

JIM TORELLI

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What I Do

- Platform engineering across AWS and Azure: EKS/AKS/OpenShift; GitOps (Argo CD/Flux); scalable CI/CD (GitHub Actions, GitLab CI, Azure DevOps, Jenkins/JenkinsX, CircleCI, Harness).
- Cloud and data center migrations: on-prem→cloud and cloud-to-cloud; containerization and app modernization; IaC with Terraform, Pulumi, Helm/Kustomize; safe, low- or zero-downtime cutovers.
- Applied AI/ML: LLM applications (agents/tool use, RAG), prompt/program design and evaluation, classical CV (OpenCV/OCR/similarity), generative media; local LLMs (Ollama); PyTorch; workflow automation (n8n).
- Developer experience and reliability: packaging (Deb/RPM), reproducible builds and releases, documentation, observability and security (Datadog, Grafana/Prometheus, Splunk, ELK; Cloudflare WAF; IAM/OIDC).

Expertise Snapshot

- Cloud & Orchestration: AWS, Azure; EKS/AKS/OpenShift; Karpenter; Docker/Podman; Helm & Kustomize; Terraform, Pulumi & Bicep; GitOps (Argo CD/Flux)
- Landing Zones & Governance: AWS Control Tower, IAM Identity Center, multi-account organizations; Azure hub-and-spoke, Front Door/WAF, Private Endpoints, DNS Private Resolver; Transit Gateway, Client VPN; HIPAA-aligned and regulated environments
- CI/CD Platforms: GitHub Actions, GitLab CI, Azure DevOps, Jenkins/JenkinsX, CircleCI, Harness, Spinnaker; artifact repos (Artifactory, Nexus)
- Observability & Security: Datadog, Prometheus/Grafana/Loki, ELK, Splunk; Azure Monitor/Log Analytics, CloudWatch/CloudTrail; Cloudflare WAF, Defender for Cloud; IAM/OIDC, Auth0/Okta
- AI/ML: LLM apps (agents/tool use, RAG), prompt/program design; OpenCV/OCR/similarity; local LLMs (Ollama); PyTorch; Replicate/Flux, 11Labs, Whisper, FFmpeg; n8n orchestration
- Data Stores: Postgres/Aurora, MySQL/RDS, MongoDB, Redis, Elasticsearch; Cosmos DB
- Languages & Frameworks: Python, Java, JavaScript/Node, Bash, Kotlin, C/C++; Spring, Flask/WSGI

Projects & Results

- Large healthcare SaaS provider — Code intelligence + AI-generated workflows: scanned ~1,400 client repositories with local LLMs to extract a top-feature taxonomy; generated Argo Workflows/Events to migrate

in-container DBs to AWS RDS. Tech: Python, local Llama 3.1, GPT-4o, AWS EC2/RDS, Argo. Outcome: focused roadmap and reduced migration risk.

- Healthcare SaaS platform — EKS migration and IaC: modernized legacy workloads and delivered GitOps via Argo CD on AWS EKS using Terraform/Helm. Outcome: zero-downtime cutover, improved reliability, less operational toil.
- Regulated B2B application platform — AWS multi-account landing zone: designed and implemented Control Tower with IAM Identity Center; codified governance and networking (hub-and-spoke VPCs, Transit Gateway, Client VPN, NAT egress) and built reusable Terraform modules/stacks for app environments. Delivered MariaDB RDS with RDS Proxy and alarms, Windows EC2 compute patterns, and a production AppStream desktop/workspace-app system (image builder, fleets, multi-session, home-folder and settings persistence). Outcome: governed multi-account foundation with runbooks for operational handoff.
- Healthcare technology provider — Azure IaC platform and HIPAA-aligned network: built a Bicep platform for multi-tenant environments with reusable modules for compute, networking, monitoring, SQL, and App Services; designed hub-and-spoke networking with Azure Front Door, WAF, Private Endpoints, and DNS Private Resolver to secure data-tier services. Delivered Azure Monitor/Log Analytics coverage for 75+ App Services, 15 App Service Plans, and 47 SQL databases with tuned, low-noise alerting; automated Defender for Cloud remediation reporting via Resource Graph/KQL. Outcome: repeatable tenant provisioning and audit-ready monitoring.
- National media publisher — Ephemeral PR environments: implemented Kubernetes preview environments with JenkinsX and Pulumi-based AWS infrastructure pipelines. Outcome: faster reviews and higher release confidence.
- Major financial services — Azure migrations + CI/CD: migrated EOL Windows containers and in-container/VM databases to new Azure VMs and Azure SQL; implemented a modern CI/CD pipeline. Outcome: supported platform and predictable deployments.
- Aviation membership platform — Datadog observability rollout: rolled out a full Datadog implementation across the environment for alerting and monitoring; containerized services; built pipelines with Docker, CircleCI/Harness, Helm on AWS EKS. Outcome: proactive alerting and clear operational visibility.
- Regional telecom provider — Containerized DNS resolver system: designed Podman-based containers inside a VM estate for captive-portal authentication. Outcome: reliable auth path and simplified ops.
- Systems software vendor — Distributed storage platform, prototype to product: took a kernel-space driver plus user-space services from one developer's machine to a distributable system — one-step Deb builds, DKMS kernel module management, Ubuntu 20.04→24.04 (5.x→6.x) support, systemd integration, benchmarks, man pages, and docs/tests. Then built a Next.js web UI with real-time monitoring, a node agent for multi-node management, Prometheus/Loki metrics and log aggregation, and post-quantum cryptography over QUIC transport; optimized performance-critical I/O paths. Tech: Autotools/Makefiles, FPM, DKMS, systemd, Next.js, Prometheus/Loki. Outcome: reproducible releases, operational visibility, and easier onboarding.
- Industrial/IoT monitoring company — Azure platform buildout: designed AKS-based cloud with CouchDB, MongoDB, and Azure Database for MySQL; added GitHub Actions CI/CD and automated releases. Outcome: reliable data ingestion and repeatable deployments.
- National broadcast media company — Ultra-low-latency AndroidTV app: integrated high-performance encoding SDK to enable remote live broadcast during pandemic constraints. Outcome: live-from-home capability for on-air talent.
- AR/virtual events company — Live encoding on AKS: helped implement the live encoding and streaming system on Kubernetes (AKS) in Azure; optimized Azure Storage; modernized SharePoint infra. Outcome: resilient live streaming and smoother operations.
- Nonprofit grants software provider — Source control modernization: migrated hundreds of repos from CVS/TFS to GitHub with full history and metadata preservation. Outcome: unified, modern VCS and release process.

- Telecom analytics startup — Edge analytics on Azure: built and operated AKS infrastructure for real-time ingestion and analytics workflows. Outcome: scalable ingestion and faster delivery.
- Hospitality software platform — CI/CD with Jenkins (no Kubernetes): ran Jenkins with Docker build nodes; supported 100+ developers across 20+ projects and three teams. Outcome: faster, reliable builds and coordinated releases.
- Consumer e-commerce brand — Legacy store hardening: migrated Miva to HTTPS, created long-term backups, and safely decommissioned legacy infra. Outcome: improved security and continuity.
- Healthcare supply-chain platform — Heroku→AWS EKS migration: implemented Terraform+Helm delivery and Datadog observability; led DevOps operations through launch and scaling. Outcome: stable platform and clear SLOs.
- Mobile data privacy company — Android app UI + observability: built app UI and a Splunk dashboard for device data/events. Outcome: enterprise-grade monitoring and visibility.
- Enterprise personal safety platform — Bluetooth/device reliability: resolved persistent device sync issues with Android app and BLE devices. Outcome: dependable device experience.
- Personal safety wearables vendor — Cloud redeploy and hardening: redeployed backend on Pivotal Cloud Foundry; configured JBoss/Hibernate and PostgreSQL. Outcome: stabilized platform operations.
- Construction equipment services platform — Cloud-native redesign on AWS: EKS, Aurora RDS, ElastiCache, Elasticsearch, ALB. Outcome: modern, scalable architecture.
- Hourly-worker communications platform — Heroku observability + WAF: deployed Datadog and Cloudflare WAF protections. Outcome: better visibility and security.
- Online education platform — First Kubernetes platform + mentorship: implemented the company's first Kubernetes platform and mentored the team to migrate all apps from a standard legacy AWS stack; automated app/infrastructure delivery with Terraform, Helm, JenkinsX/Spinnaker. Outcome: faster iteration and consistent releases.
- Early computer-vision startup — Commercial CV products: facial similarity, OCR (~90% success), image-based search, mobile barcodes; early AWS (EC2+S3) training at scale. Outcome: CTIA-recognized spin-out and productionized pipelines.
- WaterDamageDirect.com — AI-first business, built end to end (own venture): used foundation models to take the business from concept through brand, product, and infrastructure. Built a custom AI-powered crawler and classifier to discover and verify water-damage contractors across the U.S., producing a proprietary, continuously refreshed contractor database. Public site in Next.js, admin tooling in Python/Flask, offline Python crawlers, AI-driven tasking through Redmine. Infra: DigitalOcean Kubernetes (3-node prod, 2-node QA), Postgres + PostGIS, Redis, Cloudflare. Outcome: a complete, operating product delivered with AI in the loop at every stage.
- Multi-model investment research tool — Private project: ingests investor dossiers, fetches market data and news, and evaluates symbols through each investor's philosophy; provider-pluggable orchestration across Anthropic/Google/OpenAI with cross-advisor summarization to a Buy/Hold/Sell call. Outcome: end-to-end research pipeline for strategy comparison and triangulated decisions.
- Generative video workflow — One-prompt to MP4: orchestrated OpenAI→Replicate/Flux→11Labs→FFmpeg via n8n. Outcome: fully automated short-form video generation.

Notable Past Clients

- T-Mobile
- Logicalis
- Zply Fiber
- Xfinity/Comcast
- NASDAQ

- NCSoft
- Agilysys
- NexStar
- Varsity Tutors
- NexTech AR
- EMD Millipore
- Snopes
- Matrix Medical Network
- Cerbo
- Wheels Up
- Abeo Systems / CrystalPM
- TrueMed
- Ultrata

Patents & Open Source

- Patent — *Devices and Methods for Identifying and Monitoring Changes of a Suspect Area on a Patient*: WO/2006/078902 (PCT/US2006/002037); a method for monitoring changes in skin cancer using CCD cameras.
- YaCy (2025) — added Helm chart support and documentation for Kubernetes deployments.
- Crypto Coin Printer (2014) — released an openSUSE-based LiveCD for offline printing of Bitcoin/altcoin paper wallets.
- jGameBase (2012) — implemented a command-line launcher mode for integration with MAME/arcade front-ends.
- Freevo (2007) — patches for improved Hauppauge PVR-350 support.

Earlier Experience

- Logicalis (Senior Delivery Consultant): enterprise Java and large-scale systems for T-Mobile, EMC, Corbis.
- ActiveSymbols (Co-founder/VP R&D): CV productization; early commercial CV deployments; academic collaboration (UW PhD interns).
- NCSoft (Lead Web App Engineer): led team post Aion launch; Spring/MongoDB, Alfresco CMS.
- 1Cast, All Star Directories (consulting), eScreened, TalkSpot/Worldstream, Coolworld/Cooluniverse, JukeNet — backend platforms, distributed testing frameworks, ISP infrastructure, and early internet products.

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