NICHOLAS BECKER

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I am a programmer helping companies migrate between generations. My experience with computer operating systems, eagerness to learn and share knowledge, and creative problem solving skills deliver value to clients worldwide. Let's connect to make your mainframe more magical.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Magic Mainframe, LLC, Cedar Rapids, IA   Feb 2025 – Present
Freelance Information Technology Consultant
- Provide software and consulting services for the IBM System/Z (zSeries) class of enterprise computers.
- Design and implement custom software solutions for the s390x computing platform.

Trident Services Inc., Capitola, CA (remote)   Aug 2024 – Jan 2025
Senior Software Engineer
- Developed and tested the zOSEM product for z/OS.
- Implemented functional updates to the ISPF/REXX frontend application for zOSEM.
- Provided help desk and consulting services to clients in the government and banking industries.

IBM, Rochester, MN   June 2015 – June 2024
Advisory Software Engineer
- Developed and tested the batch scheduling component of z/OS, the Job Entry Subsytem 2 (JES2).
- Provided support and fixes for field-reported problems.
- Gained a deep understanding of IBM mainframe operating systems and mastered mainframe languages and tools.

Achievements
- Selected to attend IBM Tech 2023, an exclusive event for high-performing IBMers.
- Promoted to Staff Software Engineer in February 2017 and to Advisory Software Engineer in May 2021.
- Received an IBM innovation award for implementing the IBM Network Job Entry (NJE) protocol in python.
  - Discovered and tested fixes for critical security vulnerabilities in IBM's implementation of NJE over TCP/IP.

EDUCATION

University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA   Aug 2011 – May 2015
B.S. Mathematics, B.S. Computer Science
- Awards: Advantage Iowa Scholar, Dean's List
- GPA: 3.21
- Advanced Coursework: Programming Language Concepts, Operating Systems, Theory of Computation, Artificial Intelligence, Compiler Construction
- Tutoring: Tutored students in fundamental and intermediate computer science courses.

IBM Master the Mainframe Competition   Spring 2012, 2013, 2014
Prize Winner - 2012 and 2014
- Participated in a nationwide competition among high school and college students.
- Gained experience working on enterprise computing systems.

SKILLS & OTHER

Programming Languages: IBM HLASM, IBM PL/1, IBM LE C, IBM Metal C, ISPF/REXX, Python, Javascript
Other Languages: JCL, JSON, YAML, XML, HTML, CSS
Operating Systems: z/OS, z/VM, CMS, UNIX-based OS's, Consumer OS's
Specialized Tools: MVS/JCL utilities, ISPF, IPCS, SDSF, SPA, CMVC, SCLM, UNIX tools/utilities