

# Drake Thorne

Network Platform Engineer | Haymarket, NSW

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## EXPERIENCE

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### Nine Entertainment

Network Platform Engineer

North Sydney, NSW

Aug 2024 – Present

- Architected and delivered automation for multiple full-site EVPN-VXLAN spine-leaf fabrics
  - Primarily Juniper QFX, EX, Fortinet
  - Control plane via Juniper Mist and Apstra
  - Automation via Terraform, Ansible, Python, GitHub Actions
  - Included BGP policies and peering, ESI LAG, IRB/VRF management, port allocation
- Developed and maintained network and API automation workflows via Ansible
  - API automation for NetBox, Infoblox, LogicMonitor, ServiceNow, Cisco ISE/Catalyst Center
  - Automated credential lifecycle across Cisco IOS/NX-OS devices with 1Password
  - Automated ERSPAN unicast monitoring deployment with ExtraHop - giving 80% RX traffic visibility
  - Amazon Relational Database Service lifecycle management - reducing manual build times by 50%
  - Automation for network configuration
- Engineered repeatable microservices on Amazon Elastic Kubernetes Service via Ansible deployments
  - NetBox via Helm chart and Okta SAML – serving as the source of truth for all Ansible automation jobs across 1500+ devices
  - Oxidized for automated backup jobs across 1000+ devices
  - Self-hosted Docker Registry with Amazon Elastic Container Registry pull through cache
  - Other services including Wiz, Image Swapper, and ArgoCD
- Built and maintained Docker Images for dev containers and microservices
  - Automated execution environment builds using Ansible Builder
  - Used GitHub Actions CI/CD pipelines to trigger multi-architecture ARM64/AMD64 Docker image builds
  - Published versioned images to Amazon Elastic Container Registry
- Led the end-to-end DHCP infrastructure migration from Windows DHCP Server to Infoblox across all sites
  - Built Ansible playbook for IPAM network, scope, and DHCP options/reservation migration and provisioning
  - Developed Ansible playbook for DHCP IP helper/relay updates across SVIs
  - Provided support for issues post-migration
- Monitored and remediated containerised workloads on Amazon Elastic Kubernetes Service, diagnosing and resolving pod failures, performance bottlenecks, and cluster resource constraints

### Fin Design + Effects

Systems Administrator

Surry Hills, NSW

Apr 2023 – Aug 2024

- Designed and delivered a full monitoring and telemetry stack across 500+ nodes, significantly improving observability and reducing incident response times
  - Syslog data pipelines, alerting, and dashboards via Graylog
  - Zabbix for SNMP polling and metrics, Grafana for dashboard visualization
  - Alerting via Slack
- Developed Ansible automation for Linux fleet management across 50+ nodes, substantially reducing manual overhead
  - Configuration management, CRON scheduling, and patching routines
- Built and implemented secure remote access infrastructure
  - Duo Proxy MFA via RADIUS authentication
  - L2TP IPsec VPNs on Ubiquiti EdgeRouter, integrated with Active Directory and Duo

- Hardened reverse proxy infrastructure via Apache and Nginx
- Managed hybrid infrastructure spanning Windows Server, VMware, TrueNAS, GCP, and Linux environments
- Designed and managed layer 2/3 networks on Brocade and Cisco, including VLANs, VRFs, LAG/LACP, NAT, and static routing
- Enforced network security through ACL configurations, Barracuda firewall management, and PowerShell-based encryption scripting

## EDUCATION

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### Macquarie University

Diploma of Information Technology, Computer Science

WAM: 81.875

Macquarie Association of Computing Students (MACS) | Academic Integrity Certification

North Ryde, NSW

Graduated 2022

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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**Programming:** Python, Bash, PowerShell

**DevOps:** Ansible, Terraform, GitHub Actions, Docker, Kubernetes, Helm, Git

**Cloud & Infra:** AWS (EKS, EC2, ECR, RDS, S3), Linux (Ubuntu, CentOS), Windows Server, VMware

**Networking:** NetBox, Cisco IOS/NX-OS, Juniper, Brocade, FortiGate, Wireshark, Nginx, Apache