

Oleksandr Nadtoka

Senior DevOps Engineer

 Ukraine, Kyiv |  alex.nadtoka@gmail.com |  linkedin.com/in/alexnadtoka

Summary

DevOps Engineer with 15+ years of hands-on experience in system administration, automation, and cloud infrastructure. Proficient in architecting, deploying, and maintaining highly available environments across AWS, Google Cloud, and Open Telekom Cloud. Strong focus on Infrastructure as Code, container orchestration, CI/CD pipelines, and observability stacks. Known for reliability, precision, and delivering efficient, scalable solutions in demanding production environments.

Core Skills

Cloud Platforms: AWS, GCP, OpenTelekomCloud (OpenStack), DigitalOcean, Linode, OVH.

DevOps & Automation: Terraform, Chef Kitchen, Packer, GitLab CI/CD, Github Actions.

Kubernetes & Containers: CCE (Open Telekom Cloud), Docker, self-hosted managed Kubernetes.

Monitoring & Logging: Prometheus, Grafana, Loki, Alertmanager, New Relic, Nagios.

Security & Networking: pfSense, VPN/IPsec, SSL, SSH, IAM, Vault, Security Groups.

System Administration: Linux (Ubuntu, CentOS, AlmaLinux), Windows Server.

Backup & Recovery: Proxmox Backup Server, AWS S3, Restic, RDS replication, CBR (OTC).

Version Control & Collaboration: GitLab, GitHub, Jira, Confluence, Slack, Discord.

Virtualization & Datacenter Ops: Proxmox/KVM, VMware ESXi, Supermicro bare-metal (IPMI, RAID, BIOS, configuration and maintenance).

AI & LLM: Local LLM inference (CPU-based), LM Studio (Hybrid mode CPU/GPU), agent workflows; models: Llama 3.1 8B, Qwen 2.5 7B, Mistral 7B, DeepSeek-R1 8B, GPT-OSS 20B.

Professional Experience

LexUnder Inc. (Food To Live) — Lead DevOps Engineer

June 2025 – Present | New York, USA (Remote)

Industry: E-commerce / Retail (Food Distribution)

At Food To Live, a large-scale online food retailer and wholesaler, I manage DevOps operations and infrastructure automation across both cloud and on-premise environments. My work focuses on building scalable systems for continuous delivery, implementing hybrid datacenter-cloud architecture, and ensuring high reliability and cost efficiency for production workloads.

- Designed, deployed, and maintained cloud infrastructure on Amazon Web Services (AWS) (EC2, S3, VPC, IAM).
- Selected and deployed enterprise hardware (Supermicro server, HDD/SSD/NVMe storage) for office datacenter.
- Built and managed on-premises infrastructure using Proxmox VE and Proxmox Backup Server for virtualization, high availability, and disaster recovery.
- Migrated and optimized ActiveCollab (self-hosted project management system) into Kubernetes, including setup of PHP-FPM, MySQL, and Elasticsearch.
- Implemented CI/CD pipelines for automated deployments, monitoring, and secure SSH-based delivery.
- Configured monitoring and logging solutions to ensure reliability and visibility of services.
- Responsible for infrastructure security, backup strategies, and incident response.

Key Technologies: AWS (EC2, S3, IAM, VPC), Terraform, Proxmox VE, Kubernetes, Docker, Grafana, Prometheus, GitLab CI/CD, Github Actions.

Clinomic — Senior DevOps Engineer

October 2021 – May 2025 | Aachen, Germany (Hybrid)

Industry: Healthcare

At Clinomic, I was responsible for end-to-end DevOps infrastructure management across development, testing, and production environments. My focus was on automating provisioning, deployment, and monitoring processes to ensure reliability, scalability, and efficiency of mission-critical healthcare applications.

Key Responsibilities:

- Designed and managed CI/CD pipelines across development, testing, and release stages using GitLab CI/CD and GitHub Actions, improving delivery consistency.
- Automated full infrastructure lifecycle through Jira ↔ GitLab ↔ Terraform ↔ Chef integration — enabling provisioning, configuration, and app deployment directly from issue tracking workflows.
- Maintained and optimized Open Telekom Cloud (OpenStack) infrastructure, including ECS, VPC, Elastic IPs, DNS, NAT Gateway, ELB, Image Management, OBS, CCE, Tag Management, and Cloud Backup/Recovery.
- Configured IAM policies for administrative access control and resource governance.
- Implemented and maintained monitoring and logging stacks with Grafana, Prometheus, Loki, and Alertmanager, ensuring full observability across cloud and on-prem systems.
- Built and customized VM images with Packer, published to VMware and OTC for automated deployments.
- Deployed and managed Docker containers using scripts and Docker Compose for service-level environments.
- Configured and managed pfSense (VPN, IPsec, firewall rules, HAProxy load balancing, SSL certificates, Snort IDS).
- Implemented Vault by HashiCorp for secrets management, SSH key signing, and LDAP integration for unified access control.

- Deployed and maintained LDAP and user management systems integrated with Vault, XRDP, SSH, and OpenVPN.
- Managed a dedicated GPG server (Hagrid powered by Sequoia-PGP) for encrypted internal communications.
- Supported CI/CD infrastructure by configuring and troubleshooting GitLab Runners to ensure high availability and performance.
- Used Open Telekom Cloud monitoring tools (LTS, Cloud Trace Service, AOM, Config) to ensure uptime, traceability, and compliance.

Key Achievements:

- Reduced infrastructure provisioning time by 70 % through full automation using Terraform and Chef workflows.
- Unified monitoring and alerting across multiple environments, improving incident detection and resolution times.
- Designed reusable CI/CD pipeline templates, simplifying deployment for multiple development teams.
- Reduced overall cloud infrastructure costs by 30–40 % by implementing automated environment provisioning via Jira ↔ GitLab workflows and optimizing resource plans for non-production environments.

Key Technologies: Open Telekom Cloud (OpenStack), Terraform, Chef Kitchen, GitLab CI/CD, Grafana, Prometheus, Loki, Alertmanager, pfSense, Vault, LDAP, Docker, Packer, VMware, Proxmox, Ubuntu, AlmaLinux, Sequoia-PGP (Hagrid).

Upwork — DevOps Engineer / System Administrator

November 2014 – October 2021 | Ukraine (Remote)

Industry: Freelance / IT Services & Cloud Infrastructure

As a freelance DevOps engineer, I successfully completed over **120 projects** and logged more than **8,000 hours** of billable time on Upwork (not including fixed-price contracts).

Maintained a **5★ rating** and **100% Job Success** score, consistently delivering secure, performant, and automated cloud infrastructures for clients worldwide across diverse platforms.

Key Responsibilities and Achievements:

- Managed and delivered various System administration and DevOps projects across AWS, Google Cloud, Azure, DigitalOcean, Linode, OVH, and Heroku.
- Optimized and tuned MySQL, MariaDB, and Percona databases for performance, replication, and high availability.
- Configured and maintained web servers including Nginx, Apache, Lighttpd, and Varnish, achieving notable performance gains.
- Secured servers with firewall (CSF/LFD), SSH/SFTP hardening, kernel-level tuning, and malware detection tools (maldet, rkhunter).
- Implemented SSL/TLS and automated certificate renewal with Let's Encrypt / Certbot.

- Performed server migrations, including cross-platform database and full web environment transfers.
- Developed custom backup solutions with MySQL replication, cron-based scripts, and cloud storage (AWS S3, Google Drive, rsync).
- Designed and deployed high-availability (HA) clusters with load balancing and replicated database backends.
- Implemented and managed monitoring systems using New Relic, Sumo Logic, and Nagios to ensure uptime and performance visibility.
- Automated deployments and CI/CD workflows using GitLab, Bitbucket, Heroku, Ansible, and Vagrant, significantly reducing manual overhead.
- Set up and maintained team collaboration tools including Google Workspace, Jira, Confluence, Bitbucket, Slack, and Rippling SAML SSO integration.

Key Technologies:

AWS, GCP, Azure, DigitalOcean, Linode, OVH, Heroku, Terraform, Ansible, Nginx, Apache, MySQL, MariaDB, Percona, GitLab CI/CD, Bitbucket, New Relic, Nagios, CSF/LFD, Varnish, Docker, SSL/TLS, Bash scripting.

EuroVPS — Linux/Windows System Administrator & Operations Engineer

November 2011 – October 2014 | Athens, Greece (Remote)

Industry: Web Hosting & Managed Services

At EuroVPS, a European hosting and infrastructure provider, I worked as part of the operations team responsible for maintaining and optimizing Linux and Windows-based hosting environments.

This role became a foundation for my DevOps career — combining system administration, performance optimization, automation, and infrastructure reliability practices.

Key Responsibilities:

- Managed and resolved complex technical support cases for high-profile hosting clients, ensuring SLA compliance and minimal downtime.
- Performed daily system and network administration across Linux (RedHat/CentOS, Debian/Ubuntu, FreeBSD) and Windows Server platforms.
- Administered hosting control panels (Plesk, WHM/cPanel) and billing systems (HostBill, WHMCS) for shared and VPS environments.
- Managed virtualization infrastructure with Virtuozzo, VMware, OnApp, Xen, and Apache CloudStack, supporting both internal and client workloads.
- Implemented and maintained monitoring solutions using Nagios, Observium, and RackTables, improving system observability and uptime.
- Secured servers through Iptables, CSF, APF, Fail2Ban, and performed regular Linux hardening and SSL configuration.
- Provided database administration support for MySQL/MariaDB and Microsoft SQL Server.

- Collaborated with the development and network teams to automate routine maintenance and optimize performance for high-traffic web applications.

Key Achievements:

- Improved system uptime and response time through proactive monitoring and process automation.
- Contributed to early DevOps-style operational practices, helping the company transition from traditional sysadmin workflows to more agile infrastructure management.
- Supported several high-traffic websites and enterprise clients, building strong expertise in production reliability and scalability.

Key Technologies:

Linux (CentOS, Debian, Ubuntu), Windows Server, VMware, Virtuozzo, OnApp, Apache CloudStack, Nagios, Observium, RackTables, Nginx, PHP-FPM, LiteSpeed, Apache, MySQL/MariaDB, SQL Server, iptables, CSF, Fail2Ban, SSL/TLS, Plesk, WHM/cPanel, HostBill, WHMCS.

DCoM Soft, Inc. — Internet Marketing Specialist / SEO / Web Analyst

January 2010 – November 2011 | Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine (On-site)

Industry: Software Development

At DCoM Soft, a software development company, I led online marketing and SEO initiatives aimed at increasing product visibility and brand awareness across key markets.

Within a year, I achieved top Google rankings (Top-10) for over 50% of the company's targeted keywords, significantly strengthening brand recognition and organic traffic.

Key Responsibilities:

- Developed and executed comprehensive digital marketing and SEO strategies for the company's web-based products.
- Planned website information architecture and optimized on-page structure for usability and search visibility.
- Conducted keyword research, competitor analysis, and continuous SEO audits to improve search performance.
- Created and optimized SEO-driven website content, landing pages, and promotional materials.
- Managed paid advertising campaigns (Google Ads, display networks), optimizing ROI through A/B testing and analytics.
- Built and managed social media presence on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn, driving engagement and referral traffic.
- Collaborated with design and development teams to implement analytics tracking and performance optimization.
- Researched and negotiated strategic online partnerships to expand brand reach and improve traffic sources.

Key Achievements:

- Achieved Top-10 Google search rankings for over half of targeted keywords, substantially increasing organic traffic.
- Successfully positioned the company's brand within its niche market, improving awareness and credibility.
- Implemented analytics-based decision making across marketing operations using Google Analytics and Webmaster Tools.

Key Technologies: Google Analytics, Google Ads, AdSense, Webmaster Tools, SEOmoz, Ahrefs, SEMrush, Google Merchant, WordPress, HTML/CSS, Facebook Ads Manager, Twitter Ads, Press Release Distribution Platforms.

Ecommerce, Inc. — Customer Relations Representative / Advanced Technical Agent

May 2006 – October 2009 | Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine (On-site)

Industry: Web Hosting & Internet Services

At Ecommerce, Inc., a major U.S.-based web hosting provider, I worked in the customer support and technical operations department, helping thousands of clients maintain reliable online presence.

This role became my professional foundation — combining communication, troubleshooting, and system administration basics, and teaching me how to perform effectively under pressure in a fast-paced, 24/7 support environment.

Key Responsibilities:

- Delivered Tier 1–2 technical, sales, and billing support for shared hosting customers via live chat, helpdesk and email.
- Diagnosed and resolved website, DNS, and email service issues, escalating complex cases to system administrators when required.
- Assisted customers in configuring hosting services, uploading websites, and optimizing site performance.
- Performed routine server diagnostics and service monitoring using internal tools.
- Collaborated within a distributed team to maintain high customer satisfaction and SLA compliance.
- Created and maintained knowledge base articles to improve support efficiency and consistency.

Key Achievements:

- Gained hands-on experience with both Linux and Windows hosting environments, forming the technical base for future SysAdmin and DevOps roles.
- Developed strong teamwork and communication skills through collaboration with international colleagues.

- Demonstrated reliability and stress resilience while maintaining top performance in a high-volume technical support environment.

Key Technologies:

Linux/Unix, Windows Server 2000/2003, Apache, BIND, Sendmail, ProFTP, MySQL, MSSQL, SQUID/SOCKS, Samba, H-Sphere Control Panel (v2.3–3), PHP, Perl/CGI, HTML, JavaScript, ColdFusion, ASP/.NET, C++, Networking Protocols (HTTP, HTTPS, SMTP, POP, IMAP, FTP, TCP/UDP).

Key Projects

Automated OTC Server Deployment via Jira–GitLab CI/CD Integration

Implemented Jira–GitLab CI/CD integration for automated OTC server provisioning. Jira tickets triggered Terraform for infrastructure setup and Chef/Kitchen for configuration. Each status change (DEFINE → PROVISIONED or DESTROY → DESTROYED) controlled infrastructure lifecycle. All parameters—backend/frontend versions, IPs, and tags—were dynamically applied.

Deployed Self-Hosted ActiveCollab on Kubernetes

Deployed self-hosted ActiveCollab inside a Kubernetes cluster with MySQL, Elasticsearch, PHP-FPM, and NGINX. Configured persistent storage, health checks, and CI/CD deployment pipelines ensuring production-grade scalability and maintainability.

Proxmox VE Setup on Office Server for Virtualization

Deployed Proxmox VE on a high-performance server to enable isolated virtualized environments for development and testing. Configured storage pools, VLANs, and permissions for multi-team use, improving scalability and system resilience.

Local AI / LLM Lab Deployment (Private Bare-Metal Office Server + Windows Mini PC)

Deployed and configured a private local AI environment for internal experimentation and DevOps automation. Set up an Ubuntu 24.04 VM on a private bare-metal office server to run CPU-based LLM inference and agent workflows. Additionally deployed LM Studio on a Windows 11 mini PC with hybrid CPU/GPU offload for faster inference and testing. Evaluated and operated multiple open-source models, including Llama 3.1 8B, Qwen 2.5 7B, Mistral 7B, DeepSeek-R1 8B, and GPT-OSS 20B.

US Office Server Research & Selection (Budget under \$1000)

Researched and assembled a cost-effective enterprise-grade office server using Supermicro hardware with dual Xeon CPUs and ECC RAM. Optimized for Proxmox, VMware, Kubernetes, and local storage, ensuring long-term reliability within a tight budget.

ElasticSearch Setup and Configuration

Configured and deployed a dedicated ElasticSearch instance on a Proxmox-based VM as part of the ActiveCollab integration. Optimized indexing performance and connectivity with PHP-FPM and MySQL application stack.

On-Premise Monitoring Infrastructure (Prometheus, Grafana, Alertmanager)

Developed an on-premise monitoring architecture using Prometheus, Grafana, and Alertmanager across five servers (load balancer, DB, core, enovacom, maintenance). Automated setup via Terraform and Chef Kitchen, with dashboards pre-provisioned for Node Exporter, Docker (cAdvisor), and PostgreSQL metrics. Ensured alerting integration with DevOps mailboxes and provided local visualization with Grafana for isolated networks.

pfSense Infrastructure Gateway & Security Layer

Designed and deployed pfSense-based gateway for secure cloud and on-premise access. Configured six VPN endpoints and two IPsec tunnels to interconnect environments. Implemented HAProxy-based routing for internal services, traffic inspection via SNORT IDS, and centralized monitoring for bandwidth and connection integrity.

Education

Zaporizhzhia National Technical University

Master's Degree in Computer Engineering & System Network Administration (2004 – 2009)

Zaporizhzhia National Technical University

Bachelor's Degree in Finances (2005 – 2010)

Certifications

British Council English Test & Certificate (CEFR B2)

cPanel & WHM Administrator Certification