




# Mike Conrad

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## Summary

I am a solutions driven professional with 10+years of experience in the tech industry. Having filled various roles from tech support, fullstack development, system administration, networking, IT and DevOps I have a unique skillset and perspective. I am a problem solver and changemaker with a unique ability to understand high level concepts and requirements and translate those into actionable, meaningful results. I have a deep knowledge of containerization including Docker, Docker Swarm and Kubernetes. I am well versed in cloud technologies having primary experience with Azure and AWS.

In my current role I have been working to help lay the groundwork for a DevOps transformation with a focus on security and reliability for a fast growing Sass startup. I have had the privilege and responsibility of implementing and overseeing CI/CD pipelines, Dev and Staging environments, cloud and on prem infra provisioning, secrets management, QA, deployments and support.

My technical proficiencies include:

Terraform, Docker, Kubernetes, Linux, SQL, AWS, Azure, React, TypeScript, Git, Ansible, Nginx, Traefik, DNS.

## Experience

**Paragon** March 2024 - Present  
Software Engineer  
<https://paragontruss.com>

- Utilized Terraform, Ansible and other IaC tools to create and provision test and dev environments in Azure.
- Containerized all existing services and migrated a number of production systems from AWS EC2 instances to Azure App Services.
- Used Terraform with Ansible and Docker Swarm to rapidly stand up environments for large scale performance testing.
- Instrumented services with OpenTelemetry to better understand performance and bottlenecks.
- Architected and delivered a fully ephemeral and dynamic end to end solution allowing developers to test any and all changes in isolation.
- Setup a Wireguard VPN server in Azure to allow developers to more securely access production infrastructure as needed.
- Worked with engineering to understand the complexities and nuances of the infrastructure and accordingly created a plan for performance and stress testing.

**Datably Inc** January 2023 - March 2024  
Lead DevOps Engineer  
<https://www.datably.io/>

- Worked closely with the CEO and engineering teams to understand the unique needs and challenges facing the organization.
- Worked with a cross-functional team to implement modern techniques for application delivery (Continuous Delivery, GitOps, etc.).
- Provided thought leadership on infrastructure, architecture, and security matters across the organization.
- Worked with engineering leadership to assess and improve upon DevOps practices across the organization.
- Managed on premises infrastructure including Docker Swarm nodes, K8's clusters, Windows/Linux VM's as well as various infrastructure in AWS and Azure.
- Worked closely with Fortune 500 companies to integrate a secrets management solution.

**LegalEASE** June 2022 - January 2023  
Senior Full Stack Engineer  
<https://legaleaseplan.com>

- Lead and mentored a team of junior engineers in various aspects of application development and delivery.
- Made critical infrastructure and tech stack decisions that lead the company forward in an attempt to modernize and automate business practices.
- Established standards and best practices related to automated testing, code reviews and developer experience.
- Played an instrumental role in green-fielding and launching a product used by internal teams as well as customers.
- Communicated with various stakeholders to understand the vast complexities of migrating existing systems and processes into a new framework.

**The Morrison Agency** November 2020 - June 2022  
Senior Frontend Developer  
<https://morrison.agency/>

- Worked closely with marketing and design teams to translate complex designs into high quality websites for well recognized global brands.
- Communicated with clients to understand their needs, pain points and unique challenges related to their brands.
- Directly contributed to key technology decisions related to Frontend design and CI/CD pipelines, web site hosting and maintance.
- Executed complex integrations across multiple SaSS and eCommerce applications.

**Virtual Inc** September 2019 - November 2020  
Web Developer  
<https://virtualinc.com/>

As a junior web developer I was responsible for translating designs into high quality Wordpress sites. I had the unique opportunity to work some large and influential industry associations including NFC Forum and PCI Security Standards Council.

**Enxo LLC** December 2017 - January 2022  
Founder/Lead Engineer  
Chattanooga TN

In December of 2017 I decided to leave my full time job and start Enxo. Enxo provided device filtering and accountability software for individuals, churches, and businesses. I developed and maintained both the front and back end software for this platform, although a good chunk of the web proxy filtering application was open source. I also stood up on prem servers and VPN infrastructure. I used a popular MDM platform to manage mobile devices.

**Calvary Chapel Chattanooga** April 2015 - December 2017  
IT Network Professional  
<http://calvarychatt.com>

- Installed, upgraded and maintained network infrastructure including routers, switches, wireless access points and site to site wireless links.
- Maintained children's check in systems.
- Handled day to day help desk tasks including on-boarding for a staff of around 50 people.
- Implemented web filtering and accountability software for staff and members of the body.
- Developed software and automation to assist with day to day activities supporting various ministries.

## Volunteering

**ChaDev** March 2023 - November 2024  
Head Organizer  
<https://www.meetup.com/chadevs/>

I had the privilege of organizing ChaDev meetups in an attempt to revitalize the community post Covid. It was rewarding to meet so many new developers and people who have moved from other cities and help get them connected to the growing ecosystem.

**DevOps Days Chattanooga** July 2023  
Organizer  
Chattanooga TN

As an organizer for DevOpsDays Chattanooga I had the honor and privilege of helping plan and organize DevOps days for our community. I participated in regular meetings with other organizers and sat on various committees to help organize and plan the event.

## Certifications

**Compitia Network+** 2009  
Compitia

## Awards

**DevOps Leader of the year 2023 Finalist** September 2023  
Chattanooga Technology Council  
[https://www.chatech.org/2023techx\\_finalists.html](https://www.chatech.org/2023techx_finalists.html)

I was honored to be nominated for this award and to stand beside some of my colleagues in the industry.