

Alexander Zagaynov

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Senior Software Engineer | Legacy Modernization | DevOps & Cloud Expert

Senior hands-on software engineer with 25+ years of experience modernizing production systems across enterprise, fintech, cloud, and infrastructure environments. Strong focus on legacy transformation, system reliability, CI/CD, security hardening, and pragmatic architecture. Comfortable diagnosing unfamiliar codebases, reducing technical debt, and stabilizing business-critical systems without unnecessary rewrites.

Core Expertise

Languages: Ruby, Python, Java, Kotlin, JavaScript, TypeScript, SQL, Bash

Frameworks: Ruby on Rails, Spring Boot, Vue.js

Cloud & DevOps: Azure, AWS, GCP, Kubernetes, Docker, Terraform, Ansible, Azure DevOps, Jenkins, GitHub Actions

Data & Messaging: PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, Redis, Kafka, RabbitMQ, REST, GraphQL, SOAP/WSDL

Security & Quality: Microsoft Entra ID, TLS/PKI, internal CA, WAF, SonarQube, Veracode

Specialties: legacy modernization, production troubleshooting, CI/CD, reliability, cloud integrations, dependency upgrades

Certifications

- Microsoft Certified: DevOps Engineer Expert
- Microsoft Certified: Azure Administrator Associate
- Microsoft Certified: Azure AI Fundamentals
- AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate
- Red Hat Certified Engineer
- Red Hat Certified System Administrator
- Red Hat Certified Specialist in Ansible Automation

Professional Experience

Lead Software Engineer - AT&T - Oct 2023 - Present

- Hands-on modernization and support of 2 large enterprise applications built with Java/Kotlin, Spring Boot, Vue.js, and TypeScript, plus supporting internal services.
- Migrated major applications from Spring Boot 2 to Spring Boot 4 and from Vue 2 to Vue 3, reducing technical debt and improving long-term maintainability.
- Modernized 3 Python legacy services on the current platform, focusing on maintainability, dependency cleanup, build stability, and operational readiness.
- Integrated Microsoft Entra ID for centralized authentication and improved access management.
- Strengthened security through TLS/PKI improvements, internal CA usage, WAF-related hardening, and private artifact repository practices.
- Integrated SonarQube and Veracode into delivery workflows to improve code quality, vulnerability visibility, and release confidence.
- Designed and maintained Azure DevOps pipelines for build, test, and deployment automation.

Lead Software Engineer - EPAM Systems - Apr 2020 - May 2023

- Worked with a European banking platform vendor and two live banks in high-load, regulated environments across software engineering, SRE, integration, and production support responsibilities.
- Diagnosed and resolved critical production incidents across dozens of Ruby- and Java-based microservices; improved key customer journeys, including one approximately 100x speedup.
- Delivered PSD2-related banking integrations using REST/JSON APIs, SOAP/WSDL contracts, message queues, and cross-service orchestration.
- Modernized Ruby/Rails services by upgrading runtimes, dependencies, shared libraries, and supporting server-side components.
- Improved deployment reliability by refactoring Dockerfiles, Makefiles, Jenkins jobs, and CI/CD workflows.
- Investigated unfamiliar codebases in Java, Python, Go, Swift, and Ruby to resolve production issues and integration failures.

- Supported release readiness, production deployments, incident follow-ups, RCA, onboarding, code reviews, and practical knowledge sharing while remaining primarily hands-on.

Software Engineer - Red Hat - Dec 2016 - Jan 2020

- Contributed to OpenShift QE and ManageIQ / CloudForms, an open-source hybrid infrastructure management platform based on Ruby on Rails and cloud provider integrations.
- Built and maintained automated Cucumber/Ruby regression suites for OpenShift, improving release verification and test coverage.
- Developed backend features for ManageIQ; worked on AWS, Azure, GCP, and Ansible Tower integrations.
- Led AWS STS assume-role support and contributed to large-scale cloud SDK upgrades.
- Participated in upstream open-source development through code contributions, reviews, discussions, documentation, and dependency gem improvements.

Full-Stack Engineer - Mamapedia - 2015 - 2016

- Modernized a large legacy Ruby on Rails 2.x platform running on Ruby 1.8.7; refactored legacy code and improved rendering performance by approximately 2x.
- Added AJAX-powered instant search, improved Apache Solr integration, and modernized frontend and asset tooling.
- Improved security with encrypted passwords and tokenized password reset flows; rebuilt a personalized daily email digest system for a large user base.
- Automated AWS deployments using Capistrano, Salt, and Terraform.

ERP & Infrastructure Consultant - Various clients and employers - 1998 - 2014

- Delivered ERP, WMS, CRM, accounting, infrastructure, and business automation solutions across manufacturing, logistics, retail, and distribution companies.
- Implemented and customized 1C ERP, WMS, OMS, SCM, CRM, HRM, and accounting solutions; integrated Axapta WMS with 1C: Enterprise.
- Designed warehouse management systems with barcode-driven inventory, handheld scanners, and real-time document workflows.
- Built custom logistics and manufacturing platforms covering pricing, order processing, production dispatch, and warehouse operations.
- Modernized on-premise infrastructure including IBM blade servers, HP SANs, Hyper-V clusters, terminal services, Active Directory, Exchange, and redundant connectivity.

Professional Development & Notes

Professional development:

IT Project Management | I Heart Stats, University of Notre Dame / edX | Entrepreneurship 101, edX

Additional:

EU permanent residence | Long-term open-source contributor | Preference for hands-on expert engineering roles focused on modernization, reliability, DevOps, cloud, and pragmatic system improvement.