Andrei Gabriel Ion

Lead/Principal Platform Engineer · recruit@e-random.com · *Bucharest, RO · Open to remote work*

Platform engineer with over two decades across desktop, web and infrastructure. I build systems and products from scratch, or turn fragile legacy ones into something reproducible, automated and safe to change: containerized environments, managed secrets, tested releases and low-risk cutovers.

Skills

Containerization, Orchestration, IaC · *Docker, Docker Swarm, AWS, Terraform, Ansible*
Ingress, Routing, HA · *nginx, HAProxy, Traefik, Caddy, Apache HTTP Server, ProxySQL, Orchestrator, Shotover*
CI/CD, Release management, Collaboration · *GitLab, Atlassian, GitHub, yum repositories, Docker registries*
Secrets strategies, Identity and access management · *HashiCorp Vault, SOPS, OAuth 2.0, TOTP, Entra ID, OpenLDAP*
Databases, Caching, Observability · *SQL, MySQL, Valkey/Redis, SQLite, Elasticsearch/Logstash/Kibana*
QA engineering, Characterization testing · *Playwright, Cypress, Jest, PHPUnit, PHPStan, Rector*
Web engineering, User experience · *PHP, JavaScript, Symfony, React, Storybook, HTML, CSS*
Automation, Tooling, Application development · *Go, Java, Bash*

Work

2012 – 2026 | ***Lead Platform Engineer*** | *QuickWeb Info SRL* | *Software consultancy for US clients* | *Bucharest*

Handled requirements, development, delivery and support discussions directly with end-clients.

Business domains: Telecom, Broadband, Cybersecurity, Tech Support

2025 – 2026 | ***Principal Platform Engineer*** | *VMware Exodus* | *infrastructure migration*

Migration of legacy applications and services from VMware to Docker Swarm, driven by vendor licensing price hikes.

- Cut over 4 weeks ahead of the hard deadline; the migration process moved the data and brought the Swarm production environment up within 30 minutes. The same process was validated daily in staging from production backups.
- Owned: secrets management, config management, service identity and data migration strategies; base images for applications; build and deployment automation; containerization of supporting services; HA setup for services; blue/green deployments; developer experience.
- Advised and contributed: application containerization; networking; infrastructure; monitoring; disaster recovery strategy; documentation.
- Scale: 20+ people involved; 7 web applications, 2 RADIUS daemons and their supporting services (5 database servers, 4 mail daemons, 3 cache servers, 20+ cron jobs) as primary objectives; 100+ production services from 50+ images; staging, local-staging, ephemeral and dev environments.
- Side effects on services outside Swarm: base images adopted to patch PHP2Shell; secrets rotation and service identity adopted into the wider secrets strategy; ephemeral development environments replacing local ones.

Claude Code, Go, Docker Swarm, Rocky Linux, Alpine Linux, Ubuntu, Debian, Terraform, Ansible, HashiCorp Vault, AWS KMS, AWS Secrets Manager, 1Password, MySQL, ProxySQL, Orchestrator, Valkey, Shotover, Postfix, OpenLDAP, Radiator, TuxCare, s6, Apache HTTP Server, Caddy, nginx, HAProxy, PHP-FPM, Perl, Cypress, macvlan, nftables, Tinyauth, Entra ID, Portainer, Dozzle, cheek, Prettier, CSpell, ShellCheck, GitHub Actions, GHCR

2024 – 2025 | ***Principal Platform Engineer, Technical Lead*** | *Site Builder Code & Runtime Upgrade* | *web applications*

Led a team of 4 junior developers, hands-on, through dependency discovery, containerization, characterization testing, ECS deployment and PHP 8 upgrade of a legacy multi-tenant site builder.

- Delivered 3 months ahead of the cutover deadline.
- Discovery revealed 5 internal library dependencies and the ecosystem architecture (4 other internal websites, a cache server and a mail daemon). Built DevOps tooling letting developers spin up the web applications and their ecosystem locally within 5 minutes, with ecosystem configuration, secret management setup and environment definition abstracted away, enabling them to run locally the same validation as CI (build, static analysis, end-to-end and unit tests).
- Guided the team in organizing and optimizing CI tasks, bringing CI time under 30 minutes.
- Guided the team in organizing and optimizing ephemeral environment start-up and seeding, bringing ECS spin-up time under 10 minutes.
- Rapid feedback cycle allowed completion of the code and runtime upgrade with only one month dedicated to the sub-task.

PHP, MySQL, CentOS, Docker, Traefik, Redis, Mailpit, SOPS, Playwright, PHPStan, Rector, PHP-CS-Fixer, Bitbucket Pipelines, Amazon ECS

2015 – 2025 | ***Lead Platform Engineer, Technical Lead*** | *Platform Redesign* | *platform engineering, web applications*

Own initiative. Led a team of 2 engineers for 10 years. Hosted the code, documented and automated the processes around it for 20+ engineers and 10+ non-technical staff. Designed, delivered and supported a platform for developing, validating and monitoring a modern generation of web applications.

- Hosted GitLab and CI runners, moved issue tracking onto it, documented the branching, issue, release validation and build flows, trained the teams. When mandated, moved it all to Atlassian within a couple of months and kept maintaining it there.
- Introduced DevOps practices into legacy web application workflows: brought all code into git within 3 weeks, enrolling it in git-flow under the pressure of recovery from a disaster affecting the development environments; built and supported local Docker-based development environments; created automation for patch-based releases and rollbacks on staging and production, covering code changes and schema migrations. Automated release notes generation, covering manual configuration and secrets management.
- Introduced DevOps practices into legacy client application workflows: automated build, static analysis and test pipelines across Java, C++, C, Swift and Objective-C applications.
- Web Application Platform: Releases as RPM packages into self-hosted yum repositories; installed in Docker images and on new servers with modern httpd and PHP; production, staging, QA and Docker-based ephemeral per-branch environments; feature flags; automated tests and builds; continuous delivery up to QA; automated tracking of the manual staging and production release processes; caching; centralized logging.
- Built and delivered 6 projects on the platform: activation and registration landing pages; on-call routing for ISP phone support; an internet-facing XML API; the backend of a ground-up password manager rewrite; a unified sign-in, user management and multi-factor authentication portal; an update server controlling which client application builds reach devices.

Docker, Git, GitLab, GitLab CI, Bitbucket, Bitbucket Pipelines, Jira, Confluence, React, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Symfony, PHP, Apache HTTP Server, HAProxy, MySQL, RPM, yum, Jest, PHPUnit, Elasticsearch, Logstash, Kibana, Bash, Go, Amazon ECS, OAuth 2.0, TOTP

2012 – 2025 | ***Sole Developer*** | *Client Security Suite* | *desktop applications*

Built or rebuilt, depending on inherited project state, Windows and macOS clients for: online backup, sync and file sharing; Wi-Fi diagnostics; antivirus. Maintained throughout and helped retire them at end of life.

- Owned the applications end-to-end: UI; background daemons; native libraries and OS integrations; inter-process communication; embedded databases; registration flows; backup and sync algorithms; network monitoring; packaging and releases.
- Contributed: requirements; acceptance testing; backend APIs; consistency with the other platforms' apps; user and troubleshooting guides; support escalations.
- The backup, sync and file sharing client reached a long-term maintenance state within 3 years, including a ground-up rewrite; after its release, no issues reached development. The Wi-Fi diagnostics tool was built within a month, reusing architecture and processes, inheriting UX and quality characteristics.

Java, JavaFX, Swing, CSS, Objective-C, C, C++, Swift, SQLite, HSQLDB, Electron, V8, node-gyp, React, Capacitor, Storybook, Firebase, Chromium, Network Extension, Bitdefender SDK, Inno Setup, DMG Canvas, hdiutil, AppleScript, ProGuard

2006 – 2012 | ***Technical Lead*** | *adaco Engineering SRL* | *Software consultancy for Swiss clients* | *Bucharest*

Led a team of up to 5 contractors as the technical point of contact for two clients carried over from previous employer, delivering a business process management suite and web replacements for mainframe terminal interfaces.

Business domains: Financial Services, Banking, Music Copyright

Java, Swing, Oracle PL/SQL, Smalltalk, Seaside, VisualWorks, HTML, CSS, JavaScript

2004 – 2006 | ***Developer*** | *IP Devel SRL* | *Software development outsourcing company* | *Bucharest*

Education, Awards and Languages

- Bachelor in Economic Informatics, Bucharest University of Economic Studies (ASE), 2004 – 2008.
- 3rd place, National Olympiad in Informatics, 2003. Qualified for the extended squad for IOI, BOI and CEOI.
- Romanian (native), English (full professional proficiency).

References

- **VMware Exodus client**: Senior Director of Systems and Cybersecurity Architecture; DevOps Manager; Staff Engineer; Network and Infrastructure Engineer; Project Manager.
- **QuickWeb**: Developer; Senior Operations Manager.

Interests

- **Hobbies**: Hattrick (champion), Poker (retired), Video Games (addict), Board Games (explorer).
- **Entertainment**: Science Fiction (believer), Fantasy (nostalgic), TV Series (completionist), Comedy Shows (realist).
- **Health**: Running (slowly), Swimming (floating), Hiking (walking), Tennis (late bloomer).
- **Life**: Stock Market (bull), Travel (lightly), Food (consumer), Media (lurker).