Nick Farrugia

DEVOPS INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEER

nickyfarrugia98@gmail.com
(+356) 99 570 600
Bugibba, Malta
nickfarrugia.dev
linkedin.com/in/nick-farrugia-734829197

Infrastructure engineer with 8+ years across IT support, client networking and DevOps. At Altenar I build our multi-region GCP environments with Terraform and Ansible, and look after Kubernetes, Vault and the network side: HAProxy, FortiGate, DNS and VPNs. Outside work I run a four-node K3s cluster; the build notes and incident reports are at nickfarrugia.dev.

CORE SKILLS

Cloud & containers	Terraform	Ansible	GCP	Docker	Kubernetes
Metrics & scripts	Prometheus	Grafana	Python	Bash	PowerShell
Networking	HAProxy	FortiGate	Cisco / MikroTik	IPsec / SSL VPN	TCP/IP / DNS
Security & systems	Git / IaC	Vault	ISO 27001	Linux (RHEL/Ubuntu)	Windows Server / AD

EXPERIENCE

DevOps Infrastructure Engineer · Altenar

Mar 2024 – Present · St Julian's

- Wrote the **Terraform modules and Ansible playbooks** that build our GCP environments across several regions. They used to be set up by hand.
- Automate recurring operational jobs with **Python and Bash**.
- Set up **Prometheus and Grafana** with alerting, used for SLO tracking and incident reviews.
- Containerise our services with **Docker** and look after the **Kubernetes** clusters they run on (config, resource limits, rolling upgrades), keeping staging and production in step.
- Manage credentials through Vault and keep IAM least-privilege across our GCP services.
- Manage the network side: **HAProxy** load balancing, **FortiGate** rules, DNS, and IPsec/SSL VPNs, with every change scripted in Bash and kept in Git.

Network Administrator · Smart Technologies Limited

Oct 2022 – Mar 2024 · Mosta

- Designed, set up and secured **20+ client networks** on Fortinet, MikroTik, Cisco, Aruba and Ruckus, and handled their level 2–3 incidents through to resolution.
- **Point of contact for networking support**, and the escalation path for the tier-1 team whenever they couldn't resolve an issue.
- Ran quarterly security audits for clients working to ISO 27001, then wrote up the gaps and what to fix first.
- Watched vendor security advisories and patched client firmware **promptly after disclosure** of critical CVEs.
- Set up **SSL and IPsec VPNs** with failover for clients whose staff work remotely.

IT Support Specialist · Pronet Gaming

Aug 2021 – Oct 2022 · Bugibba

- Responsible for all IT at the Malta office: 50+ machines, the LAN, the firewall and security.
- Handled level 1–2 tickets within SLA, and wrote runbooks for the problems that kept coming back.

IT Specialist · Simply VC

Nov 2020 – 2021 · Marsa

Validator nodes for 20+ proof-of-stake blockchains, running 24/7.

- Built **Prometheus and Grafana** monitoring across **20+ networks**, with alerts when a validator fell behind.
- Wrote **Bash and Python** scripts to deploy nodes, and standardised how each new chain was brought online.
- Scripted token management, health checks and governance tasks in **Python**.
- Set up secrets management, access control and a documented key-rotation procedure for the validators.

IT Support Officer · Computime

Apr 2019 – Nov 2020 · Birkirkara

- Ran automated weekly health checks and preventive-maintenance reports for **10+ client environments**.
- Automated diagnostics, patch checks and user setup with PowerShell and Bash on Windows Server and Linux, and managed Azure-hosted servers, Microsoft 365 and Exchange.

Computer Engineering Assistant · Transport Malta Apr 2016 — Sep 2018 · Paola

- First role in IT, at a government agency: LAN maintenance, hardware support and web administration.
- Handled end-user support of every kind: **printers, user accounts and access**, and day-to-day help for the business teams.

SELECTED PROJECTS

Things I build and run in my own time. Write-ups, diagrams and incident reports are at nickfarrugia.dev.

Home Kubernetes cluster · Four K3s nodes on one Proxmox server. Terraform builds it, Ansible configures it, and ArgoCD deploys 20 apps from Git. MetalLB, Longhorn, cert-manager, and Prometheus/Grafana/Alertmanager with exporters I wrote. It can be rebuilt from bare metal by following a seven-step playbook.

WyrmHost · Self-provisioning game-server hosting: storefront, Stripe checkout, a queue worker and the game panel's API, including a panel provider I ported. On a test purchase, payment to a playable server took about 46 seconds.

Wyrmtable · A real-time toolkit for running tabletop games, live at wyrmtable.eu. Next.js, Socket.IO and PostgreSQL on the cluster behind a Cloudflare Tunnel, with network policies, non-root pods, versioned migrations, and nightly backups that alert if they go stale.

CERTIFICATIONS, TRAINING & EDUCATION

CERTIFICATIONS

CCNA (200-301) · Cisco · passed · course at ICE Malta — 2023

COURSES & TRAINING

LPIC-1 (101 / 102) coursework · ICE Malta — 2020 — 2022

MCSA coursework (Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate) · ICE Malta — 2019 — 2020

IT Essentials · Cisco Networking Academy — 2013 — 2014

EDUCATION

Advanced Diploma in Computer Systems & Networking (EQF 4) · MCAST, Paola — 2015 — 2018

Also: European Computer Driving Licence (2014–2018) · School Leaving Certificate, EQF 3 (2010–2015)

Maltese and English (native) · Driving licence, category B