

Chris Brooks

Systems Administrator / DevOps Engineer

email: chris@umbongo.net

Tel: 07976 350 660

Technology Summary

Operating Systems	CentOS, Debian, FreeBSD, Windows, MacOS
Continuous Integration	Jenkins
Config Management /Automation	Ansible ,Puppet
Monitoring	Logstash, Zabbix, OpsView, Kibana, NewRelic, AppDynamics, PagerDuty, UptimeRobot
Scripting	Bash, Java, C++, C#, Shell, PHP, Perl
Web	Apache, Nginx, tomcat, Varnish, pound
Databases	mySQL, CouchDB, PostgreSQL
Other	HTML, CSS, JavaScript, jQuery, bootstrap, JIRA, Confluence, Git, SVN, Maven, codeigniter

Employment History

Wowcher (Dec 2016 - Feb 2019)

DevOps Engineer Lead

Environment: AWS, CentOS 6/7, tomcat, apache, varnish, Splunk, jenkins, JIRA, Gitlab, AppDynamics, NewRelic, Puppet, Lambda

Chris joined Wowcher as a DevOps engineer along with 4 others, the daily jobs were to make sure the system was running efficiently and stable, something which the platform had struggled with for some time, Constant DDOS attacks prevented the system from working for periods of time. Working with the AWS firewall and splunk rules a system was devised to block the renegade IP's from brute force attacks.

Chris also improved and re-wrote the puppet modules to be less dependent on each other, Wrote custom parsers for Splunk, re-wrote the apache and tomcat logs to use a more standard format for parsing within splunk.

Chris's final work at Wowcher was to work with the frontend developers to create an images-server using PHP, Imagemagick and Varnish, this allowed the web pages to request the correct size of image for display and reduced the page-load time from 21 seconds to under 10.

ClearScore (March 2015 - Sept 2016)

DevOps Engineer Lead

Environment: CentOS 6/7, tomcat, apache, varnish, jenkins, JIRA, Gitlab, AppDynamics, NewRelic, Ansible

Chris joined ClearScore as the 10th employee of the company, at the time it was a small group in a single room in Blenheim Chalcots offices in Hammersmith, Since then the company has expanded to almost 50 people, has over 2 millions customers and has won a number of awards including IT Team of the Year, Most Innovative Product and Innovator of the Year. Clearscore Gives people their credit reports for free.

Chris worked on the systems from the beginning, designing and implementing the Load-Balancing, WebServer/WebCache configuration, automated deployments and configuration management systems, supporting the system 24/7 and helping implement the design of the systems. He also implemented the backup strategy, monitoring using AppDynamics, statistics using Google analytics and KissMetrics.

When the company moved to it's own offices in the beginning of 2016 Chris installed all the IT systems, wiring, WiFi and networking for the building, liaising with contractors and suppliers as well as advising on IT Security, Access restrictions and desk-layouts.

Ingresso Retail Ltd (June 2014 - March 2015)

Consultant DevOps Engineer

Environment: FreeBSD 9/10 - debian - python - django - git - zabbix - newrelic - ansible - mySQL - memcache - jenkins

Worked to help bring the technologies used at Ingresso to a more modern standard, installed Varnish to cache images and static content to ½ the time a webpage took to load. Wrote Ansible scripts to automate creation and deployment of new systems, and designed and wrote a web interface to the image upload functionality to create consistent content. Install Zabbix monitoring and alerts via slack and email. Logstash was installed on 5 systems for forward to a 6th via using redis Logstash, elasticsearch and kibana to give a fast searchable log record.

Mobcast Services/Blinkbox books Ltd (September 2009 March 2014)

Senior System Administrator

Environment: CentOS / puppet / opsview / newrelic / tomcat / MySQL / MuleESB / apache / git / JIRA / confluence / SVN / php / bootstrap / codeigniter / perl / bash / vmware /

Sole System Administrator for Mobcast for over 3 years, supporting online shops for Orange, T-Mobile, WHSmith and Singtel. Requisitioned, deployed and managed all computer systems, office computers, internet connectivity. worked with suppliers to host new systems planned and deployed these systems using automation and rapid deployment tools. When bought by Tesco became part of the management team which oversaw the overall operation of the company,

Vocado.com (February 2009 to August 2009)

Systems Administrator

Environment: CentOS on AWS / perl/ bash / apache / tomcat / mSQL

Reviewed and changed the AWS set-up and changed to a new configuration. Managed and supported the QA, UAT and Production environments. Created and developed automation tools to automatically deploy and configure systems.

Marquis Broadcast Ltd. (December 2006 to October 2008)

Contract Software Engineer

Environment: Windows / MFC/ C++ / SOAP

- Designed and developed a new Redundant Server system from scratch using windows services, TCP/IP across multiple systems. Designed and developed a new SOAP interface to the existing Medway Product. Developed and maintained existing software. Designed and developed a new licensing system for the Medway Product.

Department of Work and Pensions (EDS). (February 2005 to December 2006)

Environment : AIX / Tuxedo / Windows / C++ / Java / Weblogic / DB2 / PERL / Linux / Excel

Acted as Primary support of all live, system test, test and development unix systems for the DWP, which comprised of over 20 servers and 5,000 users. Developed real-time graphical bespoke monitoring tools to monitor live systems and test systems. Automated all build procedures for the test and live systems, improving the build time from 14 hours to under 5 hours. Analysed system logs, finding problems and improving the performance of the live servers, including making live fixes to the system during working hours. Was the primary consultant in the move from a 32-bit to a 64-bit architecture.