Steven Wade

BSc Hons (Computer Science)
steven@stevenwade.co.uk
https://www.stevenwade.co.uk

Versatile IT professional and container enthusiast, known for a personable approach to clients and co-workers and for delivering and implementing advanced software solutions using cutting-edge tools and techniques across various businesses.

Skills Profile

- Container Orchestration using Kubernetes since version 1.2
- Continuous Delivery (CD) of docker containers using Helm, Kustomize and GitOps principles.
- Continuous Integration using tools such as GitHub actions and Goreleaser
- Monitoring and Observability using tools such as Prometheus, Thanos, Istio and Jaeger
- Infrastructure as Code using Terraform by Hashicorp.
- Team leadership, mentoring and customer engagement.
- Regular meetup and conference attendee.
- Confident public speaker (https://github.com/swade1987/public-speaking).
- Open source contributor.

Professional Experience

Principal Engineer | Oct 2021 – Dec 2023 | KSOC
During this role, Steve led the Engineering team at KSOC; the product maps a broad set of cluster components across the Kubernetes lifecycle using a real-time graph, cutting noise in half through contextualised risks, highest impact remediations and Kubernetes-first incident response. He was responsible for:

- Co-founding the engineering team; grew from me to 11 engineers.
- Implementing scalable engineering processes and tools.
- Driving technology strategy and innovation roadmap.
- Migrating Flux v1 to Flux v2 without impacting customers.
- Leading the initial implementation of our core product offering using Go and Goreleaser.

Senior Platform Engineer | Sept 2020 – Oct 2021 | UnderwriteMe

During this role, Steven led the Platform Team at UnderwriteMe to migrate their AWS estate to Kubernetes. He is responsible for:

- Leading the build-out of a multi-region, multi-tenancy, self-service Kubernetes platform.
- Training the engineering team on Cloud Native Development, Docker, Kubernetes and GitOps.
- Leading the migration effort of six product teams onto the new platform.

● Guarded against Kubernetes deprecations using Conftest and Open Policy Agent.

● Using tools such as Gitlab, Terraform, Atlantis, Prometheus, Thanos, Flux, Istio and Jaeger.

Platform Lead | Mar 2018 – Sept 2020 | Mettle

Steven led the Platform Team at Mettle during this role, building a business banking proposition for SMEs. He is responsible for:

● Leading the team in architecting and building a secure Kubernetes-centric platform on AWS.

● Embedding the use of Helm & Kustomize across development teams.

● Enabling a self-service platform using GitOps principles across the organisation.

● Implementing the monitoring and alerting mechanism using Prometheus and Thanos.

● Implementing Istio across our platforms to enable request tracing and increased observability.

● Training the engineering team on Kubernetes and Cloud Native best practices.

● Using tools such as Terraform, Prometheus, Grafana, Fluentbit, Helm and Weave Flux.

Principal Kubernetes Consultant | Sept 2016 – Mar 2018 | Apprenda

Steven was the strategic point of contact for Kubernetes service offerings to Apprenda's clients worldwide during this role. He was responsible for:

● Fundamental in designing/implementing production-ready Kubernetes platforms for his clients.

● Providing training to clients around Cloud Native Development, CI/CD, Docker and Kubernetes.

● Leading the construction of Kubernetes platforms (including CI/CD) with his clients.

● Leading a team of Kubernetes consultants globally using AWS, Azure, and on-premise.

Achievements

● Steve has presented a workshop to 100 attendees at the KubeCon Detroit conference

● Steven has presented Hands-on Kubernetes workshops globally to over 600 people.

Education

2006 – 2010 | University of Portsmouth, Hampshire

BSc (Hons) Computer Science (Achieved 2:1)

2004 – 2006 | Alton College, Alton, Hampshire

3 A Levels & 1 AS Level (Mathematics, Computing, Physics and Further

Interests Infrastructure as Code, Continuous Delivery & Kubernetes.

References Available upon request