

Alexander Shuliakovsky

Head of Engineering | 22+ years in IT

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Professional Summary

Software and systems engineer with 22+ years of hands-on experience in enterprise IT, distributed systems, and infrastructure engineering. Currently serving as Head of Engineering at Aetsoft, where I lead and scale engineering teams, design high-load distributed architectures, and drive DevOps/DevSecOps and SRE practices.

Extensive background in fintech and blockchain projects: designed and operated high-load financial platforms, multi-chain infrastructure, and Web3 backend systems with strict security and compliance requirements. Strong track record of building engineering processes from scratch — from secure SDLC and secrets management to incident response and SRE culture — ensuring systems are both robust and auditable.

Passionate about cost efficiency: consistently deliver significant reductions in cloud infrastructure spend and deployment time without sacrificing reliability or SLA.

Core Competencies

- End-to-End Architecture Design & Review
- High-Load Distributed Systems
- DevOps / DevSecOps / SRE
- CI/CD Pipeline Engineering
- Cloud Infrastructure (AWS)
- Fintech & Blockchain Platform Engineering
- Infrastructure as Code (Terraform, Ansible)
- Container Orchestration (Kubernetes, Nomad)
- Security Processes & DevSecOps
- Monitoring, Observability & Alerting
- Technical Team Leadership & Process Design

Work Experience

Head of Engineering — Aetsoft

2020 — Present

Lead engineering teams building and operating high-load distributed systems. Drive architecture decisions, DevOps culture, and infrastructure cost optimisation across the organisation.

- Designed and built a multi-layer Terraform framework for deploying complex AWS infrastructures and application platforms. Each layer inherits and imports outputs from lower layers, enabling consistent, repeatable deployments of sophisticated environments. This approach reduced deployment time significantly and lowered AWS costs substantially through right-sizing, lifecycle policies, and resource sharing across stacks.
- Developed GitLab Autoscaler (open-source) — a lightweight service that monitors GitLab projects for pending CI jobs and dynamically scales the appropriate AWS Auto Scaling Groups (matched by runner tags). Once jobs complete and queues are empty, it scales ASGs back down to zero. This eliminated idle runner costs and reduced CI infrastructure spend dramatically without any impact on pipeline throughput.
- Participated in the engineering of multiple fintech and blockchain projects: high-load transaction processing platforms, multi-chain RPC infrastructure, Web3 backend services, and crypto-related financial products. Designed and enforced end-to-end security processes — secrets management, secure SDLC, audit logging, access control, and compliance-oriented architecture. All projects were delivered with solid engineering; the business ideas, sadly, varied in their commercial success.
- Introduced and standardised DevSecOps practices and SRE principles across engineering teams, establishing SLI/SLO frameworks, on-call processes, and incident response playbooks.

- Architected observability stacks (Prometheus, Grafana, EFK/ELK) for fast incident detection and resolution.
- Managed CI/CD pipeline design for multi-component products — cutting release time and deployment risk.
- Led technical stack decisions aligned with business goals; drove open-source adoption and internal reuse practices.

Open-source projects:

- [Mezzium \(github.com/mezzium/mezzium\)](https://github.com/mezzium/mezzium) — open-source high-reliability multi-chain proxy for blockchain networks, routing RPC/REST/WebSocket requests to optimal upstream nodes. Written in Go, Apache 2.0.
- [GitLab Autoscaler \(github.com/shuliakovsky/gitlab-autoscaler\)](https://github.com/shuliakovsky/gitlab-autoscaler) — dynamic CI runner scaling based on real-time job demand.

Proprietary projects:

- [ZBounce \(zbounce.net\)](https://zbounce.net) — email delivery platform with automated domain warmup, high-volume bulk sending, real-time webhooks, advanced email verification, and REST/gRPC APIs. Built for teams requiring reliability, privacy, and predictable deliverability.
- [Verboo \(github.com/verboo\)](https://github.com/verboo) — founder and sole engineer of a real-time platform built for low-level networking, high throughput, and flexible integration (SaaS, embedded, white-label). Core component is VerbooRTC: a proprietary high-performance signaling and traffic-delivery server written in Go, supporting WebSocket, HTTP/2, HTTP/3, raw QUIC, and gRPC via a custom binary framing protocol. Features: SPSC lock-free ring buffer with AIMD sliding window flow control, three-tier priority queues per transport, NATS JetStream messaging backbone, Redis for state/presence/inbox, SeaweedFS for zero-copy streaming file storage, JWT auth across all transports, per-IP DoS protection, and SHA256 upload integrity verification. Designed for horizontal scaling; targeted for defence-sector deployment. Public SDK: github.com/Verboo/Verboo-SDK-go.

DevOps Engineer — VIZOR Games

Aug 2019 — Jun 2020

- Infrastructure as code using Ansible; CI/CD with Jenkins, Docker, Kubernetes.
- Build support for Unreal Engine 4 based game product.
- Container orchestration with K8s and Nomad; databases: PostgreSQL, Redis, Kafka, ClickHouse.
- Monitoring stack: Prometheus, Grafana, EFK. Scripting in Bash, Python, PowerShell, Groovy.

Stack: Proxmox, Linux (Gentoo/Debian), Jenkins, Docker, Nexus OSS, Ansible, K8s, Helm, UE4

System Administrator / DevOps — InDataLabs

Jul 2017 — May 2019

- Enterprise IT infrastructure administration; physical and virtual server management (VMware vSphere).
- Atlassian stack administration (JIRA, Confluence — on-premise & cloud); TeamCity, Nexus CI/CD.
- Ansible, Docker deployment and infrastructure support. Scripting: Bash, Python, PowerShell.
- Network administration (LAN, Wi-Fi, RADIUS, 802.1X, VPN); AWS cloud infrastructure.

Stack: VMware vSphere, Linux, Windows Server 2008–2016, SCCM, Active Directory, MSSQL, Ansible, Dell/EMC, Amazon AWS

Support Engineer L2/L3 — Workfusion

Apr 2017 — Jul 2017

- IT infrastructure troubleshooting (LAN, Wi-Fi, IPsec/VPN, VMware, Linux, AWS).
- Internal product deployment and support. Built hotfix tooling and a custom support utility in Bash.
- Assembled three product release versions using Jenkins + Bash pipelines. JIRA/Confluence/Bitbucket admin.

System Administrator — AdamantiumTM

Jul 2015 — Apr 2017

- Full-scope enterprise system and network administration: VMware vSphere, SAN, Windows Server 2008/2012 R2, SCCM, AD/GPO/KMS, NPS, VPN, DNS, DHCP, WSUS, MSSQL, IEEE 802.1x/RADIUS, PowerShell.

CIO / CTO — Fenox Development House (startup)

Oct 2014 — Jul 2015

- Built technical infrastructure and engineering processes from scratch for a development startup.

Head of System Integration Bureau — Fenox Global Group

Aug 2009 — Jul 2015

- Enterprise system and network administration across the holding: Novell Netware, Linux, VMware vSphere, EMC SAN, MS SQL, MS Exchange, Windows Server, Active Directory, IIS, PKI, DFS, WDS, WSUS, PowerShell.
- Management and consulting of IT specialists across the group.

System Administrator — LLC Antonar (Fenox)

Aug 2004 — Aug 2009

- Enterprise system and network administration across all Fenox Global Group companies.
- Software engineering and developer consulting: ASM, Delphi, FoxPro, Clipper, Alaska XBase++.

Software Engineer — LLC Antonar (Fenox)

Aug 2000 — Aug 2004

- Software engineering and support for the Preston Market retail network (FoxPro, Clipper).
- System administration: Novell Netware, Windows Servers, networking.

Technology Stack

Cloud & IaC	AWS, Terraform (multi-layer frameworks), Ansible
Containers	Docker, Kubernetes (K8s), Nomad, Helm
CI/CD	GitLab CI, Jenkins, TeamCity, Nexus OSS
Databases	PostgreSQL, MySQL, MSSQL, Redis, Kafka, ClickHouse
Monitoring	Prometheus, Grafana, Zabbix, Observium, EFK/ELK
Operating Systems	Linux (Debian, Gentoo, Ubuntu, CentOS), Windows Server, Novell Netware
Virtualisation	VMware vSphere, Proxmox, VirtualBox
Networking	Cisco, HP, D-Link — DNS, VPN, IPSec, 802.1X, VLAN, RADIUS, DHCP
Web / Mail	Nginx, Apache, IIS; Postfix, MS Exchange
Microsoft Stack	Active Directory, SCCM, WDS, WSUS, KMS, GPO
Languages	Bash, Python, PowerShell, Groovy; legacy: Assembler, Delphi, FoxPro, Clipper
Atlassian	JIRA, Confluence, Crowd, Bitbucket

Languages

- Russian — Native
- English — Intermediate