Hugo Steinmetz Lead Database Administrator

Dublin, Ireland · hugo.steinmetz.db@gmail.com · +353 1 555 0163 · linkedin.com/in/hugosteinmetz

PROFILE SUMMARY

- **Lead Database Administrator** with **14 years** in payments, now leading **7 DBAs** who run the SQL Server and PostgreSQL platforms behind card authorization and settlement at Global Payments.
- Works across **SQL Server 2022**, **PostgreSQL 16**, **Patroni**, **Terraform**, **Ansible** and **Datadog**, on platforms that carry Tier-0 payment traffic around the clock.
- Strongest in **cross-region disaster recovery**, **PCI DSS evidence** and **large version upgrades**, and is leading the team's first trials of **Amazon Aurora PostgreSQL**.
- Works with payments engineering, security, risk and the Atlanta database team, and **chairs the database design review** for every new Tier-0 service.
- Hired **4 of the 7 DBAs** on the team, set the database standards from backup policy to access reviews, and runs the escalation rotation for Europe.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Relational Databases:	SQL Server 2019 and 2022, PostgreSQL 14 to 16, Oracle 19c (legacy)
NoSQL & Caching:	Redis, MongoDB (operations)
HA & Backup Tools:	Always On distributed availability groups, Patroni, pgBackRest, Oracle Data Guard
Cloud Database Services:	Amazon Aurora PostgreSQL (pilot), Amazon RDS, AWS DMS
Monitoring & Performance Tools:	Datadog Database Monitoring, Query Store, pg_stat_statements, execution plans
Security & Compliance:	PCI DSS 4.0, Transparent Data Encryption, key rotation, pgAudit, quarterly access reviews
Scripting & Automation:	Terraform, Ansible, PowerShell, Python, Liquibase, ServiceNow

EDUCATION

Trinity College Dublin — **B.A.I. in Computer Engineering** — Dublin, Ireland · Sep 2008 to Jun 2012

Microsoft — **Microsoft Certified: Azure Database Administrator Associate (DP-300)** — Online · Nov 2023

WORK EXPERIENCE

Global Payments — Lead Database Administrator — Dublin, Ireland · Mar 2018 to Present

- Own the database platform for European card processing, about **900 production databases** on SQL Server and PostgreSQL, with an on-call team that covers it around the clock.
- Set the cross-region recovery standard for Tier-0 databases on distributed availability groups and Patroni standby clusters, then proved a **15-minute RTO** in 2 live failovers.
- Ran the upgrade program that took **180 PostgreSQL clusters** off version 13 before its November 2025 end of life, using logical replication on the 12 largest so card traffic never stopped.
- Owned the database evidence for **3 PCI DSS assessments**, adding TDE to every cardholder database and quarterly access reviews, with no database findings in the latest report.
- Built self-service database requests with Terraform and Ansible behind a ServiceNow form, cutting new database lead time from 3 weeks to **2 days**.

Elavon — Senior Database Administrator — Dublin, Ireland · Aug 2012 to Feb 2018

- Supported about **200 SQL Server and Oracle instances** for European merchant acquiring on a follow-the-sun rotation with the Atlanta team.
- Cut p95 authorization lookup time from 120 ms to **35 ms** with filtered indexes, partition-aligned tables and plan guides on the busiest procedures.
- Moved **60 Oracle databases** from Solaris to Linux using Data Guard, keeping each cutover under 30 minutes.