message Queues, Docker, Kubernetes and / or Azure Service Fabric with CI/CD pipelines publishing to production cloud environments. I work well collaboratively and set realistic expectations and delivery goals.

DevOps Engineer Experience

As a DevOps engineer, I enjoy building automated software delivery pipelines. I have built custom pipelines using Tmux, Bash scripting, Node, TypeScript and JavaScript as well as using more conventional DevOps tools such as Jenkins and Azure DevOps:

- Building custom CI/CD Pipelines for automated build, test, deployment and integration
- Jenkins declarative Pipelines with Groovy and bash shell scripting
- Azure DevOps and Arm templates
- SCM using Git, GitHub, Git hooks
- System Administration and Configuration Management with Ansible
- Continuous Integration, testing, and delivery
- Infrastructure as Code (IaC) with Terraform
- Docker and containers
- Microservice orchestration with Kubernetes and Azure Service Fabric
- Vagrant provisioning of development and test environments
- Implementing monitoring and alerting within a cloud environment
- Notification integration using Microsoft Teams, Slack and Azure DevOps hooks and APIs
- Linux fundamentals and excellent bash scripting skills
- Comfortable working in Linux, MacOS or Windows environments with Windows Subsystem for Linux

Full Stack Development Experience

As a developer I have been writing code for over 30 years and have used many languages, libraries, frameworks and technology stacks.

I am an advocate of Software Craftmanship best practices and continuously strive at keeping code bases clean, DRY and free from technical debt:

- I call upon and implement tried and tested design patterns where possible
- General programming experience with Golang, Rust, C#, TypeScript, JavaScript, Swift and Python. I especially enjoy designing and developing microservice architectures.
- Architecting microservices using Event Storming and Miro
- Domain-Driven Design (DDD) and Command Query Responsibility Segregation (CQRS)
- Microservices development using Golang, Rust, TypeScript, JavaScript, C#, .NET Core and Node
- Event driven microservices with message queues (RabbitMQ and ZeroMQ)
- gRPC, Protobuffers 3 with Golang and C#
- Cloud native modern web 12-factor app development
- Web Components and Polymer Elements
- Progressive Web App development (PWAs)
- Rust and WebAssembly development (Yew framework)
- AMP website and AMP web story development
- TDD and BDD
- MS SQL, MySQL and NoSQL (MongoDB) and Redis
- Azure Serverless Function and Logic App Development
- Next.js and React.js
- .NET Core, MVC and C# dynamic web sites

Cloud Experience

As an Azure Cloud Solution Architect, I have:

- Performed deep systems analysis for aligning cloud strategy with business strategy
- Assessed cloud migration requirements and presented options for Azure IaaS, PaaS and SaaS solutions plus implementation
- Collated and authored high quality technical design documentation
- Migrated workloads from on premises environments to Azure using official 'Azure Migrate' tooling
- Migrated many on premises Virtual Machines into Azure IaaS VM's
- Migrated several on premises SQL databases into Azure SQL using Microsoft's 'Data Migration Assistant' tooling
- Migrated DNS Zone records into Azure AnyCast DNS
- Migrated static, ASP.NET and WordPress websites into Azure PaaS hosting
- Gained automation experience using Azure CLI and Arm templates
- Modified backend code to be Azure storage compatible
- Successful cloud migrations for almost 100 projects

Cloud Security Experience

As an Azure Cloud Security Engineer, I have:

- Configured Azure host-level, data plane and storage account security
- Configured and managed Azure Network Security Groups (NSGs)
- Configured and managed Azure Resource Manager policies
- Configured and managed Azure Roll-Based Access Control (RBAC)
- Configured Azure Security Center and security alerts
- Complied with cyber security governance, risk, and compliance mandates

Recent Contracts and Freelance Work

Full Stack DevOps Engineer

Domainscanners: Milton Keynes, 2005 - Date

I incorporated Domainscanners as a small hosting company that I also use to complete freelance projects and contract assignments. Originally, I single-handedly provisioned and managed all co-located servers. I migrated all server workloads into the Cloud in 2018; first into Azure based VM's (IaaS), then later I split the workloads into Azure / GCP PaaS and SaaS environments freeing me from VM maintenance.

My experience gained since 2005 is noted earlier under relevant experience subheadings but notable achievements whilst working directly under Domainscanners umbrella are...

- ✓ Became an Automation SME using Jenkins and Azure DevOps CI/CD Pipelines
- ✓ Extended existing system provision and management experience
- ✓ Learnt to break monolithic systems into de-coupled microservices architectures
- ✓ Architected and implemented Domainscanners multi-cloud (Azure / GCP) hosting platform
- ✓ Successful cloud migrations for almost 100 projects
- ✓ Managed cloud and cloud security solutions
- ✓ Development of custom back office apps and cloud integration
- ✓ Office 365, Teams, Dynamics 365 provision, management and app development
- ✓ AMP website / story development

Through Domainscanners I have also worked on several freelance and contract assignments, most recently:

SymStor

Twyford, January 2017 - February 2020 (Contract)

Provided cloud consultancy, expertise and guidance on Azure options, DevOps implementation strategy, automation and security. Automated Dynamics 365 CRM data entry via web forms and Azure serverless function and Logic apps.

Supersize Print

Wooburn Green / Remote, January 2016 - December 2017 (Freelance)

Migrated customers co-located servers into Azure. First stage involved migrating the servers into Azure IAAS Virtual Machines with zero downtime. Stage two migrated the VM's into Azure PaaS and re-writing backend code using C# to interact with Azure blob storage. Migrated legacy Access CRM to Dynamics 365 and customised to client's requirements.

Aldermore Bank

London / Reading / Peterborough, March 2015 - October 2015 (Contract)

Development of high performant microservices written in Rust and orchestrated using Azure Service Fabric. This was a feasibility project designed for benchmarking heavy load transactions. Data was surfaced using a LightSwitch App.

Work Experience before 2005

Full Stack Lead Developer

Safenames: Milton Keynes, 2002 - 2005 (Partner / Lead Developer / Freelance)

Delivered a web based international domain name registration portal used to consolidate international domains. Development work was focused mainly on the backend consuming various 3rd party APIs.

Stack: ASP.NET, C#, MVC, SQL, Dynamics 365

Mobile Developer

Vodafone: London, 2000 - 2002 (Contract)

Worked on Vodafone's mobile WAP portal that delivered sports and news articles to mobile devices over Vodafone's network.

Stack: WAP, WML, Java, JSP

Mobile Developer

KPNQwest: The Hague, Holland, 1999 - 2000 (Contract)

Worked on surfacing contact, calendar and email to Nokia 7110 phones over WAP. This might seem a little silly now, but you should have seen all the managers faces as they walked around accessing their calendar and email for the first time on their mobile phones back in 2000.

Stack: WAP, WML, ASP, C# / VB

Developer / Technical Author

BP Oil: London, 1998 - 1999 (Contract)

Developed a common desktop operating environment app to simplify and speed up deployment and documented server and desktop rollout best practises.

Stack: Visual Basic

Developer

Mercedes Benz: Milton Keynes, 1997 - 1998 (Contract)

Worked on an in-house centralised print storage / management system that was accessible to all Mercedes Benz dealers located around the World.

Developer

Deutsche Morgan Grenfell: London, 1996 - 1997 (Contract)

Worked within the banks TAG (Technical Architect Team). Worked on some early intranet and Lotus Notes back office apps.

PC, Server, Network Engineer, Developer

SD-Scicon / EDS: UK / Europe, 1988 - 1996 (Full Time / Contract)

Started at SD-Scicon as a trainee PC engineer later providing 2nd and 3rd line support. I was also responsible for the engineering divisions client databases. This was way back in the days of dBase and Clipper. Once acquired by EDS, I performed server and LAN installations throughout the UK and Europe for a number of EDS's high-profile clients including General Motors, ATKearney and Rolls-Royce.

Organisations I have worked for

Aldermore Bank, Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, EDS, A.T.Kearny, Rolls-Royce, BT, General Motors, HMRC, Hitachi Data Systems, Open University, TNT, Computacenter, Fujitsu, TNT, Royal & Sun Alliance, Mercedes Benz, BP Oil, KPNQwest

Security Clearance

I would need sponsorship to attain Active SC Clearance but would not envisage any problems what-so-ever attaining it.

Home Office and Remote Working Environment

I have been working from my home office / converted garage since 2005. My working environment offers the following:

- Quiet and comfortable working environment separated from my home where I can fully concentrate on my work without distractions
- 2019 MacBook Pro, Intel i9, 2.4 GHz, 8-Core, 64Gig, 2TB, MacOS
- Custom built development PC, Intel i7-8086K Limited Edition, 5GHz, 6-Core, 64Gig, 4TB NVMe, triple boots to Fedora, Kali and Windows 10 Pro
- Mac Pro Mid 2010, Intel Xeon, 3.33GHz, 6-Core, 32Gig, 3TB, Ubuntu
- Synology NAS DS1513+, 20TB
- Gigabit Fibre Broadband - Avg. speed 900Mbps up/down
- Microsoft Action Pack subscriber with Teams VOIP integration, SharePoint, Azure etc
- Familiar with most remote working tools
- Based in Newport Pagnell, just outside Milton Keynes. Convenient for travel to London, Cambridge and Birmingham

Experience Summary

- Strong DevOps skills
- Strong Automation skills
- Strong CI/CD skills
- Strong Docker and containerisation experience
- Strong Domain-Driven Design experience
- Strong Microservices development skills
- Strong Kubernetes and Azure Service Fabric experience
- Strong gRPC and Protobuf skills
- Strong Event-Driven Message Queue experience
- Strong Event Storming experience
- Strong Golang development
- Strong C#, .NET Core and .NET Framework skills
- Strong Bash scripting and Python skills
- Strong Full Stack Front End / Back End Development skills
- Strong TypeScript experience
- Strong Node.js experience
- Strong JavaScript experience
- Strong AMP skills
- Strong Dynamics 365 CRM Implementation and development experience
- Strong Azure Function App and Logic App integration experience
- Strong Cloud experience with Azure and Google GCP
- Strong Cloud Migration experience
- Strong Cloud Security experience
- Strong Cloud Management experience