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Nishkarsh Raj

Summary

Staff Platform Engineer with 6+ years architecting cloud infrastructure and developer platforms for Fortune 500 organizations. Delivered $7M+ in infrastructure savings and reduced production incidents by 96% across multi-cluster EKS platforms serving 35 regulated jurisdictions. Built AI-native FinOps tooling on AWS Bedrock. Three-time GitHub Stars Award Winner.

Skills

Cloud & Platform: AWS (EKS, RDS, EC2, S3, KMS, MSK, Bedrock), Azure (AKS), Kubernetes, Terraform, Terragrunt, Helm, Helmfile, FluxCD, Karpenter, Docker, Backstage.io, Istio, GitOps

Data & Observability: Strimzi Kafka Connect, Snowflake, Apache Airflow, CloudNativePG, PostgreSQL, Redis, OpenTelemetry, Dynatrace, New Relic, Prometheus, distributed tracing

Languages & CI/CD: Python, Bash, Go, Java, FastAPI, GitLab CI, GitHub Actions, GitHub Enterprise

Experience

Practice Leader — FinAIOps & Platform Engineering, StatusNeo *08/2026 – Present*
Gurugram, India

- Leading platform engineering, FinAIOps, and observability across global engagements while continuing as hands-on architect on cloud, data platform, and developer experience programs
- Productizing an AI-native FinOps platform on AWS Bedrock, grounded in $7M+ of measured savings from prior engagements

Platform Engineering Architect, Caesars Entertainment (via StatusNeo) *07/2024 – 07/2026*
Jersey City, NJ, USA

- Architected multi-cluster EKS platform (3 clusters, 100+ Graviton nodes, 15 AWS accounts) serving 35-state regulatory compliance, designed per-state namespace isolation and led ARM64 migration achieving 40% compute cost reduction with zero downtime
- Rebuilt platform reliability architecture with FluxCD operators, Karpenter autoscaling, and custom OpenTelemetry instrumentation, reducing P0 incidents from 1,000 to 40 per quarter (96%) and increasing deployment frequency 10x
- Designed high-throughput Kafka pipeline (536 Strimzi connectors) streaming to Snowflake and S3, optimized connector topology reducing Snowflake API calls by 50% while sustaining 99.9% uptime through peak betting events
- Built AI-native FinOps platform on AWS Bedrock and FastAPI scanning 15 AWS accounts, identifying $2M in annual savings; delivered a further $5M through RDS right-sizing, S3 Intelligent Tiering, and KMS batch processing (94% reduction)
- Architected Airflow v2 to v3 zero-downtime migration across 3,400+ DAGs using parallel instances, fresh CloudNativePG databases, and per-state feature flags, eliminating $650K in annual licensing

Principal DevOps Engineer, StatusNeo *01/2022 – 07/2024*
Gurugram, India

- Architected RearPortal, an enterprise Backstage.io platform adopted by 2000+ engineers across Broadcom and McKinsey, designing the plugin architecture and 300+ service templates that reduced engineer onboarding from 4 weeks to 3 days
- Built unified observability across Broadcom acquisitions (CA, Symantec, VMware) processing 1M+ deployment events daily with DORA metrics for 10,000+ engineers
- Led IDP for William Hill (150+ engineers) reducing infrastructure provisioning from 2 weeks to 15 minutes, accelerating new market launch from 6 months to 2 weeks
- Led zero-downtime GitHub Enterprise migrations for Broadcom and Cloud Software Group as a Microsoft migration partner, modernizing version control for 2000+ developers and completing 2 months ahead of schedule

Founding Engineer, StatusNeo *02/2020 – 01/2022*
Gurugram, India

- Architected AI model orchestration on Azure Kubernetes Service (Seldon Core, gRPC) achieving sub-200ms P95 latency across 50+ ML models in production, building the data pipelines powering Reliance Jio University's AI Exchange Platform
- Founding engineer (employee #5) through scale to 500+ people across 4 regions; established the Backstage.io Center of Excellence and developer experience practice that became the foundation for the company's enterprise platform product

Education & Awards

University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun, India *07/2017 – 05/2021*
B.Tech Computer Science (CGPA: 9.64), Gold Medalist (1st of 900), Dean's List All Semesters

- GitHub Stars Award (2021, 2022, 2023) | SREDay Community Ambassador (2026) | GitHub Advanced Security, Administration, and Actions Certified