BRAIDLOGIC

Curriculum vitae

Sander Horst

Cloud & Platform Engineer

I build secure, automated and maintainable cloud platforms on Azure, AWS and Kubernetes. From cloud foundation to delivery, observability and operations.

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Ede, the Netherlands



BraidLogic
Cloud & Platform Engineer

170+
customer environments migrated or redesigned

500+
application environments supported at scale

45%
lower platform cost at Rabobank

Profile

I work in an open and direct way. I take ownership independently, but I enjoy working closely with developers, operations teams and stakeholders just as much. People know what to expect from me and where I stand.

I like to keep the atmosphere good, even when the work is complex or under pressure. Alongside building and operating, I think along about process improvement and knowledge sharing. I pick up new technology quickly and combine broad public-cloud experience with on-premises knowledge, automation and controlled execution.

Languages

Dutch	Native
English	Used daily in international teams

At a glance

2017 – 2022
Philips
DevOps Engineer

2022 – 2023
Solvinity
Cloud Engineer

2023 – 2026
Rabobank
Kafka Platform Engineer

2024 – now
Bettr Health Group
Cloud / DevOps Consultant

2026 – now
Togetr
Cloud / DevOps Consultant

Experience

Independent assignments run through BraidLogic. The roles at Rabobank and before were in employment.

Mar 2026 – present
Independent

Cloud / DevOps Consultant · Togetr

Independent assignment via BraidLogic

Leading the modernisation of a traditional VM-based application platform into a containerised, secure and scalable Kubernetes environment on Azure. The assignment combines platform design, network and security foundations, database operations and a controlled migration path for around 170 customer environments.

- Designing and implementing the Kubernetes platform with network isolation, GitOps-driven configuration, certificate automation and platform-wide security controls.
- Containerising application components and preparing runtime configuration through environment variables and deployment pipelines.
- Designing and operating highly available MariaDB clusters with the MariaDB Operator, including backup and restore, customer clones and database operations.
- Connecting Terraform-based infrastructure automation to existing deployment orchestration and manager pipelines for provisioning, deletion, releases and customer clones.
- Migrating customer environments with repeatable, testable automation while advising development teams on observability, alerting and modernisation constraints.

Stack Kubernetes · Azure · Terraform · GitOps · Azure DevOps · MariaDB Operator · cert-manager · Managed identities · Workload federation · Grafana

Jul 2024 – present
Independent

Cloud / DevOps Consultant · Bettr Health Group

Independent assignment via BraidLogic

Designing, building and maintaining AWS cloud environments for multiple companies within the Bettr Group. The work ranges from greenfield Kubernetes platforms to redesigning existing environments with better separation, security, monitoring and delivery automation.

- Built a secure AWS and Kubernetes platform for a microservices-based healthcare application, including Terraform infrastructure and Helm-based deployments.
- Implemented a full observability stack with Prometheus, Grafana, Loki, Tempo and Alertmanager, including alert routing to Microsoft Teams.
- Created an automated load-testing pipeline that published test results directly to stakeholders.

- Developed a just-in-time production access flow: no direct access by default, temporary approved access that is fully audited, and automated monthly reports to the security officer.
- Technical counterpart in the internal and external ISO 27001 and NEN 7510 audits: cloud setup, access, logging and evidence for the auditor.
- Redesigned smaller AWS environments with jump hosts, load balancing, WAF protection, CI/CD pipelines and improved workload and database separation.

Stack AWS · EKS · Terraform · Helm · ArgoCD · Grafana stack · Power Automate · GitHub · ISO 27001 · NEN 7510

Aug 2023 – Mar 2026
Employment

Kafka Platform Engineer · Rabobank

Employed at Smartworkz, assigned to Rabobank

Worked through Smartworkz in the platform team that managed and automated the Axual SaaS solution, used within Rabobank as the Kafka-as-a-service platform for application teams. The role combined day-to-day platform operations, troubleshooting, automation and making it easier for teams to manage topics and applications through code instead of manual UI steps.

- Supported and improved the Kafka platform in daily operations: analysing issues, guiding deployments, checking access and configuration, and helping teams with topic and application questions.
- Built Python extensions for Azure DevOps so teams could create and update Kafka topics and applications from pipeline configuration instead of the UI.
- Built a secure token solution that let pipelines call the Axual API automatically, although the vendor setup did not support regular service accounts.
- Wrote Python automation to find and clean up unused resources, which reduced platform cost by about 45 percent and saved roughly EUR 1 million per year.
- Presented this cost-saving work in Rabobank's global FinOps Challenge 2024 and finished second.

Stack Azure · AWS · Azure DevOps · Python · Kafka · Keycloak · OAuth · Terraform · Kubernetes · FinOps

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Mar 2022 – Jul 2023
Employment

Cloud Engineer · Solvinity

Employment

Joined a public cloud team that was still developing its standards and operating model. Helped build the foundation for repeatable infrastructure delivery, client onboarding and centralised alerting across cloud environments.

- Standardised infrastructure delivery with Terraform and Azure DevOps pipelines.
- Designed Azure DevOps organisation structures, authentication models and CI/CD patterns for multiple client environments.
- Built a central Opsgenie integration for Azure alerts, including ServiceNow incident creation and Terraform-based reuse.
- Created an automation system that generated complete Azure DevOps projects from a single configuration file, reducing onboarding work from weeks to hours.

Stack Azure · AWS · Terraform · Azure DevOps · PowerShell · Bash · Kubernetes · Helm · Checkov · tfsec

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Feb 2017 – Feb 2022
Employment

DevOps Engineer · Philips

Employment

Worked on three major healthcare applications with more than 150 clients and around 500 production, test and development environments. A large part of the role focused on bringing standardisation, automation and reliability to environments that had historically been managed by hand.

- Initiated environment and deployment automation using Azure DevOps and reusable PowerShell modules.
- Worked with OpenShift, AWS EKS and Cloud Foundry to modernise and migrate application environments.
- Helped design and implement monitoring and observability with Prometheus, Elastic Stack, Grafana and PagerDuty.
- Covered the technical side of ISO 27001 and NEN 7510 audits for the healthcare environments for a period: demonstrating controls, resolving findings and documenting them.
- Renewed the site network and hardware on Fortinet: new VLAN layout, DHCP, DNS and Active Directory, site-to-site VPN with routing to other locations and client VPN for staff.
- Built solid experience in reliable automation, error handling, stakeholder communication and production operations.

Stack Azure DevOps · PowerShell · Octopus · Jenkins · OpenShift · EKS · Cloud Foundry · Prometheus · Elastic Stack · PagerDuty · Fortinet

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Aug 2015 – Feb 2016
Internship

ICT Administrator · Continue IT

Internship

Hands-on experience in IT operations, client support and project execution across Microsoft infrastructure, networking and office environments.

- Supported Exchange to Office 365 migrations, office network setups and daily helpdesk operations.

- Worked with Active Directory, DNS, DHCP, hardware support and monitoring.

Stack Windows AD · DNS · DHCP · Office 365 · Exchange · Networking

New direction

Practical AI on your own data

Alongside platform work I am exploring how AI on a company's own data can lighten recurring work. It is a direction I am developing: apart from my own proofs of concept, no completed client projects yet. The same platform discipline applies: data stays with its owner, the application works within existing permissions and logging, and output can be checked and refers to its source.

What this can look like

- Meeting preparation with context from calendar, CRM, tickets and earlier notes
- A knowledge assistant on your own documentation, with source references
- An autonomous agent that walks through software repositories daily or weekly, looking for security vulnerabilities and incorrect implementations, and delivers its findings as proposals
- Reports and summaries assembled from several systems
- Triage and draft replies, with a colleague in the loop

Technical focus areas

Cloud platforms	Azure · AWS · GCP
Container and platform engineering	Kubernetes · AKS · EKS · GKE · OpenShift · Cloud Foundry · Helm · ArgoCD · GitOps · Kubernetes Operators · cert-manager
Infrastructure as Code and automation	Terraform · Ansible · Azure ARM · PowerShell · Bash · Python · REST APIs
CI/CD and delivery	Azure DevOps · GitHub · Jenkins · Octopus Deploy · Docker · YAML pipelines
Identity and security	Managed identities · Workload identity and federation · Pod identity · IAM roles · IRSA · OIDC · RBAC · Microsoft Entra ID · Secretless authentication · Least privilege
Compliance and audits	ISO 27001 · NEN 7510 · Internal and external audits · Technical evidence · Just-in-time access · Audit logging

Observability	Prometheus · Grafana · Loki · Tempo · Alertmanager · Elastic Stack · Azure Monitor · Opsgenie · PagerDuty · PRTG · Zabbix
Databases and messaging	MariaDB · MySQL · PostgreSQL · SQL Server · MongoDB · Redis · RabbitMQ · Kafka · HA database clusters
Networking	VNets and VPCs · Private endpoints · Load balancing · DNS · DHCP · TLS · Fortinet firewalls · VLANs · Site-to-site and client VPN · WAF
Software environments supported	.NET · Java · Node.js · Angular · Python

Courses and certifications

- **Terraform Associate**
  May 2022
- **AZ-104 and AZ-400**
  August 2023
- **PRINCE2 Foundation**
  March 2019

Education

- **Bachelor, Infra Design and Security**
  Windesheim, Zwolle · 2017 – 2022
- **Secondary vocational education, IT Manager**
  Hoornbeeck College, Amersfoort · 2014 – 2017
- **Secondary education**
  Jacobus Fruytier Scholengemeenschap, Apeldoorn · 2009 – 2014