



Max Euston

As a [classical hacker](#), I have grown up with computer technology. My hunger for learning spans from [logic gates](#) through [Infrastructure as Code](#). Concurrently, I discovered that building [cohesive teams](#) is what changes the world. Like myself, I inspire others to [continuously improve](#) technology products and services, with a focus on the customer experience. I am a strong advocate of [DevOps](#), while also experienced in navigating [throughout](#) the [Architecture, Engineering, Operations](#), Security, Education, and Sales domains. My [career has progressed](#) from independent consulting programmer through senior enterprise technology leader. What this means is that I still love technical challenges, building quality solutions, and organizing others around the shared vision.

What I'm good at

- Deep technical leadership across broad IT domains
- Articulating the goal - *where* do we want to be
- Evidence-based reasoning - *why* we need to act
- Navigating ambiguity - *what* we need to do
- [Site Reliability Engineering](#) and DevOps principals (automation; self-service; operational, security, and audit monitoring; high availability)
- Security Architecture and Engineering
- Data and Information Architecture
- Change/Incident/Problem Management
- Root-cause failure analysis
- Direction and influence of multiple teams with growing staff
- Technology agnostic on-prem, cloud, hybrid, legacy, VM, and container environments
- Software development - polyglot utilizing appropriate [Agile or Waterfall](#) methodologies
- Budgetary management over \$25M/yr CapEx/OpEx
- Vision; Roadmap; Strategy; Execution; Correction

Business Achievements

- Leveraged broad experience to build understanding and cooperation between Engineering, Product, Operations, Compliance, and other teams across acquired startup and acquiring enterprise during M&A evolution
- Lead transformation of legacy monolithic system to a highly available, redundant, and scalable distributed system providing payment card processing at the largest US bank
- Built private [PKI](#) saving \$2M over 5 years
- Standardized & Automated IT-Ops for 30% productivity growth with 25% staff reduction (through attrition)
- Developed self-service systems and processes to reduce web deployment time from days to minutes
- Renegotiated vendor license (under NDA) to save 60% of ongoing costs
- Architected [Advanced Infrastructure Monitoring](#) to replace 10+ discrete (custom, COTS, OSS) products

Employment History

- [WePay](#); Head of Engineering - DevOps, SRE, Infrastructure; 2019-current
- [Prepared](#); Advisor - Engineering, Startup; 2022-current
- [Credit Suisse](#); VP - Group CTO; 2011-2018
- [Prudential Financial](#); Director - Web; 1999-2011
- [J.M. Rodgers](#); Technical Manager - Drawback; 1996-1999
- Axiom Technologies; Independent Consultant; 1996-current

What I Seek

- A growing or restructuring company - we all need to do something useful
- Organizations that either are, or desire to be more strategic and respected - work for a purpose
- Foundation over Facade; Sincerity over Spin; Product over Posturing

Educational Overview

- Life-long learning
 - Maintain focus on current and emerging technologies
 - On par with MSIT
- Books
 - [The Art of Strategy](#)
 - [The MBA Oath](#)
 - [Designing Data-Intensive Applications](#)
 - [Design and Implementation of the BSD O/S](#)
 - [TCP/IP Illustrated, Volume 1: The Protocols](#)
 - [The Art of Computer Programming](#)
- Degrees & Certifications (NB: not a proof of capability)
 - Associate of Science - Computer Science
 - ITIL Foundation
 - Red Hat Certified Engineer
 - MS-Windows O/S Advanced Troubleshooting
- Other
 - [Siraj Raval](#) - Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Deep Neural Networks
 - Pluralsight - Focused technical skills
 - Safari Books Online

Personality

- Balance - see <http://max.euston.net>
- Transparency - Define the "why" without spin
- Integrity - "Fool me once..." is not a strategy
- Partnership - The whole is greater than the sum
- Advocate - Our teams are human first
- Mutual respect - Long term relationships

What I Love (my Passions)

- Creating value - *what* am I doing
- Advancing humanity - *where* are we going
- Medical advancement - *who* can this save
- Classical hacking - *how* can we do this
- Machine learning - *when* can this help

What I Hate (and why)

- Dogmatic proceduralism - It's good to know when "the old rules don't work"
- Myopic reasoning - Pragmatism still needs to recognize the long term strategy
- Any organization that is involved with development or support of [weapon systems](#)

Communication Examples

- Introductory - any audience ([A basic introduction to encryption](#))
- Technical - deep SME audience ([Troubleshooting SSL communications](#))
- Professional - business audience ([5 rules for Advanced Infrastructure Monitoring](#))

Job Search Specifics

- Current Locations: Silicon Valley; NYC; Florida
- Travel: Yes, global
- Relocation: Open, US
- Notice time: 30 days
- Non-compete: None

Sample Companies (descriptive)

- [NASA](#) - The pinnacle of human achievement and scientific discovery
- [Disney](#) - Dreams, fantasy, imagination, and entertainment
- [Apple](#) - Customer privacy focus
- [Google X](#) - Ultimate (classical) hacking and R&D
- Any start-up related to one of my passions

Miscellaneous

- [FreeBSD](#) contributor
- Former NJ Paramedic ([NREMT-P](#))
- Life Member (prior Trustee/Chairman) [Newton Volunteer First Aid & Rescue Squad](#)

Keywords (if I must)

- Kernel; Device Driver; Embedded
- C; assembler (various); Java; Perl; Python; Bourne; JavaScript
- strace; truss; dtrace; eBPF
- SSL; TLS; X.509; PKI; RSA; DSA; IPSEC
- TCP/IP; tcpdump; pcap; WireShark; DNS-LB; IP-LB
- HTTP; HTML; CSS; AJAX; XML; LAMP; MEAN; AMQP
- GCP; GCS; GKE; K8S; AWS; EC2; S3; R53
- AIOps; SRE; DevOps; Agile; Scrum; Kanban; Jira
- PCI/DSS; audit; SIEM; Forensics; CERT; SOC
- ITIL; ITSM; Lean; Matrix; Cross-functional

Contact Options

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