

Tony Zaarour

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Professional Summary

Cloud Platform Architect / Senior Platform Engineer focused on AWS governance, modernisation, automation, and cost control. I am strongest in regulated or operationally messy environments where the platform needs clearer guardrails, cleaner operating boundaries, and practical engineering decisions rather than more theory.

Selected Impact

- Improved governance and compliance execution across a regulated multi-account AWS estate through guardrails, reporting, and control redesign.
- Delivered material annual AWS savings through commitment optimisation, workload modernisation, and tighter lifecycle control.
- Re-architected resource-heavy workloads into event-driven ECS task patterns to improve isolation, scaling behaviour, and operational support.
- Reduced critical website dropouts for Australian Museum from roughly 20 per day to zero through performance and architecture changes.

Core Strengths

- AWS platform architecture and multi-account governance
- Compliance, audit readiness, and platform guardrails
- Infrastructure as code and automation engineering
- Event-driven workload modernisation
- Cost optimisation and operational efficiency
- CI/CD, observability, and platform tooling

Technology

Cloud	AWS, AWS Organizations, Control Tower, IAM Identity Center / SSO
Infrastructure as Code	Terraform, AWS CDK, CloudFormation
Containers and Compute	ECS, Fargate, Lambda, Step Functions, EC2, SSM, Docker
CI/CD and Automation	GitLab CI, GitHub Actions, AWS CodePipeline, Python, Bash, JavaScript, TypeScript
Security and Observability	Security Hub, AWS Config, GuardDuty, Inspector, CloudWatch, Dynatrace, Sumo Logic, Cloudflare, AWS WAF, Vanta
Platform Tooling	Redis, OpenSearch, Nagios, ELK, Jenkins, Nexus, SVN

Professional Experience

Squiz | Senior DevOps Engineer

May 2024 – Present

- Own the internal AWS platform across a complex multi-account environment supporting shared and client-facing workloads.
 - Lead platform work across governance, compliance, workload modernisation, and day-to-day cloud operations.
 - Built biweekly reporting and alerting workflows that improved audit readiness and gave teams a clearer remediation path.
 - Reworked governance controls and guardrails to improve compliance execution without creating delivery drag.
 - Moved heavy crawler workloads into event-driven ECS standalone tasks to improve isolation, scaling, and maintainability.
 - Reduced reliance on oversized always-on compute by modernising crawler, distributor, and gatherer workloads.
 - Designed an automated AMI lifecycle for ECS worker infrastructure to standardise image creation and rollout.
 - Managed commitment optimisation work that delivered material annual savings while maintaining strong utilisation.
 - Led the AWS side of migration from data centre to AWS, including documentation, training, and handover.
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Versent | DevOps Engineer

Mar 2021 – Apr 2024

- Delivered cloud infrastructure, automation, and operational improvements for enterprise clients with a strong focus on reliability and maintainability.
 - Built reusable deployment tooling, reporting modules, alarm automation, and monitoring capabilities that reduced manual effort.
 - Contributed to a containerised DevOps toolbox that let engineers work safely across multiple client estates.
 - Built an API canary capability to monitor private HTTPS endpoints inside a VPC before customer-facing impact.
 - Designed and implemented a serverless anti-virus solution using Trend Cloud One for a state-level registry and land services provider.
 - Led migration from legacy email infrastructure to AWS SES with stronger security and operational controls.
 - Reduced website dropouts for Australian Museum from roughly 20 per day to zero through targeted performance and architecture changes.
 - Tuned OpenSearch and Redis workloads to improve responsiveness, stability, and operational support.
 - Built CI/CD pipelines using GitHub Actions and ECS runners with OIDC-based short-lived AWS access.
 - Delivered client training, handover documentation, and transition support for new systems and operating practices.
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AXE Group | Junior DevSecOps Engineer

Jan 2020 – Feb 2021

- Automated application deployments, Linux configuration, and security-related operational tasks.
 - Maintained Ansible playbooks and deployment workflows for Linux-based platforms.
 - Built Shell, Bash, and PowerShell tooling for environment management and deployment support.
 - Improved monitoring through development and maintenance of Nagios plugins.
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OpenMRS | Junior DevOps Engineer

Apr 2019 – Feb 2020

- Supported infrastructure and platform operations for the OpenMRS open-source community.
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Education

Bachelor's Degree in Architecture, Damascus University | 2009 – 2014