**Arif Mohammed**

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**Summary**

Qualified IT professional with 10+ years of extensive experience inareas of hardware & system administration of VMware, Windows, Linux, vSAN, VxRail, Citrix, Linux, Active Directory, LDAP, Amazon Web Services, Azure, networks, security, and data center activities.

**Skills:**

As a dynamic cross-functional professional, I offer a combination of experience in IT, networks, security, VMWARE, SQL, Cloud Services, AWS, Open Stack, Azure, Citrix, Windows & Linux Systems Administration, at both project deployment & ongoing sustaining operations. Extensive experience in IT Infrastructure, Data Center Build out & Operations and Vendor Engagement with local & globally distributed offshore teams.

Working with various business units, hardware & application cross-functional teams to understand IT infrastructure requirements, project delivery needs, platform implementation planning & deployment in data center & remote sites. Interact with technical services organizations to plan, schedule & implement new systems at Data Center& remote sites.

Handling racking, stacking, cabling, & troubleshooting server issues both at Data Center & remote sites. Conduct daily walkthrough in the data center to identify issues with systems & take necessary actions.

Engaging vendors, VARs & IT equipment manufacturers to ensure product standardization & selection, obtain preliminary quotes. Identify server & storage assets, plan hardware refreshes, analyze new project hardware requirements, troubleshoot technical issues & manage project delivery expectations with project managers, CBUs, services delivery & managers. Work with other teams including procurement, finance, data center, NOC, network, security, telecommunications & asset management.

Plan & execute installs & hardware refreshes, procure new systems, rack location determination, network & SAN connectivity. Plan & execute cutover to new systems.

**Education:**

Masters in CIS from California University of Management and Science’s, Anaheim June -2016

**Expertise:**

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| **VMWARE** | ESXi, VSphere, vSAN, VRealize, VxRail and VCF. |
| **System Administration** | Deploy Windows & Linux OS servers on HPE Blades, Dell, Cisco & white box servers. Active Directory and financial systems at remote sites, Citrix, SQL, appliances, monitoring. Setup DNS, DHCP, & NTP servers for the enterprise. |
| **Backup & DR** | Netback up, Data Domain, Avamar, Rubrik, Veeam, SRM, Database syncing to remote sites, and setup failover cluster services. |
| **Network & Security** | Encryption services, Certificate servers, SSL, Firewall configuration. Cisco and Arista Switches, MFA appliances. |
| **Data Center** | From ground level up implement infrastructure to include racks, power, servers, blades, network switches, redundant WAN connectivity firewalls, load balancers, NetApp, & Pure Storage. Engage with business units, customer teams, vendors, cross-functional teams to conclude infrastructure requirements to implement a cloud migration strategy. |
| **Support** | Experience in providing 24/7 support per SLA in environments to maintain maximum uptime. Utilize performance management & systems distribution servers to manage workloads. |

**Work Experience**

**Client: State Street, Irvine, CA Jan 2023 – to Present**

**Role: Windows Systems Engineer**

**Responsibilities**

* Hands-on experience deploying and managing **ESX Host** VMware infrastructures.
* Strong Windows **2008/2012/2016/2019/2022** server administration, builds, troubleshooting and support
* Excellent understanding of ESX/ESXI Architecture, guest OS installation, setting up of VM priorities, **Cloning and Snapshots**.
* Good understanding of various methods in the vCenter server features like vMotion, **Distributed Resource Scheduler** (DRS), Fault Tolerance (FT), Storage vMotion, **High Availability** (HA), and other products of VMware.
* Experience in Packaging applications With Microsoft App-V 4.6/5.0/5.1 and VMware ThinApp 4.6/4.6.1 for Windows 7/8/10 in VMware environment and for Windows Server 2008/2012/2016 in Citrix environment.
* Implement **VCF** with VxRail and Dell Switches according to the planned design.
* Experience with EMC, **NetApp,** and **Pure** storage platforms implementation & migration from VMware standpoint.
* Worked with DR team to replicate data and server also participated in multiple **DR** tests.
* Worked with Change management, request management and incident tickets using **Service Now/ Jira**.
* Used **UCS manager** for enabling server, fabric, and storage provisioning as well as device discovery, inventory, configuration, diagnostics, monitoring, fault detection, auditing, and statistics collection.
* Managed **UCS manager** for troubleshooting and firmware upgrades of Fabric Interconnects, Servers and storage inventory.
* Install and Configure Citrix XenApp and Ci environments from scratch.
* Recently updated Citrix XenApp farm from version 7.15 to 1912LTSR CU3.
* Managing **Amazon Web services -ELB, EC2, S3, RDS, SNS CloudWatch**.
* Provided Tier 2 support for Okta-related issues, assisting users with account access and security challenges.
* Create snapshots and **Amazon Images** (AMIs) of the instances or backup and creating clone instances.
* Experience in managing and maintaining **IAM policies** for organizations in **AWS** to define groups, create users, assign roles and define rules for role-based access to AWS resources.
* Setup and Manage network in VMware using both standard and **distributed switches**.
* Creating, cloning Linux Virtual Machines, templates using **VMware Virtual Client** and migrating servers between **ESX hosts**.
* Private cloud implementation including **VM deployment, volume creation, & load balancing**.
* Experience with **VMware upgrades & migration** for versions **5.5, 6.0, 6.5, 6.7, & 7.0**
* For **Citrix** deployments, maintain software updates on Xen Desktop virtual images, conduct pre- & post- deployment testing, install & configure Citrix suite (XenApp, Xen Desk, WEM, Citrix PVS, and Storefront.
* Worked on **SCCM** application and Patch Deployment using MECM and MDT.
* Manage **Microsoft Intune** for endpoint management and security. Configure and enforce security policies, compliance settings, and conditional access through **Intune**.
* Expertise in configuring and using Active Directory, DNS, DHCP and Gorup Policy.
* Managing Webservers and Troubleshooting the .NET applications thru Advanced IIS tracing techniques.
* Responsible for operation and administration of IIS web servers across Engineering, QA and Productions environments, .Net application support and integration with IIS.
* Experience working with CyberArk for secure integration
* Implemented the new SQL Server 2016/2019 mechanisms like data compression, online indexing, Contained Databases, security principals and AAG
* Create **S3 Buckets** and managing policies for S3 buckets
* Experience with monitoring tools such as Cloud Watch
* Used **System center configuration manager (SCCM)** to patch windows machines and deploy packages using SCCM.
* Worked on infrastructure monitoring tools such as **SolarWinds**, System Center Operations Manager (SCOM).
* Experience with Administrative role in creating, monitoring and managing user accounts and monitoring Service health in **M365**
* Manage users, groups in **Active Directory,** manage **DNS** and **DHCP.**
* Manage **network share** permissions and **DFS** links.
* Solid understanding of standard client/server, networking, TCP/IP, and internet fundamentals

**Client: AT&T/Accenture Seattle, WA Feb 2021 - December 2022**

**Role: Windows Systems Engineer**

**Responsibilities**

* Installation, configuration & administration of Windows server **2008R2/2012/2016/2019**.
* Installation and Migration of vCenter Server 6.0/5.5. Upgrading vCenter Server from 5.5 to 6.0, installing and upgrading ESX 6.0/ 5.5/5.1 Nodes using **VUM.**
* Administering VM's across 2 Datacenters running 1100 VM's, Configured iSCSI SAN Storage.
* Upgrading ESX host with vCentre update manager, Deploying Virtual Machines from **Templates** and Creating Snapshots, Cloning and Golden Image of the Virtual Machines for future Deployments.
* Builds, Install, configure brand new virtual and physical servers, test, deploy RHEL 6 and 7 CentOS 6.4 servers to the network, OS installation and configuration - standard and advanced (net installation and jumpstart, kickstart).
* Extensive knowledge and hands on experience in **P2V** and **V2V** migration of 1500 Virtual Machines using **VMware Converter**.
* Manage HP rack servers using **ILO 3/4/5**.
* Administrator **Azure AD Users, Groups and devices**, and participate in migration between on-premises and Azure AD through AD connect
* Collaborate with cloud architects to integrate Windarchows workloads with **AWS** and **Azure cloud services**.
* Managed **Microsoft Azure resources**, including **VMs**, **Azure AD**, and Azure Backup, for hybrid cloud solutions.
* Created roles and permissions for specified users to give control over the VM's.
* Implemented VMware High availability and resource load balancing by configuring HA and DRS clusters, Scripting in **PowerShell**, **PowerCLI** bash.
* Deployed **vRealize Operations Manager** (VCOPs/VROPs), leveraging its capability for proactive monitoring of health of the entire virtual environment.
* Build and Administration of VMware ESX and ESXi Servers on **Cisco UCS chassis**.
* Manage **6200**, **6300** and **6400** Fabric interconnect through Cisco **UCS Manager**.
* Harden operating system by installing recommended **patches** and disable services in a bid to minimize and or eliminate unauthorized server access.
* Installed and deployed **Site Recovery manager (SRM)** for disaster recovery plans using replication between EMC storage arrays using EMC recover point.
* Experience in load balancing and **clustering techniques** to ensure high availability.
* Manage **Microsoft Intune** for endpoint management and security. Configure and enforce security policies, compliance settings, and conditional access through **Intune**
* Implement device enrollment and application deployment using **Intune**
* Monitored Office 365 systems, administered and supported Office 365 and MS Exchange policies.
* Strong Knowledge of M**365 Exchange** online configured in hybrid coexistence.
* Understanding of how M365 licensing works in use of groups to assigns licenses
* Providing solutions to clients about Disk mirroring and **RAID** implementation using **LVM**.
* Experience on 64-bit SQL Server 2014/2012 / SQL Server 2008 R2 systems and MSCS Configurations
* Worked with Change management, request management and incident tickets using **Service Now/ Jira.**
* Provide **24X7 supports** in Production, Testing and Development environments.
* **Troubleshoot** Red hat and CentOS issues emanating from hardware and software related and configuration issues. Creating new partitions, running systems nondestructively.
* Created AD Groups for Application Access.
* Good knowledge of **Kernel upgrade** and Tuning.
* Experience with adding and configuring devices like Hard disks, network adapters and SCSi controllers.
* Responsible for operational support and incident management of Linux server.

**Client: AAA, Costa Mesa, CA September 2016 - Jan 2021**

**Role: Windows Systems Administrator**

**Responsibilities**

* Responsible for installation, management and support of Windows and Linux (RHEL CentOS) servers maintaining about 1300+ servers.
* Administered/Configured Print Servers/Clients in the Network, planned, configured and maintained connectivity for servers as well **TCP/IP** configuration.
* Knowledge and experience on applying patches to windows servers using **SCCM** where the SCCM pulls the updates from **WSUS** and controlling the installation of updates to the required servers by following the organization standards.
* Managing Amazon Web Services (**AWS**) infrastructure with automation and configuration management tools such as Puppet.
* Ensured adherence to procedures and processes for hardware, software, and applications.
* Expertise in Virtualization with vSphere 6.0/5.5/5.1/5.0 VMware **ESXi.**
* Involved in P2V and V2C projects for infrastructure onto Physical, **VMware** and **AWS**.
* Implementation of numerous VMware ESX virtual machines using template and cloning.
* Built Windows Server 2012 and 2008 on VMs and physical servers via **HP ILO virtual media.**
* Installed and deployed **Site Recovery manager (SRM)** for disaster recovery plans using replication between EMC storage arrays using EMC recover point.
* Created, deleted, and managed user accounts and managed user quotas on the Network.
* Create and manage the **Virtual Switches**, **DV-Switches**& Port groups in VMWare.
* Involved in several projects setting up builds VMware, Windows, and Linux.
* Investigated through the procedure in case of an incident and take measure.
* Expertise in upgrading ESXi hosts using **VMware Update Manager.**
* Installation and Configuration of **SSH**, TELNET, FTP, DHCP, **DNS**.
* Strengthening security by implementing and maintaining Networks Address Translation in the company's network.
* Troubleshoots problems and takes appropriate corrective action and or interacts with other teams or external vendors in performing complex testing, support and troubleshooting functions.
* Coordinates with various teams and raises support ticket for all issues, analyzes root cause and assists in efficient resolution of all production processes.
* Manages projects, work related tasks, and provides direction and/or guidance to less experienced staff.
* Follow change and problem management policies.

**Client: Unisys India Pvt Ltd, Hyderabad, India September 2012 - May 2014**

**Role: Systems Administrator**

**Responsibilities**

* Administrating DNS, DHCP servers. Created and managed user and group accounts in User Manager.
* Administering, monitoring and troubleshooting UNIX, Sun Solaris, Red Hat Linux production servers
* Experienced with x86 / x64 Intel, HP, IBM & Dell hardware like rack-mounted servers, tower servers, desktop, laptop and other peripherals.
* Responsible for Active directory, GPO, Domain users, Administrating users and groups and given appropriate permissions and privilege to access our LAN and Domain environment.
* High Availability, vMotion, DRS enabled in the Cluster configurations, P2V, V2V.
* Monitoring any server performance through SCOM and troubleshooting issues within no time.
* Application Migration. Performs Datacenter migrations from Europe and Asia to the United States
* P2V Hot conversions using converter enterprise and cold conversion using VMware Converter Boot CD.
* Providing day-to-day onsite support for networked systems, hardware and related infrastructure
* Installed & configured Windows 2008 with Active Directory service.
* Installing, configuring, administering, troubleshooting VMware server ESX platform VMware client, workstation.
* Excellent understanding of SAN, NAS storage architecture.
* Responsible for DesktopDR, Laptop, Network and Outlook support & troubleshooting client’s issues.