Salim Vahora – Database Administrator

Contact Information

Salim Vahora

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Professional Summary

An experienced Database Administrator with over 25 years of demonstrated expertise in maintaining, designing, and optimizing enterprise-level databases. Skilled in managing both relational and NoSQL database environments, consistently enhancing system efficiency and minimizing downtime. Proficiency in SQL Server, Oracle, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Sybase, Sybase IQ, and AWS Redshift. My core competencies include performance tuning, data security, cloud migration, and the implementation of highavailability solutions. Maintain data integrity and compliance with banking standards while optimizing database operations in both on-premises and cloud environments. Automating repetitive tasks with programing/scripting.

Core Skills

- Database Design and Administration (SQL, Oracle, PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB)
- Query Optimization and Performance Tuning
- Backup and Disaster Recovery Strategy
- Cloud Database Management (Azure SQL, AWS RDS, AWS Redshift)
- Security Protocols and Compliance (Encryption, Access Control, GDPR, HIPAA)
- Scripting and Automation (Python, Bash, PowerShell, T-SQL, PL/SQL, Terraform, Ansible)
- Data Modeling and Indexing Strategies
- ETL and Data Migration Processes
- Team Leadership and Cross-Functional Collaboration

Professional Experience

Database Engineer III – M & T Bank, Buffalo, NY (Remote)

April 2022 – Present

As a Database Engineering team member responsibility included day to day support, incidents troubleshooting, Install, configuration, and maintenance support for 4000+ SQL servers on prem and Azure SQLs. Database automation development, documentation, training team members.

- Led the migration of a business-critical application from physical servers to virtual SQL servers, utilizing an Always On four-server configuration.
- Involved in setting up Distributed always on setup of SQL Servers for disaster recovery.
- Managed SQL servers, migrations, upgrades, configuration and maintenance of the database tasks utilizing Ola Hallengren's scripts.
- Involved in setting Azure cloud SQL databases with Terraform modules, Create, configure and set policies for SQL servers with failover.
- Involved with Azure team for required resources for SQL servers, managed instance & databases to whitelist azure resources, set policies, security of resources.
- Coordinated advanced query optimization and indexing strategies for application group to improve performance.
- Developed scripts for permission required to scan SQL server by Symantec Compliance control suite for database and rollout to install all SQL server in bank and automated to install to future SQL server builds.
- Involved in resolving Vulnerability reported by Qualy's vulnerability scan.
- Involved in automation of SQL server roles/user permissions, change automation with query guard to restrict access permissions grated by change automation, SQL server build, dbatools install, required tools installs.
- Involved in data replication and disaster recovery planning, configuration, testing and implementation.
- Conducted security audits and deployed encryption protocols.
- Mentored a team of Database Administrators in areas such as system maintenance, system upgrades, automation.
- Environment: Windows Servers up to 2022, SQL Servers up to 2022, Python, PowerShell, Ansible, Terraform, Gitlab, Jira, Azure Cloud, SQL Sentry.

Database Administrator – Peoples United Bank, Bridgeport, CT

June 2000 – April 2022

As a Database Administrator team member responsibility included day to day support, incidents troubleshooting, Install, configuration, maintenance, support, upgrade, migrations for Microsoft SQL servers, Oracle, MariaDB, PostgreSQL, SAP IQ
Datawarehouse, SAP ASE, AWS Redshift, Cloudera Hadoop and Informatica PowerCenter.
Automation of the maintenance tasks using shell, PowerShell scripting.

- Optimized SQL queries and indexing.
- Regular Database maintenance automation
- Administered SQL Server, Sybase ASE, Sybase IQ, MariaDB, PostgreSQL, Amazon Redshift and Oracle databases.
- Involved in Oracle RAC/Data Guard configuration, testing, implementation.
- Automated database performance & problem alerts using SolarWinds Orion for SQL server and all Unix based database system with shell scripts.
- Involved in Configuration of Amazon Redshift and PostgreSQL server in AWS Cloud.
- Worked on Migration of Sybase IQ 50 TB database to Amazon Redshift.
- Administered MongoDB environments, Installation, configurations, maintenance, backup & recovery.
- Administered Cloudera Hadoop and Informatica PowerCenter (ETL) systems. Installation, configuration, maintenance, backup & recovery, disaster recovery.
- Involved in upgrades of different database platforms, regularly test & implement Patches of the database servers, security patches and coordinating with Windows/Unix team for System patches.
- Developed automated backup and recovery processes. Handling various backups strategy with different tools like Rubrik, SQL backtrack, Pure & NetApp storagebased backups and recovery with Unix/Linux scripting.
- Collaborated with software developers to design and implement database schemes, improving transaction performance for different applications.
- Involved in incorporating application data from different bank acquisitions by Peoples United Bank. Conversion of the data from different sources like MVS/Mainframe data from Ebcdic to Ascii conversions.
- Develop Unix bash/ksh scripts for Data conversions, Data manipulation, data standardization, data loads from different sources to load to Data warehouse.
- Develop scripts for SQL database builds, configuration & maintenance with bank standards using PowerShell, MSdos, SQL.
- Developed scripts for permission required to scan SQL servers Tripwire Security and compliance tool for database and rollout to install all SQL servers in bank. Regularly scan server with tripwire and send reports to audit.
- Involved in setting up database auditing and automate all audit extract sent to 3rd party SIEM vendor for Unix based systems, SQL server security audit event directed to Security event log.
- Involved in resolving Vulnerability reported by Qualy's vulnerability scan.
- Involved audit of database systems with inside bank security auditor and outside security audit firms.

- Involved in Database Capacity planning, licensing, forecasting with management.
- Supported the migration of databases to cloud environments, gaining hands-on experience with ETL and replication techniques.
- Developed and maintained comprehensive documentation for all database processes.
- Coordinated with Storage, Unix, Windows teams for Storage requirements, database volumes configuration, Veritas disk configuration optimization on Storage appliance NetApp, Pure, Tintri, VMware.
- Involved in setting up security monitoring from
- Involved in regular disaster recovery testing for applications, database and servers for compliance.
- Environment: Sun Sparc T4/T8, Windows Servers up to 2019, SAP IQ 16, SQL Servers up to 2019, Oracle, MariaDB, MySQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Oracle Solaris, Oracle RAC/Data Guard, OEM, Red hat Linux PowerShell, Terraform, AWS Cloud, Azure Cloud, Cloudera Hadoop, Informatica PowerCenter, Rubrik.

Database Administrator – IBM, NY (consultant at Pepsi)

June 1999 – June 2000

As a Team Member of Data Base Administration team, actively involved in Setting up of Sybase Replication Server and Adaptive Server Enterprise, Monitor Server, Historical Servers.

- Creation of the routes, subscription and definitions. Defining the tables and columns for replication.
- Support - 24x7 support in rotation (after hours). Also, daily support on all the production servers as well as Development and Testing Sybase servers.
- Scripting - Writing Unix scripts for the various operations on the support and daily use, like to create a permission on the table and transfer it to the different environments (Development, Testing, Production).
- Maintenance – Routine maintenance of databases like reorg, DBCCs, Update Statistics. Allocate system memory depending upon available physical memory and assign appropriate memory to SQL engine. Schedule the backup of database and transaction log for data recovery of databases.
- Sybase SQL Server: Installing, upgrading, and administrating database SQL servers, Setting up the database procedures and SQL code guidelines and standards.
- Replication Server: Installing, upgrading, and administration and troubleshooting of Replication servers

- Tuning: Rewriting and reviewing SQL code/support tools and fine-tuning production environment, routine database maintenance and monitoring, enhancing overall data integrity.
- Environment: HP-UX, Windows, Sybase, Replication Server, Monitor Server, DB Artisan, and SQL Backtrack.

Sybase Database Administrator – EDS, KY (consultant at US Army)

April 1998 – June 1999

As a member of the Data Engineering and Standardization team, I was involved in setting up Sybase Replication Server and Web Server, creating routes, subscriptions, definitions, and defining tables and columns. I assisted data modelers and project leaders with logical and physical data modeling and independently conducted system evaluations for production installations. I also performed data warehousing requirement analysis and implementation, setting up Sybase IQ 11.5 on the development server and managing index spaces and logins.

My other responsibilities included establishing client-server architecture, managing Sybase ASE/Replication server, and query optimization. User management & permissions. Backups for data recovery performed database design and implementation, establishing logical design guidelines for various environments. I enforced data integrity and security, installed and administered Sybase SQL Servers, and focused on performance tuning.

Developer & Database Administrator – Elecon Engineering Ltd., India

July 1993 – Mar 1998

As the Sybase DBA, my responsibilities included:
Install Sybase ASE database servers, Performance and tuning of server, Logical & physical design of Database, schema, tables. Backup and recovery of databases. User management logins and user's permissions, Monitoring Sybase servers.

As a Developer programming with C++, Sybase SQR, Sybase workbench. Conversion from Basic programs to C++ migrations, conversion of Payroll from Nelco BASIC to C++ Sybase database, CIMS/BOM system.

Education

- Master of Science in Computer Application, Gujarat University, 1993
- Bachelor of Science in Physics, Gujarat University, 1988