

Garrett Holland *Senior Kubernetes Platform Engineer*

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SUMMARY

Kubernetes Platform Engineer specializing in enterprise-scale infrastructure automation, secure platform architecture, and developer enablement. Proven track record designing and operating OpenShift and Kubernetes environments across bare metal, virtual, and cloud platforms (GCP). Expert in building reliable, automated systems through Infrastructure as Code, CI/CD pipeline engineering, and policy-driven platform management. Strong background in platform security, compliance automation, and supply chain security from dedicated Cloud Security team experience. Known for technical curiosity, collaborative problem-solving, and building reusable solutions that serve as force multipliers across engineering organizations. Leverages AI-assisted development (GitHub Copilot) daily to accelerate automation and improve code quality.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Kubernetes Platform Engineer - Team Lead, Ford Motor Company 11/2025 – Present | Dearborn, MI (Remote)

- Lead platform engineering team managing enterprise OpenShift environments serving 1000+ internal customers, ensuring N-1 platform availability through strategic upgrades and lifecycle management.
- Architect and develop CLI tooling in Go (iloctl, ovctl) for infrastructure automation, managing HPE iLO and OneView operations including server profile templates, configuration validation, and hardware deployment workflows.
- Orchestrated multi-team incident response for critical infrastructure issues, leading engineers across teams through complex technical investigations with NetApp, Red Hat, and Microsoft support to final RCA.
- Mentor team members on Kubernetes architecture, platform operations, and automation best practices; foster culture of continuous improvement through direct, constructive feedback in regular 1:1s.
- Lead Ford Kubernetes User Group bi-quarterly (100+ engineers), delivering platform updates, demonstrating best practices, and facilitating vendor workshops to elevate organizational platform expertise.
- Leverage GitHub Copilot daily with repository-specific custom agents and instruction files to accelerate development, refactoring, and prototyping of platform automation.
- Partner with application teams on workload design, resource allocation, and platform architecture decisions to ensure scalable, reliable deployments.
- Maintain 24/7 on-call responsibility as primary and escalation engineer for platform availability and incident resolution.

Kubernetes Security Specialist, Ford Motor Company 05/2025 – 11/2025 | Dearborn, MI (Remote)

- Served as Kubernetes subject matter expert for Cloud Security organization, providing technical leadership on container security, policy enforcement, and secure containerized SDLC architecture.
- Designed and implemented secure image repository infrastructure using Tekton, Quay, Google Cloud Registry, Terraform, and Renovate, fully automating dependency updates, vulnerability remediation, and secure image builds.
- Built reusable Tekton pipelines for automated SBOM generation, image signing (Cosign), and vulnerability scanning; published patterns to internal Artifact Hub enabling organization-wide adoption.
- Authored enterprise container security policies for Ford Cloud Standard, establishing security requirements governing all containerized workloads across the organization.
- Deployed and configured Kyverno admission controller for policy enforcement, implementing Pod Security Standards and automated security context validation across OpenShift clusters.
- Engineered compliance infrastructure using Mondoo with Infrastructure as Code, codifying CIS Kubernetes Benchmark and NIST controls with git-based audit trails.
- Built proof-of-concept demonstrating end-to-end supply chain security: Cosign image signing, SBOM generation, and RHACS attestation verification; presented findings to leadership.
- Led cross-functional initiative evaluating JFrog Xray vulnerability scanning, coordinating technical approach across teams.
- Performed continuous workload security analysis using Red Hat Advanced Cluster Security (RHACS) and RHACM, scanning container images for CVEs and automating vulnerability notifications to development teams.
- Implemented comprehensive RBAC roles and cluster roles implementing least-privilege access controls across multi-tenant Kubernetes environments.
- Integrated HashiCorp Vault and Google Secrets Manager into CI/CD pipelines for secure secret lifecycle management.
- Developed Software Development Lifecycle framework for containerized applications, providing security guidance to leadership and engineering teams.

Kubernetes Platform Engineer, Ford Motor Company 01/2022 – 05/2025 | Dearborn, MI (Remote)

- Managed OpenShift platform operations including upgrades, patching, and lifecycle management for enterprise Kubernetes infrastructure.
- Partnered with application and platform teams to architect scalable Kubernetes solutions, consulting on workload design, resource allocation, and platform best practices.
- Led Ford Kubernetes User Group, establishing knowledge-sharing culture and promoting platform adoption through regular technical presentations and workshops.
- Developed and maintained Terraform modules as reusable infrastructure patterns, enabling consistent, automated deployments across environments.
- Deployed and upgraded internal documentation platform (Ford Docs) using Hugo, maintaining platform knowledge base.
- Served as on-call engineer for platform availability, troubleshooting issues, and coordinating incident response.

DevOps Engineer, Ford Motor Company

09/2020 – 01/2022 | Dearborn, MI (Remote)

- Engineered CI/CD pipelines for mobile platforms using ConcourseCI (Android) and CircleCI (iOS), implementing automated testing, builds, and deployments.
- Led Hackathon team to develop production tooling from concept to deployment; solution remains in active use supporting software delivery workflows.
- Built full-stack applications using SpringBoot, JavaScript, Angular, and Bootstrap, delivering features for internal developer tools.

EDUCATION

Master of Business Administration (MBA), Oakland University

2024 | Auburn Hills, MI

Bachelor of Science in Information Technology, Oakland University

2020 | Auburn Hills, MI

CORE TECHNICAL COMPETENCIES

K8s & Containers

OpenShift/Kubernetes, Podman, bare metal & cloud deployments

Programming

Go, Python, JavaScript, Bash scripting, CLI development

Dev Tooling

Red Hat Dev Spaces, GitHub Codespaces, Dev containers, Podman Compose

IaC

Terraform, Ansible, GitOps, policy-as-code (Kyverno)

Platform Security

Pod Security Standards, RBAC, Kyverno, Red Hat Advanced Cluster Security, compliance automation through GitOps (CIS, NIST)

AI-Assisted

GitHub Copilot (daily use with custom agents), OpenClaw (homelab experimentation)

Cloud Platforms

Google Cloud Platform (Cloud Run, GCR, IAM, Compute Engine), Azure Entra ID

Supply Chain

Cosign signing, SBOM generation, Trivy scanning, Quay, GCR, artifact attestation

CI/CD & Auto

Tekton, ConcourseCI, CircleCI, GitOps workflows, Tekton pipelines

Secrets

HashiCorp Vault, Google Secrets Manager

LEADERSHIP, COLLABORATION & TECHNICAL INFLUENCE

Lead through influence and collaboration

coordinate cross-team technical initiatives, facilitate multi-team discussions, and build consensus on complex architectural decisions.

Proactively seek and provide direct, constructive feedback with leadership and peers

embrace intellectual rigor and collaborative problem-solving.

Communicate technical complexity and tradeoffs clearly to senior leadership

translating platform decisions into business impact.

Mentor engineers on platform architecture, automation patterns, and operational best practices

fostering continuous improvement culture.

Maintain transparency with stakeholders through proactive communication across multiple channels (email, SharePoint, Teams)

reaching 1000+ engineers.

CONTINUOUS LEARNING & TECHNICAL CURIOSITY

Operate homelab running open-source Kubernetes variants (K3s & OKD), OpenClaw for continuous experimentation with emerging cloud-native technologies, Proxmox hypervisor, and Truenas.

Deploy and manage Kubernetes on bare metal, virtual environments, and GCP.

Practical experience across diverse infrastructure patterns.

Actively experiment with AI-assisted development tooling to accelerate automation, improve code quality, and prototype new solutions.

Driven by genuine curiosity and passion for building reliable, world-class systems at scale.