



JOHN THOMPSON

CLOUD ENGINEER

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SUMMARY

Cloud and platform engineer focused on GitOps delivery and platform automation. I design and operate Argo CD-driven Kubernetes platforms with Kargo progressive delivery and Kyverno policy-as-code, provision everything through Terraform, and build agentic AI infrastructure that automates platform operations. Seeking a senior platform / cloud engineering role where deep GitOps and automation expertise drives reliability and velocity.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Cloud / Platform Engineer | Tensure Consulting 2021 - Present

Progressed Jr. DevOps → Associate → Mid-Level Cloud Engineer

- **Operate an Argo CD GitOps control plane** for a production GKE cluster: ApplicationSets + app-of-apps managing 30+ addons with automated sync and self-heal; adapted the open-source GitOps-bridge pattern from AWS/EKS to GKE.
- **Automated progressive delivery with Kargo** (Warehouse → Stage → Promotion pipelines), continuously updating platform components and applications from Git.
- **Authored policy-as-code with Kyverno** (validation, mutation, and generation): security baselines, injected security contexts, and auto-generated LimitRange + NetworkPolicy per namespace.
- **Built and maintain Terraform IaC on GCP**: 20+ project stacks and an enterprise Secure Landing Zone (Shared VPC, Cloud NAT, Cloud Armor, CIS org policies) with keyless Workload Identity Federation CI/CD.
- **Drive IaC CI/CD with GitHub Actions and Google Cloud Build**: path-based Terraform plan/apply, keyless Workload Identity Federation, and native `.tf test.hcl` test suites across 20+ stacks.
- **Codified GCP security guardrails**: CIS Foundation Benchmark org policies in Terraform, Security Command Center, and nightly automated posture scans.
- **Enabled self-service infrastructure with Crossplane**, letting developers request cloud resources through the Kubernetes API.
- **Built agentic AI infrastructure**: Model Context Protocol (MCP) servers exposing Kubernetes / Argo CD, GitHub, and Slack operations as LLM-callable tools, plus a Claude-driven daily platform-audit pipeline.

In progress (independent R&D): building in-cluster agentic operators: LLM-driven Kubernetes controllers for log monitoring, error mediation, and automated self-healing.

Additional experience examples available on request.

CERTIFICATIONS & SKILLSETS

- Argo CD (GitOps)
- Kyverno
- Crossplane
- Kubernetes (GKE / K3s)
- Keycloak (OIDC)
- Agentic AI / MCP
- Python
- Kargo
- Terraform
- Helm
- GitHub Actions
- Secret Manager / ESO
- GCP & AWS
- Linux

ABOUT ME

Cloud engineer with 5+ years building and operating production cloud platforms on GCP and AWS. I specialize in GitOps delivery with Argo CD, Kargo, and Kyverno, Terraform infrastructure-as-code, and agentic AI infrastructure. Alongside my consulting work I run a self-built, production-grade private cloud serving live applications. My background spans two decades of high-reliability technical work, from USAF nuclear-missile systems to live-event engineering, before self-teaching into cloud. I'm driven by hard problems, clean automation, and systems that run themselves.

REFERENCES

Joe Kerstonoff
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