

Kevin J. Cefalu

Summary

With over 15 years in software development and systems architecture, Kevin Cefalu is a passionate technology leader committed to mentoring engineers and driving innovation. His expertise spans from hands-on development to strategic technology planning, consistently enhancing operational efficiency across diverse organizations while sharing knowledge through presentations on DevOps, PowerShell, and Azure.

Kevin excels in developing applications and creating automated solutions with a proven track record of resolving complex technical challenges efficiently and cost-effectively. As a driving force behind DevOps initiatives, he empowers development teams to iterate rapidly while maintaining robust infrastructure integrity. His ability to quickly master emerging technologies, thrive in both collaborative and independent environments, and leverage a diverse technical toolkit makes him an adaptable and valuable technology professional.

Kevin is also an avid speaker and educator, frequently presenting at industry conferences and local meetups. He shares his insights on topics such as DevOps practices, PowerShell scripting, and cloud computing with Azure, helping others stay ahead in the ever-evolving tech landscape.

Certifications

Azure Administrator Associate

Microsoft Corporation · EFBA71019BDDDE2D · Jun 2023 — Jun 2026

Skills

ASP.NET, Automation, Boxing, C#, C++, CAD, CI/CD, DevOps, Docker, Drawing & Design, Electronics, FDM 3D Printing, Gaming, Git, Home Automation, IaC, IoT, Kubernetes, Leadership, Linux, Mental Health, Microsoft Azure, Microsoft Azure DevOps, Microsoft Entra Id, Microsoft PowerShell, Microsoft SQL Server, Microsoft Windows, Music, People Management, Strategic Planning, Visual Studio, Visual Studio Code, Woodworking

Experience

Netchex

Covington, Louisiana, 70433

<https://www.netchex.com>

In over eight years at Netchex (a cloud-based HR/payroll solutions firm), Kevin took on progressively senior roles, culminating in managing DevOps engineering. He was responsible for deploying and maintaining 1K+ Azure cloud resources across the organization.

Notable Responsibilities & Achievements

- **Cloud Architecture & Automation**

- Authored C# applications and PowerShell modules to automate infrastructure, and implemented Infrastructure-as-Code practices (Azure DevOps pipelines) to streamline deployments. He led a comprehensive gap analysis of the production environment against the Azure Well-Architected Framework and spearheaded remediation efforts to align systems with best practices.

- **Containerization Strategy**

- Designed and rolled out the company's containerization approach using Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS) and Azure Container Apps, transforming legacy applications into cloud-native services for improved scalability and consistency.

- **Leadership & Mentorship**

- Progressed through roles from DevOps Engineer I up to DevOps Engineering Manager, mentoring a team of engineers. In these leadership roles, he focused on enhancing collaboration between development and operations, and championed a culture of automation and continuous improvement. He often collaborated with architects and developers to ensure reliability and performance of Netchex's cloud solutions.

- **Resilience & Problem-Solving**

- Kevin frequently navigated complex technical challenges. He played a central role in troubleshooting critical incidents (the kind that “break at 2AM”) and implemented preventative measures. His blend of software development and IT operations expertise allowed him to bridge gaps between teams and rapidly resolve issues.
- **Cloud Cost Optimization**
 - As part of enhancing Netchex’s infrastructure, Kevin evaluated resource utilization and identified cost-saving opportunities. For example, he applied Azure’s Well-Architected review to optimize workloads and eliminate wasteful configurations, contributing to a more efficient cloud spend.

Roles

DevOps Engineering Manager

Jul 2023 — Sep 2025 (2 yrs 2 mos)

Lead and manage DevOps engineering team; oversee cloud infrastructure & deployment strategies; drive automation and continuous improvement.

- Lead and manage DevOps engineering team
- Oversee cloud infrastructure and deployment strategies
- Drive automation and continuous improvement initiatives

Senior DevOps Engineer III

Apr 2021 — Jul 2023 (2 yrs 3 mos)

Designed and implemented scalable cloud infrastructure; led DevOps best practices & automation; mentored engineers and drove technical excellence.

- Design and implement scalable cloud infrastructure solutions
- Lead DevOps best practices and automation initiatives
- Mentor junior team members and drive technical excellence

DevOps Engineer II

Apr 2019 — Apr 2021 (2 yrs)

Implemented and maintained CI/CD pipelines; managed cloud infrastructure & monitoring; collaborated on deployment strategies.

- Implement and maintain CI/CD pipelines
- Manage cloud infrastructure and monitoring systems
- Collaborate with development teams on deployment strategies

DevOps Engineer

Oct 2018 — Mar 2019 (5 mos)

Supported deployment automation & infrastructure; implemented monitoring/alerting; assisted cloud migration projects.

- Support deployment automation and infrastructure management
- Implement monitoring and alerting solutions
- Assist with cloud migration projects

Software Engineer

Aug 2017 — Oct 2018 (1 yr 2 mos)

Developed & maintained applications; contributed in code reviews & testing; collaborated on feature

development.

- Develop and maintain software applications
- Participate in code reviews and testing processes
- Collaborate with cross-functional teams on feature development

POOLCORP

Covington, Louisiana, 70433

<https://www.poolcorp.com>

At PoolCorp (a major distribution company in the swimming pool supply industry), Kevin served as a software engineer developing enterprise applications for both internal users and business partners. In this role, he:

Notable Responsibilities & Achievements

- **Built B2B Applications**
 - Developed and maintained several critical applications used by PoolCorp's employees and B2B customers, significantly improving business processes. For instance, he overhauled legacy SOAP-based web services that supported the company's mobile app, modernizing them for better performance and reliability. He also completed a full re-architecture of the B2B shared core platform to enhance scalability and maintainability.
- **Integrated Search Technology**
 - Integrated a Google Search Appliance into PoolCorp's systems, enabling more powerful search capabilities across company data. This project replaced or upgraded old search functionality, making it easier for users to find information quickly.
- **Technical Support & Training**
 - Beyond development, Kevin became the nation-wide main point of contact for the B2B platform. He traveled over 1,600 miles to provide on-site training and support to regional teams and external partners. This hands-on involvement not only ensured successful adoption of the software but also demonstrated Kevin's commitment to user success and stakeholder engagement.
- **Collaboration**
 - Worked closely with cross-functional teams (sales, IT support, product managers) to gather requirements and deliver solutions that met business needs. His ability to explain technical details to non-technical stakeholders proved valuable during trainings and in securing buy-in for new tools.

Roles

Software Engineer II

Dec 2012 — Aug 2017 (4 yrs 8 mos)

Developed and maintained enterprise software; designed solutions for business requirements; collaborated with stakeholders.

- Develop and maintain enterprise software applications
- Design and implement software solutions for business requirements
- Collaborate with business stakeholders on technical solutions

Software Engineer

Nov 2012 — Jul 2013 (8 mos)

Contract-to-hire software engineering role (for POOLCORP) delivering application features and supporting existing systems.

- Contract to hire position for POOLCORP as a Software Engineer I
- Develop software solutions and applications
- Support existing systems and applications

University of New Orleans

New Orleans, Louisiana, 70148

<https://www.uno.edu>

Kevin started his career at the University of New Orleans as a web developer for the University Computing Center while finishing his studies. In this early role, he:

Notable Responsibilities & Achievements

- **Website Management**

- Maintained the university's Computing Center website, ensuring content was up-to-date and the site remained functional for students and faculty.

- **Campus Systems Integration**

- Developed web applications and scripts to support existing university systems, integrating platforms like DotNetNuke (a content management system), PeopleSoft (campus ERP), and Microsoft Exchange. These integrations helped streamline campus operations (e.g. single sign-on portals, data syncing between systems).

- **Foundation Building**

- This role provided Kevin a strong foundation in programming and system administration. He learned to work in a professional IT environment and collaborated with university staff on technology solutions. It also sparked his interest in automation and managing infrastructure – interests that he would expand significantly in his later cloud/DevOps roles.

Roles

Web Programming & Development

Mar 2009 — Nov 2012 (3 yrs 8 mos)

Full-stack ASP.NET and SharePoint development: custom business apps, CMS modules, SharePoint data security, InfoPath forms.

- ASP.NET C# Development for custom business applications
- DotNetNuke CMS custom module development
- SharePoint Data Security/Custom Development
- InfoPath Services/Forms Development

Southern Oaks Plantation

New Orleans, Louisiana, 70126

Southern Oaks Plantation is a historic venue providing event and hospitality services.

Roles

Staff Member

Feb 2009 — Dec 2009 (10 mos)

Supported event operations and facility maintenance at a historic venue.

- Assisted with facility maintenance outside of normal business hours
- Supported event operations and venue maintenance
- Provided general facility support and upkeep

Ferrara Fire Apparatus

Holden, Louisiana, 70744

<https://ferrarafire.com/>

Ferrara Fire Apparatus is a leading manufacturer of fire trucks and emergency vehicles.

Roles

Electrician

Jun 2008 — Feb 2009 (8 mos)

Built and quality-assured key wire harnesses and electrical systems for custom fire apparatus.

- Responsible for several key electrical harnesses in both the under-body and cab of fire engines
- Substituted for and assisted other electricians with their tasks while completing own assignments
- Maintained quality standards for electrical systems in emergency vehicles

Macaroni Grill

Mandeville, Louisiana, 70471

Macaroni Grill is an Italian-American restaurant chain known for its brick oven cooking.

Roles

Brick Oven Chef

Mar 2008 — Jun 2008 (3 mos)

Operated brick oven for food preparation & cooking; maintained food quality & presentation; collaborated with kitchen team for efficient service.

- Operated brick oven for food preparation and cooking
- Maintained food quality and presentation standards
- Collaborated with kitchen team to ensure efficient service

Lowe's Home Improvement

Covington, Louisiana, 70433

Lowe's is a leading home improvement retailer providing products and services for home improvement projects.

Roles

Electrical Department Sales Associate

Dec 2007 — Feb 2008 (2 mos)

Provided customer service & technical support on electrical products and project planning.

- Provided customer service and technical support in electrical department
- Assisted customers with electrical product selection and project planning
- Maintained product knowledge of electrical systems and components

Directech Southwest

Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70817

Directech Southwest provides DirectTV satellite television installation and service solutions.

Roles

Installation/Service Technician

Sep 2007 — Nov 2007 (2 mos)

High-definition satellite installation & service technician handling multi-satellite alignment, QC, and daily service delivery.

- Leading technician in High Definition service and installation for DirectTV satellite television
- Interfaced with high level, dedicated satellite equipment to pinpoint and lock-in signals from up to 6 satellites

- Troubleshoot dielectric cable lines and ensured quality work from technicians
- Performed Quality Control (QC) checks on other technicians' work
- Completed on average 5-6 service calls per day
- Operated independently using personal vehicle for service calls

Giles Nissan

Lafayette, Louisiana, 70503

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/giles-nissan/>

Giles Nissan is an automotive dealership providing sales and service.

Roles

Sales Consultant

Apr 2007 — Sep 2007 (5 mos)

Automotive sales consultant achieving strong monthly sales volume while refining presentation and delivery skills.

- Sold on average seven cars per month
- Sold the most cars in a single month (14 vehicles)
- Developed excellent presentation and delivery skills
- Provided customer service and sales support

Magellan Construction

Youngsville, Louisiana, 70508

<https://magellan-llc.com/>

Magellan Construction specializes in residential and commercial construction projects.

Roles

Shop Hand

Nov 2006 — Mar 2007 (4 mos)

- Residential remodeling and new construction projects
- Commercial new construction work
- Used hand, power, pneumatic, and heavy machinery tools

Advanced Radiographics, Inc.

Duson, Louisiana, 70529

<https://www.advancedradiographics.com/>

Advanced Radiographics provides medical imaging and radiographic services with digital records management.

Roles

Digital Records Clerk

Feb 2005 — Nov 2006 (1 yr 9 mos)

Managed high-volume medical record digitization, server/network support, and urgent after-hours document logistics.

- Handled overtime workload to aid company in taking on more customers
- Served as customer service representative to hospitals and doctors' offices across southern Louisiana
- Used and maintained high-capacity/speed medical document scanners to digitize and catalogue confidential information

- Managed Windows 2003 server infrastructure and network systems
- Required to be on call virtually 24 hours a day to provide support for server and network malfunctions
- Performed after-hours medical courier services for critical document delivery

Education

University of New Orleans

Undergraduate

2010 – 2012 (2 yrs)

Focused on advanced computer science fundamentals while diving into digital forensics analysis, gaining experience in evidence handling, incident response concepts, and secure systems design.

Notable Course Work: Computer Science, Digital Forensics Analysis

Southeastern Louisiana University

Undergraduate

2009 – 2010 (1 yr)

Continued foundational computer science studies with emphasis on algorithms, data structures, and software development practices during a period of academic transition.

Notable Course Work: Computer Science

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Undergraduate

2004 – 2006 (2 yrs)

Explored an interdisciplinary mix of computer engineering, computer science, and graphic design—building a blend of technical problem-solving and user-centered visual communication.

Notable Course Work: Computer Engineering, Graphic Design, Computer Science

Andrew Jackson Fundamental Magnet High School

High School

2000 – 2004 (4 yrs)

College-preparatory magnet curriculum emphasizing advanced sciences, mathematics, and creative development through gifted and talented programs.

Notable Course Work: AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP English, AP Calculus, Gifted Program (Math/Science), Talented Program (Trumpet)