

PopUp Practice Head

Location - Remote - Required to work from London, UK office for 2 days every month (at own expense)

Experience - 20+ years

Qualifications - Any Graduate

[PopUp Mainframe](#) is a cutting-edge mainframe modernisation product. PopUp Mainframe enables customers to create mainframe environments on-demand and deploy them anywhere, including in the cloud. PopUp Mainframe is a game changer for organisations which rely on mainframe as it removes the bottlenecks surrounding mainframe environments and finally allows mainframe projects to be fully agile!

PopUp is a privately held IT software and services company based in the UK and India, delivering engagements globally based on our customer requirements. We have a full pipeline of new projects across the world and we are actively growing our delivery capability.

The Role

We are looking for an experienced Practice Head to oversee PopUp client projects and ensure our clients receive the best mainframe DevOps solutions possible. You will need a very strong background in all aspects of DevOps (hands-on experience as well as best practice) including test automation, pipelines, source control, and cultural change. You also need hands-on experience working with Z systems and an understanding of the constraints that many organisations have around delivering change on the mainframe.

You will lead our team to deliver client projects, ensuring we support our customers to achieve their ambitious mainframe modernisation goals. You will understand how PopUp fits into the client ecosystem and provide leadership on best practice architecture, automation and processes. You will be able to articulate the challenges of DevOps and offer approaches for teams to remedy these challenges.

You will work closely with our delivery and engineering teams on internal projects, providing vision and strategy for PopUp evolution, to ensure the PopUp product is best placed to take advantage of the latest open source and commercial tooling around mainframe modernisation. You will advise on build, deployment, test and SCM processes to ensure best practices are followed, and educate the team on the best use of DevOps tools.

You must have a well-rounded skill base, excellent communication skills (English fluency), and the ability to work with stakeholders at all levels and understand complex customer requirements.

PopUp is at the cutting edge of mainframe innovation and you will need strong problem solving skills and creativity with the ability to quickly analyse problems, understand and act. We have a flat, highly collaborative structure and we embrace high quality work and continuous improvement.

Required Skills

1. Strong experience working in mainframe teams. Good understanding of the hurdles when implementing DevOps and modernisation projects in mainframe teams.
2. Strong background and understanding of DevOps and Agile delivery. Scrum or Kanban experience.
3. Experience using DevOps tooling and implementing automation at all stages of the SDLC e.g. BMC AMI DevX suite, Jenkins, Git
4. Thorough understanding of SDLC processes followed in large corporates, with detailed knowledge of mainframe SDLCs.
5. Excellent communication and collaboration skills.
6. Proven ability to engage directly with clients and stakeholders at all levels (from C-level to engineer).
7. Experience in providing technical direction such as the choice of tools/ technology and the process to exploit these technologies to maximise business value.
8. Proven ability to lead projects of significant complexity and risk exposure.
9. Ability to lead onshore and offshore teams.

Good to have experience & skills

1. Experience as a mainframe applications developer or System Programmer
2. Knowledge of the following key mainframe skills: COBOL or PL/I, JCL, DB2, CICS, VSAM, SORT utilities, File-AID, SPUFI, ISPF and SCM tools e.g. Endeavor, Changeman or ISPW.
3. Any exposure to IBM zD&T
4. z/OS USS knowledge
5. Delphix
6. Running / Testing mainframe Batch
7. Experience working with financial clients

Personal Attributes

- Vision and strategic leadership.
- Focused on working closely with the client to get the best outcomes for them.
- Ability to motivate and influence others.
- Self-driven, accountable, team player able to work collaboratively.
- Flexibility, strong commitment to high quality work and continuous improvement.

- Strong problem-solving skills with the ability to quickly analyse problems, understand and act.
- Excellent presentation skills, ability to explain complex concepts effectively.
- Ability to excel in a high pressure environment.

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