



Diego Roccia

TECHNICAL ENGINEERING MANAGER, PLATFORM & FINOPS

Profile

Strategic and results-driven Engineering Manager specializing in Cloud Infrastructure, security, and FinOps, with over 20 years of deep expertise spanning on-premises to cloud. At Zalando, I empower builders by delivering secure, cost-efficient, and compliant services at scale.

Throughout my career, I have consistently designed, built, and overseen the creation of complex environments completely from the ground up, demonstrating a proven ability to deliver comprehensive solutions.

Employment History

Engineering Manager, Zalando, Berlin Area, Germany

AUGUST 2021 – PRESENT

I lead the Cloud Governance team at Zalando, overseeing the strategic direction and operational excellence of our cloud infrastructure across 3 AWS Organizations and ~350 AWS accounts. My focus is on enabling secure, reliable, cost-efficient, and compliant cloud operations, empowering our builders to innovate at an unprecedented scale.

- Direct critical central services, including AWS Single Sign-On (SSO), central logging and auditing, Cloud Deployment Service, Public DNS, SSL certificate lifecycle management, and implementing comprehensive security guardrails at the infrastructure level.
- Drive a cost-conscious culture by automating infrastructure budgeting, chargeback models, and increasing cost transparency with near-real-time attribution.
- Lead and implement large-scale infrastructure cost optimizations, including EC2 rightsizing, S3 storage class optimization, and eliminating unused resources, resulting in significant financial efficiencies.
- Partner with Executive Leadership to define and execute the technical strategy and long-term vision for our evolving cloud infrastructure and capabilities, driving innovation and architectural excellence.
- Collaborate extensively with cross-functional teams and stakeholders to ensure the high availability, resilience, and scalability of Zalando's cloud systems.

Principal Engineer, Zalando SE, Berlin Area, Germany

SEPTEMBER 2020 – AUGUST 2021

As a Principal Engineer, I led the strategic transformation of Zalando's legacy on-premises infrastructure, encompassing both the decommissioning of our on-premises data centers and the subsequent transition to a fully cloud-native environment on AWS. My role involved not only migrating thousands of servers and microservices but also fundamentally reshaping how the team managed infrastructure.

- Orchestrated the complete migration of core microservices from on-premises data centers to the cloud on Kubernetes.
- Successfully spearheaded the complete closure of all on-premises data centers, resulting in significant operational efficiencies and cost savings.
- Led the transition of our team's responsibilities to the AWS cloud environment following the datacenter closure.

Details

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Germany
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Skills

Cloud Architecture & Strategy

FinOps & Cost Optimization

Platform Engineering Leadership

Engineering Leadership & Mentorship

Strategic Planning & Execution

Security & Compliance

Orchestration & Containerization

Large-Scale Migrations & Modernizations

AI-driven Platform Optimization

Languages

Italian

English

Hobbies

Cooking, Board Games,
Home Automation, Videogames,
Spending time with family

- Championed the 'Infrastructure as Code' (IaC) approach for centrally provided infrastructure, ensuring that all AWS environments were managed as code, versioned in Git, and subject to rigorous auditing and logging.
- Implemented robust guardrails and security policies to minimize incidents and ensure full traceability of all infrastructure changes.
- Provided technical leadership and architectural guidance for complex infrastructure projects, solving critical challenges related to scalability, reliability, and security in hybrid and cloud-native environments.
- Collaborated extensively with engineering teams to ensure smooth service transition and minimal disruption during the migration phases.

Senior System Engineer, Zalando SE, Berlin Area, Germany

JANUARY 2018 – AUGUST 2020

- Managed the robust operation and management of Zalando's on-premises data centers, ensuring operational excellence for critical microservices.
- Successfully oversaw a fleet of over 1,000 physical and virtual servers at scale, leading capacity planning and developing extensive automations for infrastructure provisioning and configuration management.
- Collaborated with leadership on strategic planning for infrastructure evolution, focusing on enhancing reliability and performance for critical infrastructure.

Sr System and Network Engineer, Lucini&Lucini Communications Group, Milan, Italy

MAY 2016 – NOVEMBER 2017

As a Sr System and Network Engineer at Lucini&Lucini Communications Group, a leader in digital marketing and high-volume cloud email transfer technology, I managed critical infrastructure for their global email delivery platform, spanning across 3 data centers, and reliably serving approximately 70 million subscribers worldwide. This involved ensuring the high availability and performance of proprietary systems, including the AdSender cloud infrastructure, crucial for lead generation and brand awareness services.

- Managed critical infrastructure across 3 data centers, powering a global email delivery platform serving approximately 70 million subscribers worldwide.
- Ensured high availability and performance of proprietary systems, including the AdSender cloud infrastructure, crucial for lead generation and brand awareness services.
- Designed a system to reroute email traffic from one datacenter to another based on reputation of the IP range of each location
- Improved the monitoring capabilities of the platform by introducing a monitoring system based on the ELK (ElasticSearch/LogStash/Kibana) stack

System and Network Engineer, Subito.it (Schibsted Media Group), Milan, Italy

AUGUST 2010 – MARCH 2016

As a System and Network Engineer at Subito.it, I was primarily responsible for the holistic design and management of the entire infrastructure, encompassing both systems and network operations.

- Redesigned and optimized the entire infrastructure, significantly enhancing efficiency/scalability.
- Migrated the infrastructure to a new datacenter.
- Actively participated in architectural decisions to optimize resources.
- Collaborated extensively with development and integration teams to facilitate seamless product deployment.
- Ensured 24/7 service availability.

System and Network administrator, Buongiorno S.p.A., Milan, Italy

DECEMBER 2007 – JANUARY 2010

At Buongiorno S.p.A., a multinational leader in mobile entertainment and digital services with a vast global customer base across 57 countries, I contributed as a member of the System and Network Administration team.

- Contributed to the management and maintenance of core infrastructure delivering mobile applications and content to customers.
- Ensured reliability and performance of systems crucial for email delivery, entertainment, social networking, and multimedia interactive services.

Network administrator, CoMedia S.r.l., Milan, Italy

JUNE 2003 – DECEMBER 2007

Working on-site at Hewlett-Packard, I was a member of the Network Operations Center team

- Provided critical infrastructure support for enterprise customers as a member of the Network Operations Center team.
- Focused on ensuring high availability and performance of network systems for major banks and other financial institutions.
- Managed incidents and maintained robust network operations to support complex business demands.

Education

Associate's Degree in Electronics and Telecommunications, ITIS, Milano

JANUARY 1993 – JANUARY 1998