

Alex Graham

AWS Cloud Architecture | Platform Engineering & DevOps Consultant | FinOps

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Location: Sutton Coldfield / Birmingham: remote-first UK-wide, hybrid ideally within commuting distance of Birmingham

PROFILE

AWS Certified Solutions Architect (Associate) and Platform Engineering Manager with 20+ years in software development and cloud infrastructure, including 9+ years leading Evora Global's full cloud transformation from on-premise servers to AWS. Built and owned infrastructure architecture, DevOps tooling, CI/CD pipelines, hands-on SQL Server database operations, security compliance (ISO 27001), and SaaS vendor management for a scaling SaaS business end-to-end, cutting infrastructure spend and hardening security along the way. Now taking that depth of ownership into contract engagements: available for AWS architecture, DevOps/platform build-outs, FinOps and cloud cost optimisation, and migration work, with particular interest in public sector and non-profit clients.

CORE TECHNICAL SKILLS

AWS: Organizations / IAM / SSO, EC2, Lambda, ECS, ECR, SAM CLI, VPC, Route53, CloudFront, RDS (SQL Server/Postgres), S3, DynamoDB, OpenSearch, ElastiCache, CodePipeline, CodeBuild, CodeDeploy, CloudFormation, CloudWatch, WAF, GuardDuty, KMS, Secrets Manager

Data & SQL Server: Schema version control and migration tooling (Evolve), Redgate SQL Compare deployment automation, SQL Agent maintenance jobs (index defrag, log file shrinking), GDPR-driven data governance/cleansing scripting, query repository authorship, DBA recruitment and management, RDS (SQL Server, Postgres)

DevOps / CI-CD: GitHub Actions, Jenkins, TeamCity, Octopus Deploy, Docker, trunk-based development

Infrastructure as Code: CloudFormation (primary, org-wide standard); Terraform (working knowledge, used for IAM Identity Centre management)

FinOps / Cost: Cloud cost reduction (30% / ~£48K p.a. delivered at Evora), automated resource scheduling, right-sizing, vendor contract renegotiation

AI & Claude: Completed several Anthropic/Claude training courses; hands-on use of Claude Code on personal projects

Languages: Python (boto3, Lambda), C# / .NET, SQL (SQL Server, Postgres), PHP (legacy)

Security & Compliance: ISO 27001, PEN test coordination & remediation, Auth0 / OIDC / OAuth2

Leadership: Team & vendor management, hiring, appraisals, board-level reporting

CAREER HISTORY

Evora Global | Platform Engineering Manager

Sep 2016 – Nov 2026 (10+ years)

Sustainable real estate ESG software provider and investment consultancy. SaaS product, UK-based with international clients. Acquired Metry in 2024.

- Promoted Technical Architect → DevOps Manager → Platform Engineering Manager in 5 years as the function scaled; sole accountable owner for AWS infrastructure, DevOps tooling, CI/CD, security governance, and SaaS/vendor management.
- Owned an annual AWS/SaaS budget of ~\$140K; delivered a 30% cost reduction (~\$48K/year) via cheaper alternatives, automated non-prod shutdown, right-sizing, and vendor renegotiation.
- Introduced AWS to Evora, replacing on-premise rack servers: the foundational cloud migration enabling elastic, scalable product hosting.
- Eliminated click-ops by establishing CloudFormation (with AWS SAM for serverless) as the org-wide IaC standard, making all infrastructure changes version-controlled and auditable.
- Implemented database version control using Evolve, a schema migration tool, replacing largely manual, error-prone SQL Server deployments with repeatable, auditable migrations across development, staging, and production.
- Consolidated a fragmented CI/CD landscape (Jenkins, CodePipeline, TeamCity, Octopus) onto GitHub Actions with JIRA build tracking, cutting operational overhead and simplifying onboarding across the engineering org.
- Implemented AWS Organizations with IAM Identity Centre/SSO for centralised multi-account access control, reducing access risk and streamlining onboarding/offboarding.
- Built serverless solutions in Python/C#: automated EC2 shutdown scheduling (~\$3K/year saved) and an AWS Transfer Family FTP pipeline for asynchronous, rule-matched CSV processing.
- Owned dev-to-production release for multiple Lambda- and Docker-based projects, including troubleshooting and performance tuning.
- Set up ETL pipelines from SQL Server into BigQuery and Redshift via AWS Glue to consolidate Salesforce/Zoho reporting.
- Managed the integration of OneSchema infrastructure, including the provisioning of AWS accounts and overall technical ownership.
- Led adoption of trunk-based development across 15 developers and governed access/branching across 30+ repos; managed a team of 3 engineers plus an offshore resource of up to 25.

- Coordinated annual external PEN testing and ISO 27001 controls; presented technical progress on major projects (AWS migration, data ingress, new application rollouts) at board level.
- Recruited and managed a DBA to improve SQL Server database administration and governance.
- Built GDPR-driven data deletion and cleansing scripts on SQL Server to meet compliance requirements.

KPMG | Senior Developer

Apr 2014 – Sep 2016

Big 4 accounting/advisory firm. Restructuring Department, team of 15.

- Led development of a business-critical ePost solution (.NET 4.5 MVC, Razor, SignalR) digitising incoming post for ~2,000 employees across multiple UK offices.
- Took ownership of a 100% manual deployment process and automated it with Redgate SQL Compare, cutting deployment risk and execution time.
- Built a shared SQL Server query repository for the department, and introduced unit/integration test automation (MSTest) to improve release confidence.

Questgates | Software Developer

Nov 2008 – Apr 2014

UK's largest independent loss adjusting company. Insurance/claims sector.

- Designed a .NET WCF SOAP B2B integration interface for structured data exchange between insurance business partners.
- Built a SharePoint/.NET B2B portal giving clients self-serve query access across multiple internal databases, eliminating manual data requests.

Early career (1996-2008) in software/web development spans IS2, GET, Pin Digital, and Above All Else; details on request.

CERTIFICATIONS & EDUCATION

- AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate (valid 2024–2027)
- MCS D (Microsoft Certified Solutions Developer), 2015–2017
- MSc Information Technology, De Montfort University (2002–2003)
- BA (Hons) History & Media, University of Southampton (1993–1999)