

DAMIEN PLENARD

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👤 PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Platform Engineer with 14+ years architecting resilient, multi-cloud infrastructure for high-scale systems. Expertise in Kubernetes orchestration (15+ production clusters), GitOps workflows (ArgoCD/FluxCD), and observability platforms (Prometheus/Grafana). Specialized in cross-cluster networking (Cilium ClusterMesh), infrastructure automation, and reducing operational toil. Currently building healthcare AI infrastructure; previously scaled fintech payment systems in compliance with PCI-DSS/GDPR requirements.

⚙️ SKILLS

- **Cloud & Infrastructure:** AWS, GCP, Azure, On-Premises
- **Containers & Orchestration:** Kubernetes, Nomad, Docker
- **IaC & Configuration:** Terraform, Ansible, Helm, ArgoCD, FluxCD
- **CI/CD:** GitLab CI, GitHub Actions, Git
- **Observability:** Prometheus, Grafana, DataDog, Elasticsearch
- **Languages:** Golang, Python, Bash
- **Databases & Messaging:** Elasticsearch, RabbitMQ, Redis
- **Networking:** Cilium, ClusterMesh
- **Security & Compliance:** RBAC, Kyverno, PCI-DSS, GDPR

👤 EXPERIENCE

Kaiko.ai

Nov. 2025 – Present

Senior Platform Engineer Amsterdam

Build and optimize core infrastructure for AI-powered oncology platform supporting cancer care across European hospitals.

- Spearheaded platform-wide migration from SecretStore CSI driver to ExternalSecrets Operator across 15+ Kubernetes clusters, implementing Kyverno deprecation policies and automated migration tooling
- Architected cross-cluster communication infrastructure using Cilium ClusterMesh, implementing network policies, firewall rules, and service discovery for hub-spoke topology
- Expanded multi-cloud footprint by establishing GCP organization structure and implementing Azure workload identity patterns for secure KeyVault integration across hybrid infrastructure
- Reduced operational toil through automation of TLS certificate management, infrastructure cost monitoring via budget alerting, and standardization of deployment patterns
- Enabled cross-cluster API access for ML workloads (Dagster, Ray) through kubelogin integration and RBAC automation

Camunda

Apr. 2024 – Oct. 2025

Senior Site Reliability Engineer Amsterdam

Drive reliability, observability, and operational excellence for a global SaaS workflow automation platform.

- Designed and deployed observability platform using Prometheus, Blackbox Exporter, and custom Kubernetes operator, enabling automated SLI tracking and customer-specific SLOs across multi-tenant infrastructure
- Spearheaded GitOps adoption by migrating deployment workflows from GitHub Actions to ArgoCD, reducing new region deployment time from 2 weeks to 3-4 days and enabling consistent, auditable infrastructure rollouts
- Expanded platform to new AWS regions, enabling customer deployments across multiple geographies for data residency, compliance, and latency requirements

- Improved platform resilience by systematically resolving high-priority post-incident actions and reducing recurring failures
- Collaborated cross-functionally with development teams, providing technical guidance on reliability practices and operational excellence

Mollie

Feb. 2022 – Mar. 2024

Site Reliability Engineer II Amsterdam

Led infrastructure initiatives during Google Cloud Platform migration for payment processing platform.

- Architected and executed disaster recovery strategy for production infrastructure, enabling business continuity in compliance with PCI-DSS and GDPR requirements
- Established SLO framework with automated monitoring and alerting, improving service reliability posture across payment processing systems
- Automated multi-cloud infrastructure provisioning using Terraform, Ansible, and Helm, standardizing deployments across Kubernetes clusters and on-premises systems
- Designed resilient architectures for managed RabbitMQ and Elasticsearch clusters supporting high-volume transaction processing
- Standardized observability infrastructure through Terraform-managed Grafana dashboards, improving incident response times

Veepee

Jan. 2018 – Jan. 2022

Site Reliability Engineer Amsterdam

Delivered observability platform and infrastructure automation for e-commerce operations.

- Championed observability culture, driving adoption of SRE practices across engineering teams
- Operated 90+ TB Elasticsearch cluster serving APM and centralized logging infrastructure
- Built long-term metrics storage solution using Prometheus and Thanos federation
- Provisioned and maintained Docker orchestration platform using Nomad, Consul, and Vault
- Developed synthetic monitoring solution with Python-based browser testing framework
- Streamlined incident response through workflow automation and tooling improvements

Payplug

Mar. 2012 – Dec. 2017

System Engineer Paris & Amsterdam

Built and operated carrier billing platform integrations for mobile payment services.

- Designed and deployed API service for phone number carrier lookup, aggregating multiple telecom data sources for real-time mobile payment validation
- Implemented subscription-based billing system for mobile payment processing, automating recurring charge workflows
- Enhanced software quality and deployment velocity by establishing CI/CD pipelines and automated testing frameworks

EDUCATION

Epitech, Paris

2014

Master of Science in Computer Science and Engineering

BJTU, Beijing

2013

2 Semesters in Computer Science and Engineering