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Dear Stuart Herbert,

I am applying for the role of Internal Job Engineer as described through our recent conversations.

Having published and presented a paper at an IEEE conference and earning the Portaltech Reply Bursary in Computer Science for best performance in the penultimate year of the Software Engineering MEng course, I am a capable developer with experience in developing in-house tools and contributing to open source projects.

In my role at IBM I was responsible for creating and maintaining in-house tools and platforms which aided the jobs of both members CICS L3 Service team and members of CICS management through the automated gathering of statistics and the improvement or automation of regularly performed tasks.

During this time at IBM I worked closely with a CentOS Server running DB2 and a WebSphere Application Server which ran some of the in-house tools. I have also managed a personal VPS which runs Nginx to provide web-based content and have previously hosted Flask-based Python applications using the WSGI module.

Although I have not had a huge amount of experience provisioning and creating virtual machines, I was able to quickly learn the basics of Vagrant during the programming exercise I completed in November and have continued to use and explore the features Vagrant provides.

A main role in my job at IBM was to automate a lot of the end-to-end process used to deliver fix packs of CICS Eclipse-based products. This system pulled information from servers used to develop the fix packs and would package it up in a way which the update servers would recognise and then deliver it to these systems.

This system also allowed these elements to be scripted in a simple language so the developers could further automate this process.

I am also versed at using shell scripts to automate some of the mundane tasks I perform day-to-day such as automatically pulling university notes from an online editor and then pushing these notes into a git repository. I'm also used to compiling code through the use of build tools such as GNU make or Python setup tools. I have also set up Travis integration with some projects to provide automated testing against different runtimes.

Sincerely yours,

Alexander D Brown
