

Daniel Fridkin

DevOps Lead | Senior Platform Engineer

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Platform engineering leader with a backend foundation and end-to-end production ownership.

Lead DevOps/platform work for a large Israeli e-commerce environment spanning self-hosted GitLab, OCI/OKE, on-prem infrastructure, Kubernetes/GitOps, Cloudflare, observability, networking, infrastructure as code, stateful services, and disaster-recovery architecture. Focused on reliable systems, controlled change, operational clarity, and automation that scales beyond individual operators.

Current projects: Abuse Detector (production since October 2026) and KSP Storefront (in development).

300+ GitLab projects migrated or standardized	3 ADs Target architecture for Frankfurt high availability	270+ Kubernetes pods in the migration workload footprint	End-to-end CI/CD, edge, platform, observability, networking and DR ownership
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DevOps Lead / Senior Platform Engineer KSP Ltd

02/2024 - Present | Israel

- Founded the DevOps function as its initial solo owner and helped grow the platform team while standardizing delivery across a 300+ project GitLab estate.
- Manage external vendor communication and cloud services, coordinating service issues, technical escalations, and operational requirements.
- Drove the transition from Bitbucket/Jenkins toward self-hosted GitLab CI/CD using reusable components, migration tooling, policy, standardized pipelines, and developer-focused workflows.
- Introduced and operate Argo CD/GitOps patterns for Kubernetes delivery using Helm, ApplicationSets/app-of-apps, rollout governance, and controlled environment changes.
- Lead high-availability planning for migration from OCI Israel single-AD constraints to Frankfurt across three availability domains, covering roughly 270+ pods / 300+ containers plus Redis, Elasticsearch, and MySQL/MariaDB workloads.
- Operate Cloudflare production controls across DNS, WAF, Bot Management, routing, allowlists, and application protection; evaluate controls using production traffic evidence rather than rule-count vanity metrics.
- Own observability patterns across Grafana Cloud, Alloy, Prometheus/Mimir, Loki, Tempo, OpenTelemetry, and eBPF/Beyla, including modernization of legacy applications.
- Design cloud networking, VPN/private-access, branch connectivity, and DR patterns across OCI, AWS, and on-prem; investigate provider/transit failures using MTR, routing, MTU, and packet-path evidence.
- Drive Terraform/Ansible infrastructure automation, CI-only change workflows, state governance, secret-management patterns, and production operational guardrails.
- Act as a senior/final technical escalation point for production platform incidents spanning application delivery, infrastructure, networking, observability, databases, and edge services.

Backend Developer / Production Engineering Foundation KSP Ltd

01/2022 - 01/2024 | Israel

- Built and supported backend systems using PHP/Laravel, MySQL/MariaDB, Redis, Elasticsearch, APIs, and production debugging.
- Developed application-level context in databases, caching, deployments, failure diagnosis, and legacy behavior that now informs platform and reliability decisions.
- Expanded into Go, Node.js, Python, automation tooling, CI/CD, observability, and infrastructure operations.

SELECTED PROJECTS

Abuse Detector | KSP E-commerce

Production since October 2026

Built a Python service that uses hourly Cloudflare/Loki request aggregates to detect scraping and apply temporary challenges or blocks. Added health gates, audited operator overrides, an HTTPS dashboard, and local-LLM review with operator feedback and replayable evaluations. Python 3.12, SQLite/Postgres, Loki, Cloudflare APIs, systemd.

KSP Storefront

In development

Consolidating five legacy front ends and services into one Next.js 16 / React 19 / TypeScript codebase for four Kubernetes workloads. Added server rendering, Redis session/client read budgets, and OpenTelemetry. Around 500 tests cover shopping flows and microfrontend contracts, with Playwright checks for blocking SSR. GitLab CI builds images; Argo CD handles deployment.

SELECTED PLATFORM & RELIABILITY WORK

OCI Frankfurt Multi-AD Production Migration

Architecture and phased execution plan for moving critical e-commerce workloads from single-AD constraints to three Frankfurt availability domains. Covers Kubernetes placement, subnets/compartments, Cloudflare cutover, Terraform, Redis Sentinel, Elasticsearch, MySQL/MariaDB/ProxySQL, observability, rollback, and failure-domain design.

GitLab Migration & CI Platform

Moved the engineering organization away from Bitbucket Data Center/Jenkins toward self-hosted GitLab, reusable CI components, policy, migration automation, and centralized delivery workflows for 300+ projects.

Kubernetes & GitOps Platform

Production Kubernetes/OKE operations using Argo CD, Helm, Argo Rollouts, ingress/Gateway API patterns, secrets integration, environment governance, and repeatable deployment workflows.

Observability & Legacy Modernization

Grafana Cloud/LGTM and Alloy patterns across metrics, logs, and traces; OpenTelemetry and edge-level trace injection for legacy PHP systems; Loki-to-Tempo correlation and eBPF/Beyla instrumentation.

Cloud Networking, Edge & DR

OCI/AWS and on-prem connectivity, OpenVPN/WireGuard patterns, NLB-based remote access, branch routing, private DNS, Cloudflare DNS/WAF/routing, and provider/transit incident investigation.

Database Operations

Production MariaDB/MySQL troubleshooting, lock and query analysis, recovery planning, Redis and Elasticsearch operations, ProxySQL architecture, and custom Go-based database monitoring.

Internal Platform Tooling

Go, Python, Node.js and backend automation used to convert recurring operational knowledge into repeatable workflows, APIs, validation, monitoring agents, and self-service platform concepts.

Vendor & Cloud Service Management

Manage external vendor communication and cloud services, coordinating service issues, technical escalations, and operational requirements.

CORE TECHNICAL STACK

Platform: Linux, Docker, Kubernetes, OKE, Helm, Argo CD, Argo Rollouts, GitOps

IaC & Automation: Terraform, Ansible, Bash, Go, Python

Networking: VCN/VPC, VPN, OpenVPN, WireGuard, DNS, reverse proxies, Traefik, NGINX, Gateway API

Data: MySQL, MariaDB, ProxySQL, Redis, Elasticsearch, MongoDB, InfluxDB

CI/CD: GitLab CI/CD, self-hosted GitLab, Jenkins, reusable CI components, Kaniko

Cloud & Edge: OCI, AWS, Cloudflare Enterprise, WAF, Bot Management, load balancing

Observability: Grafana, Alloy, Prometheus/Mimir, Loki, Tempo, OpenTelemetry, Beyla/eBPF

Backend: PHP/Laravel, Go, Node.js/NestJS, REST APIs, WebSockets, JavaScript/TypeScript

OPERATING STYLE

Production-first systems thinking: define failure domains, automate repeatable work, keep changes auditable, instrument before guessing, prefer boring reliability over cleverness, and build platform mechanisms that reduce dependency on one engineer knowing every operational detail.

Education: Braude College. **Training:** DevOps Experts. **Languages:** Hebrew - Native | English - Professional working proficiency. **Homelab:** On-prem bare-metal Kubernetes for infrastructure, networking, storage, observability, and cluster operations testing.

Portfolio: portfolio.thepcport.com