Nicolas Hordé

Senior Cloud & Platform Architect

Kubernetes | AWS | Terraform | GitOps | Infrastructure Automation | DevSecOps

nicolas.horde@linux.com | +353 83 138 1925 / +33 611221911 | linkedin.com/in/tohire

ia86.cc | **French / EU citizen – no visa sponsorship required.**

Available for fully remote roles from January 2027. Relocating permanently to Ireland from 15 February 2027; available for hybrid, permanent and fixed-term positions.

Professional Profile

Senior Cloud and Platform Architect with 20+ years of experience across Linux infrastructure, private cloud, cybersecurity and enterprise modernisation. Designs secure cloud-native platforms and automated delivery systems using Kubernetes, AWS, Terraform, Ansible, GitOps, CI/CD and observability tooling. Combines architecture ownership with hands-on engineering across multi-data-centre infrastructure, large-scale legacy modernisation and enterprise information systems. Former CISO and Private Cloud / DevOps Team Lead. Since 2023, delivered consulting assignments for 16 clients.

Core Expertise

- **Cloud, Platform & Solutions Architecture**: Kubernetes, Docker, Linux, AWS, EC2, S3, CloudFront, CloudWatch, EKS, Lambda, Aurora and Hetzner Cloud.
- **Infrastructure as Code & Automation**: Terraform, Ansible, Python, Bash, Rundeck, n8n, Workato, API integration and Git-driven infrastructure.
- **GitOps & CI/CD**: Argo CD, Argo Workflows, GitLab CI, Jenkins, Forgejo/Gitea, Harbor, reproducible builds and declarative delivery.
- **Observability & Reliability**: Prometheus, Grafana, Loki, OpenTelemetry, ELK, Elasticsearch, Kibana, alerting, backup and disaster-recovery practices.
- **Security & Networking**: DevSecOps, PKI, TLS, MFA, SIEM, VPN/WireGuard, firewalls, DNS, DHCP, VLAN, routing and security governance.
- **Data, Storage & Modernisation**: PostgreSQL, SQL Server, MariaDB/MySQL, MinIO/S3, Ceph, Longhorn, ZFS, C, Python, COBOL, RAG and LangChain.

Certifications

Certified Argo Project Associate (CAPA) – Linux Foundation / CNCF	Oct 2026
Certified System Administrator (LFCS) – Linux Foundation / CNCF	Oct 2026
Kubestronaut – Linux Foundation / CNCF	Oct 2026
Certified Kubernetes Security Specialist (CKS) – Linux Foundation / CNCF	Oct 2026
CLOE English Certification – C1 Level – CCI France	Sep 2026
Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA) – Linux Foundation / CNCF	Sep 2026
Certified Kubernetes Application Developer (CKAD) – Linux Foundation / CNCF	Sep 2026
Kubernetes and Cloud Native Security Associate (KCSA) – Linux Foundation / CNCF	Sep 2025
Kubernetes and Cloud Native Associate (KCNA) – Linux Foundation / CNCF	Sep 2025
AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate – AWS	Jun 2025
AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner – AWS	Sep 2024

Professional Experience

IA86 Computer Consulting *Aug 2023 – Present*

Freelance Consultant – Cloud Architecture, Platform Engineering and Technical Training *France / International*

- Delivered consulting and training for **16 clients**: six Kubernetes engagements, four business/infrastructure automation programmes, and 33 training days for engineering students and IT professionals.
- Architected and implemented cloud-native platforms, GitOps delivery, infrastructure automation, AI-assisted systems and modernisation programmes using Kubernetes, AWS, Terraform, Ansible, Argo CD/Workflows, Python and Linux.
- **Elitis – Cloud Architect**: Led a company-wide information-system redesign for a premium wallcoverings company. Built a five-node Kubernetes platform, delivered a complete software-development environment and implemented five automation workflows covering quality operations, sample management, PDF generation and operational data exchanges.
- **Gustav Cyber – Cloud / Platform Architect**: Owned the architecture from proof of concept to production for a cybersecurity product; designed the secure container platform, software forge, deployment workflows and final-product containerisation using Kubernetes, Docker, Linux, Ansible, Argo CD and Argo Workflows.
- **CobolCloud – Cloud Architect**: Contributed to an international R&D project exploring AI-assisted C/COBOL modernisation through RAG, LangChain, Kubernetes, AWS, Terraform and PostgreSQL/pgvector.
- **3iL Group / iForm – Technical Trainer**: Designed and delivered AWS Cloud, Linux, Python, Bash, Ansible and DevOps courses for an engineering school and professional-training audiences.
- Additional engagements included Kubernetes and cloud migrations, WordPress/Drupal modernisation, AI-enabled knowledge bases, observability, documentation platforms and automated operational workflows.

Professional Experience (continued)

iMSA – Informatique de la MSA et de ses partenaires *Jan 2024 – Dec 2024*
Multi-Technology Expert – Legacy Systems Modernisation *France*

- Contributed to the migration of a mission-critical transactional engine from **AIX 32-bit to Linux x86_64**, spanning more than **25,000 C and COBOL source files** and approximately **5 GB of compiled binaries**.
- Adapted runtime libraries and C/COBOL interoperability components, mapped dependencies and execution constraints, and helped define a phased migration strategy that reduced operational risk.
- Improved GitLab CI and Jenkins toolchains and developed Python/Bash automation for testing, reproducible builds, deployment contexts and operational workflows.
- Participated in DevAIOps R&D using LLMs for code analysis, review, test generation and engineering automation.

Environment: C, COBOL, GitLab CI, Jenkins, Python, Bash, Ansible, PostgreSQL, Red Hat Linux, Debian and SAFe.

INRAE *May 2023 – Jan 2024*
DevOps Expert – Technical Validator *Occitanie-Toulouse, France*

- Designed and built a high-availability Rundeck automation platform spanning **three data centres**, integrating Terraform, Ansible and Python with VMware vCenter environments comprising **several thousand virtual machines**.
- Automated end-to-end VM provisioning, IP allocation, forward/reverse DNS registration and VMware orchestration for a research community of nearly **2,000 users**.
- Refactored legacy scripts into modular Ansible roles and Python CLI tools, strengthening infrastructure-as-code, GitLab CI integration, traceability and repeatability.
- Implemented and enhanced ELK/Grafana-based log ingestion, Lucene searches, scripted fields, dashboards and alerting.
- Served as technical assessor for DevOps and Ops profiles and mentored incoming consultants.

Environment: Rundeck HA, Terraform, Ansible, Python, Bash, GitLab CI, VMware vCenter, Bind DNS, REST APIs, ELK, Kibana and Grafana.

University of Limoges *2001 – 2023*
Infrastructure, DevOps, Security and IT Leadership *France*

- Progressed from systems administration to Project Manager / Python Developer, Private Cloud & DevOps Team Lead and CISO within a multi-campus university serving more than **17,000 students** and **1,800 employees**.
- **CISO, Central IT Department (2022 – 2023):** Led security operations, audits and governance across Active Directory, VPN, DNS, SIEM, firewalls and PKI; defined remediation roadmaps, information-security policies, disaster-recovery controls, PCI-DSS-related measures and DevSecOps diagnostics.
- **DevOps Team Lead / Private Cloud (2018 – 2022):** Led infrastructure modernisation, automation and DevOps adoption; operated a Git platform hosting approximately **3,000 repositories**; designed CI/CD pipelines, Ansible playbooks, Git-driven operations, monitoring and configuration rollouts; supported Docker/Kubernetes pilots and Linux hardening.
- **Project Manager & Python Developer (2014 – 2018):** Designed deployment workflows and developed *Microlinux V2.0*, a custom Linux-based virtualisation system; managed automated workstation reimaging and integration through FOG.
- **Infrastructure & Systems Roles (2001 – 2014):** Managed servers, virtualisation, storage, backup, LAN/WAN, Active Directory, Linux/Windows platforms, DNS/DHCP and IT asset lifecycles; built Bash/Python automation and internal tools.

Environment: Debian, Red Hat, CentOS, Windows Server, VMware, Proxmox, KVM/QEMU, GitLab, Ansible, Docker, Kubernetes, Bash, Python, LDAP, Active Directory, PKI and SIEM.

Education

- **First year of Master's programme (Master 1) in Computer Security – Master Cryptis**, Université de Limoges.
- **Higher National Diploma (BTS) in Industrial Mechanics and Automation**.

Languages

- **French**: Native.
- **English**: B2+ professional working proficiency, including technical discussions and meeting facilitation; CLOE and TOEIC assessments in progress.

Hobbies

- Trail running, mountain trekking, rock climbing and mountaineering.
- Caving and exploration.
- Sheepdog training with Border Collies.
- Strategy games.
- Open-source tooling and operating-system coding.