

Dijeesh Padinharethil

AWS Container Hero | Director of Engineering – Platform & R&D | Cloud, Kubernetes & Infrastructure

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Professional Summary

Engineering leader with 18+ years of experience in cloud infrastructure, Kubernetes, DevOps, and SRE. Formally recognized as an **AWS Container Hero by Amazon Web Services** - an individual recognition for making significant, sustained contributions to the broader cloud and developer community, with a specialization in Kubernetes, containers, and microservices.

Spent the **last 4 years leading Platform and R&D at Sedai** - an autonomous cloud optimization platform for SREs - building multi-cloud platform infrastructure from the ground up across AWS, GCP, and Azure, driving research activities related to Kubernetes optimization including Karpenter tuning and GPU workload and infrastructure optimization, owning enterprise customer onboarding, and working closely with enterprise customers to reduce their cloud and AI infrastructure spend by 30–40%.

Proven people leader with experience managing teams of 30–40 engineers across distributed geographies. **Active community builder: organizer** of AWS Community Days Kochi, Kubernetes Community Day Kochi, AWS User Group Kochi, and CNCF Kochi Chapter.

Professional Experience

Director of Engineering – Platform & R&D
Sedai - Autonomous Cloud Optimization Platform

March 2022 – Present
Kochi, Kerala, India

- Led R&D for Kubernetes optimization including GPU workload and infrastructure optimization, Karpenter tuning, and autonomous node pool optimization for EKS, GKE, and AKS - helping enterprise customers reduce cloud and AI infrastructure spend significantly.
- Architected and built Sedai's platform infrastructure from the ground up across AWS, GCP, and Azure - establishing the multi-cloud foundation the product runs on.
- Owned end-to-end BYOC (Bring Your Own Cloud) on-premises installations for major US enterprise clients - covering infrastructure provisioning, Sedai deployment, onboarding integrations, and release management.
- Researched and defined approaches for autonomous optimization of dynamic node provisioning — working closely with the development team to translate R&D findings into product features for intelligent CPU and GPU fleet right-sizing.
- Designed and implemented Sedai's SaaS onboarding platform and Kubernetes self-integration workflows streamlining the customer onboarding experience at scale; fine-tuned Sedai Managed Prometheus and VictoriaMetrics for monitoring providers.
- Led go-to-market availability of Sedai Kubernetes Agent on Spectro Cloud, AWS, and Azure Marketplaces enabling frictionless enterprise procurement and integration.
- Defined and implemented the company's initial operational practices - including incident management, deployment pipelines, and reliability standards.
- Partnered with multiple enterprises to audit and restructure their Kubernetes and AI cloud infrastructure footprint, delivering minimum 30-40% reductions in cloud spend.
- Contributed to Sedai's SOC 2 certification preparation - covering security controls, audit readiness, and operational compliance documentation.
- Served as the internal Subject Matter Expert (SME) for Kubernetes - providing technical guidance to

engineering, product, and customer-facing teams on Kubernetes architecture, operations, and best practices.

- Led a focused 3-person R&D team in a high-ownership environment, delivering outsized impact relative to team size.

Cloud Native Consultant (AWS / Kubernetes / DevOps)

Zappyhire - AI Powered Recruitment Automation Platform

February 2022 – July 2022

Kochi, Kerala, India

- Led end-to-end infrastructure modernization for Zappyhire - containerizing applications, implementing DevOps and GitOps practices, and migrating workloads to Amazon EKS.
- Designed and documented isolated Dev, Stage, and Production environments on AWS — enforcing security best practices and infrastructure optimization across all tiers.
- Delivered dynamic, highly available infrastructure on EKS, enabling Zappyhire to achieve 100% uptime for their production services.

Associate Director – Cloud Services

Network Redux

January 2019 – February 2022

Kochi, India / Portland, OR, USA

- Led and managed a 30–40 member cloud operations team across India and the US, overseeing hiring, mentoring, and performance management.
- Played an active role in pre-sales - working directly with prospective customers, contributing to solution engineering, and translating business requirements into cloud infrastructure proposals.
- Oversaw end-to-end infrastructure development and delivery- from initial design and handover through to production deployment and ongoing operations.
- Owned end-to-end SRE and DevOps activities for high-profile clients - covering reliability engineering, incident management, deployment pipelines, and infrastructure operations.
- Helped enterprise clients achieve PCI-DSS certification across AWS and private cloud environments - covering network segmentation, access controls, encryption, and audit compliance.
- Directed DevOps transformation initiatives - containerization, infrastructure-as-code, and automated deployments across managed hosting environments.

Lead Operations Engineer – DevOps

Network Redux

December 2016 – January 2019

Kochi, India / Portland, OR, USA

- Founded and built Network Redux's Managed AWS Services practice from scratch - which evolved into the company's Managed Cloud Services division and became its leading revenue source.
- Designed and implemented the company's team structure - establishing a dedicated SRE team for platform stability and a Cloud DevOps team for onboarding new customers, with a structured handover model for continuous management.
- Led cloud migration initiatives for multiple on-premises datacenter and private cloud customers - designing target AWS architectures and managing end-to-end migrations to AWS.
- Designed, implemented, and maintained private cloud environments using Citrix XenServer and bare-metal instances, including day-to-day operations of firewalls, routers, XenServers, and Linux server clusters.
- Managed database operations for high-value customers, ensuring reliability, performance, and data integrity across production environments.
- Architected and managed highly available, scalable AWS infrastructure; implemented Kubernetes container orchestration and drove DevOps tooling adoption across the organization.
- Established monitoring, alerting, and incident response workflows, significantly reducing mean time to recovery (MTTR).

Senior Operations Engineer / System Architect (Multiple Roles)

Network Redux

March 2012 – December 2016

Kochi, India / Portland, OR, USA

- Planned and executed datacenter consolidation — migrating Network Redux's Portland and Washington datacenter resources to Seattle with near-to-zero service interruption.
- Drove conversion of cPanel-based customers to Redux's Enterprise Virtual Server (E-VS) private cloud platform built on Citrix XenServer — increasing revenue and securing long-term customer commitments.
- Managed Redux's private cloud environments based on Citrix XenServer — covering installation, configuration, patching, and ongoing maintenance.
- Designed and implemented backup and disaster recovery for Redux's entire server estate using R1Soft and Percona XtraBackup; conducted regular DR drills for private cloud customers.
- Administered Redux's Juniper SRX firewalls and Juniper routers; led the network migration from Juniper to Arista-based switching infrastructure.
- Managed legacy cPanel-based hosting platforms, ensuring stability and performance for hosted customers.

System Administrator & Production Support Team Lead

International Mobile Sportsbook Company SL / MST

January 2011 – March 2012

Kochi, India

- Designed and built MST's in-house infrastructure from scratch — covering full network design through to deployment of high-availability production servers.
- Managed BettyMobile/MST production web servers and API servers, ensuring platform reliability for a global mobile sportsbook audience.
- Led the migration of MST production servers from the previous owner's facility to a new VMware-based datacenter with minimal disruption.
- Managed production databases (MySQL, Oracle) and reporting platforms (MicroStrategy, Pentaho)
- Led a 3-member production support team delivering 24x7 platform availability — including high-traffic events such as El Clásico match days where system reliability was business-critical.

Internal System Administrator → Team Lead

Bobcares (Poornam Info Vision)

September 2008 – January 2011

Kochi, India

- Managed 300+ Linux workstations across Kochi, Germany, and US offices.
- Administered Poornam's entire in-house server infrastructure — including NIS, NFS, OpenAFS, OpenVPN, key servers, chat servers, Zimbra mail servers, multiple web servers, OpenVZ server clusters, Xen Server-based training infrastructure, and Windows servers.
- Progressed from Internal Sysadmin to Deputy Team Lead to Team Lead over 2+ years; led and mentored a 6-member internal systems team.

Community Leadership and Developer Advocacy

- **AWS Container Hero** – Formally recognized by Amazon Web Services for making significant, sustained contributions to the cloud and developer community; specialization in Kubernetes, containers, and microservices
- **Organizer** – AWS Community Day Kochi (2019, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025) — one of India's flagship AWS community events
- **Organizer** – Kubernetes Community Day Kochi 2026
- **Organizer** – AWS User Group Kochi (#awsugkochi) and CNCF Kochi Chapter (#cncgkochi)

- **Speaker** – AWS and CNCF Meetups on Kubernetes, cloud-native architecture, and DevOps
- **Educator** – Conducts Cloud and DevOps bootcamps at colleges across Kerala under AWS User Group Kochi
- **Technical Blogger** – dijeesh.github.io

Core Skills

- AI & GPU Infrastructure – GPU Optimization, AI Infrastructure Cost Management, LLM Infrastructure, Karpenter, Node Auto-provisioning
- Cloud Platforms – Amazon Web Services (AWS), Google Cloud Platform (GCP), Microsoft Azure, Multi-cloud Architecture
- Containers & Orchestration – Kubernetes, GKE, EKS, AKS, Docker, Helm, ArgoCD, GitOps
- DevOps & CI/CD – Terraform, Ansible, Jenkins, GitHub Actions, Infrastructure-as-Code, Deployment Automation
- SRE & Reliability – Incident Management, SLA/SLO Management, Observability, Prometheus, Grafana, OpenTelemetry, BCP/DR
- FinOps & Cost Optimization – Cloud Cost Management, Resource Right-sizing, Cloud Governance, Autonomous Optimization
- Security – Kubernetes Security (CKS), Network Security (Juniper JNCIS-SEC), Zero-trust Principles
- Leadership – Engineering Team Management, Distributed Teams, Hiring & Mentoring, Stakeholder Management, Solution Architecture

Certifications

- Certified Kubernetes Security Specialist (CKS) – CNCF / Linux Foundation (renewal in progress)
- Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA) – CNCF / Linux Foundation (renewal in progress)
- AWS Solutions Architect – Amazon Web Services (renewal in progress)
- Juniper Networks Certified Specialist – Security (JNCIS-SEC) – Juniper Networks (renewal in progress)
- Juniper Certified Security Specialist (JNCA-Junos) – Juniper Networks (renewal in progress)

Education

Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com with Computer Applications)
St Joseph's College Devagiri,

2005 – 2008
University of Calicut, Kerala, India

Languages

English · Malayalam · Hindi