Ivan Zupancic

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ENGINEERING LEADER — PLATFORM & INFRASTRUCTURE

Engineering leader with 10+ years of experience across platform engineering, cloud infrastructure, and developer enablement. Proven track record of building and mentoring teams, owning critical platform systems, and aligning technical strategy with business goals

CORE STRENGTHS

- Platform & Cloud Engineering (AWS, Kubernetes, IaC)
- Engineering Leadership & Team Building
- Developer Experience & CI/CD Strategy
- Infrastructure-as-Code & GitOps
- Reliability, Security & Scalability
- Cross-functional Collaboration & Stakeholder Management

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Merly — Lead Platform Engineer / Head of Platform Engineering
Nov 2024 – Jan 2026

- Led platform engineering for a multi-tenant SaaS product, owning cloud infrastructure, CI/CD, security, reliability, and developer experience end-to-end.
- Defined platform architecture and long-term technical strategy in close collaboration with product and company leadership.
- Built and scaled the platform engineering function, including hiring, mentoring, and establishing engineering standards and best practices.
- Acted as a bridge between product, engineering, and operations, ensuring platform capabilities supported business growth.
- Established operational practices around observability, incident response, and release management, improving system reliability and team velocity.

Povio Ltd — Platform Engineering Lead / Head of DevOps
Sep 2022 – Nov 2024

- Led the DevOps and platform function supporting multiple client projects in a consulting and delivery-focused environment.
- Built, managed, and mentored a small team of DevOps engineers, focusing on growth, ownership, and sustainable delivery practices.
- Served as a trusted advisor to clients on cloud architecture, AWS strategy, and infrastructure modernization.
- Defined and implemented infrastructure-as-code standards, improving consistency, reliability, and deployment speed across projects.

Bloom And Wild Ltd, Senior Platform Engineer
Nov 2021 - Aug 2022

- Contributed to the platform powering one of Europe's largest flower delivery companies.
- Focused on reducing friction from development to production through platform improvements and self-service tooling.
- Led the migration to self-hosted GitHub runners, improving build performance and control.

Freelance DevOps engineer and consultant - Ljubljana / Remote
May 2020 - Nov 2021

- Designed and operated cloud and on-prem platforms using infrastructure-as-code, supporting multiple engineering teams across industries.

d.labs, DevOps Engineer
Nov 2018 - May 2020

- Built AWS infrastructure using IaC and enabled development teams through reliable deployment workflows.

COMMUNITY & LEADERSHIP

HashiCorp Ambassador (2024)

Founder, HashiCorp User Group Ljubljana (2024)

Initiator & Organizer, DevOpsDays Ljubljana (2023,2024,2025)

Invited Speaker, HashiTalks 2021 — *Modernizing development and release workflows*