Chris Dent

Oaklands, Skibbs Lane

Orpington

Kent

BR5 4HA

Mobile: 07896 287207

E-mail: chris@indented.co.uk

https://github.com/indented-automation

# Chris Dent

## Profile

I am a highly creative automation developer and specialist with over 18 years of experience across a very broad range of system, services, and languages. I am deeply passionate about automation, orchestration, and infrastructure as code.

An analytical and considered approach to my work, coupled with my extensive cross-discipline experience, allow me to very quickly adopt and incorporate new technologies.

## Employment history

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Jan 2017 - Present** | **ITV** |
| Lead platform engineer | *Lead platform engineer for a multi-tenant Windows-based cloud platform. The platform is hosted on VMware and Amazon Web Services (AWS) with Configuration and Infrastructure as Code as a core principal. The project strives to automate 100% of the environment.* |
|  | * Orchestration of the components of the platform, including operating system deployment and configuration, network configuration, and storage configuration. * Development of Puppet modules in Puppet and Ruby. * Development of PowerShell DSC resources and PowerShell modules. * Development of plugins for the Sensu monitoring agent. * Development of automated testing. * Full automation of:   + Active Directory   + Identity management   + Group policy deployment / management   + Rights management   + Monitoring (Sensu, ELK, Grafana)   + Web services   + CIS hardening * Infrastructure automation using packer and terraform. * Provision of bespoke training for colleagues, including topics such as DSC and approaches to testing (unit and integration). |
| Automation specialist / Dev ops engineer | *Automation specialist and dev ops engineer within the data warehouse development team.* |
|  | * Creation of a CI pipeline for build and deployment of reports for SQL Server Reporting Services using Jenkins, Artifactory, and Octopus Deploy. * Creation of a CI pipeline for deployment of .NET web services. * Creation of an extensive SQL Server Reporting Services SOAP interface wrapper as a PowerShell module to allow customised deployment of complex report packages. * Introduction of Infrastructure-as-code using PowerShell DSC via Octopus Deploy. * Creation of DSC resources and PowerShell modules to support CI and CD pipelines. * Generation of scripts and modules to enable the automated deployment of the application tier of Landmark II on Windows servers to support a rapid release cycle.   + Creation of installers for web service components and COM+ components.   + Generation of chocolatey installers for Actian Ingres and other supporting components.   + Creation of supporting documentation.   + Creation of post-installation validation tests (Pester). * Provision of support to the development team for Git, GitHub, and the CI\CD pipeline. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **May 2016 - Dec 2016** | **KPMG UK** | |
| Infrastructure Engineer | *Automation specialist within the project engineering team focused on server build (bare-metal and virtual) and process automation.* | |
|  | **Responsibilities:**   * Development of scripts and modules in PowerShell 4 and 5 for multiple teams, including server support, network infrastructure, security and user account management teams. * Development of unit and integration tests for existing and new code (using Pester). * Support and continual development of the build system based on MDT (for bare-metal). * Redesign of build processes derived from service templates under System Center Virtual Machine Manager (SCVMM). Development of workflows to simplify build processes. * Generation of configuration management documents for web application deployment using PowerShell DSC. * Migration and debugging of ASP .NET, classic ASP and JSP web applications as they are migrated from Windows 2003 (IIS 6) to Windows 2012 R2 (IIS 8.5). * 4th line Active Directory, ADFS, DNS, IIS, PKI support and consultancy (as a subject matter expert).   **Achievements:**   * Introduced internal NuGet / PSGallery instances as a delivery / publishing point. * Migrated VCS for all developed PowerShell code from TFS to Git (fronted by Bonobo). * Created pester tests for all existing code. * Redesigned PowerShell code build process to include formalised coding standards testing, unit testing, integration testing (where possible) and automatic documentation. | |
| **May 2015 - Apr 2016** | **G-Research** | |
| PowerShell Developer | *PowerShell* *developer creating tools to streamline and automate processes, aid troubleshooting and simplify operational support for the IT department of a hedge fund.* | |
| **Jun 2014 - May 2015** | **KPMG UK** | |
| Delivery Consultant | *PowerShell developer / automation engineer within the Core Technologies project team. The Core Technologies team is responsible for building, managing and supporting the Hyper-V, VMware vSphere and physical estates containing approximately 2500 servers.* | |
| **Feb 2014 - May 2014** | **Government Digital Services / Cabinet Office** | Infrastructure Engineer |
| **Aug 2013 - Jan 2014** | **Think Finance** | Infrastructure Consultant |
| **Oct 2012 - Jul 2013** | **Monitise International** | Senior Operational Security Analyst |
| **Mar 2008 - Oct 2012** | **Monitise International** | Senior Systems and Network Engineer |
| **Jun 2005 - Mar 2008** | **Informa** | Technical Infrastructure Analyst |
| **Jan 2005 - Jun 2005** | **Corpex** | MS Systems Administrator |
| **May 2004 - Dec 2004** | **Charles Stanley Stockbrokers** | Senior Network Engineer |
| **Mar 2003 - May 2004** | **PMSI Consulting** | Network Engineer |
| **May 2001 - Mar 2003** | **Climax Development** | IT Manager |
| **Feb 2001 - Apr 2001** | **WS Atkins** | NT Administrator |
| **Aug 2000 - Jan 2001** | **Climax Development** | Network Manager |
| **Jun 2000 - Aug 2000** | **Broadcasting Support Services** | IT and Telephony Support |
| **Dec 1999 - Jun 2000** | **Teco Information Systems** | IT Controller |

## Qualifications, achievements and memberships

### Certification

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2014 | DNS/CA – Certified DNS/BIND Associate |
| 2009 | MCTS: Windows Server 2008 Active Directory configuration |
| 2009 | MCTS: Windows Server 2008 Network infrastructure configuration |

### Education

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2013 | PG Dip: Advanced Networking, Open University   * Advanced Routing (based on CCNP ROUTE) * Multilayer switching (based on CCNP SWITCH) * Network Security (based on CCNA Security and CISSP) * Wide area networks (based on CCNP TSHOOT) |
| 1996 – 1998 | 1st and 2nd year for MEng Chemical Engineering, Leeds University |
| 1989 – 1996 | 9 GCSEs; 4 A-Levels, Beverley Grammar School |

### Other

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2018/2019 | Author: Mastering PowerShell Scripting – Third Edition (Packt Publishing) |
| 2017 | Author: Mastering Windows PowerShell Scripting – Second Edition (Packt Publishing) |
| 2012 | Technical reviewer: Microsoft Windows PowerShell 3.0 First Look (Packt Publishing) |
| 2007 – 2008 | Microsoft MVP Windows Server System – Directory Services |

Technologies

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Development and automation** | PowerShell, Perl, Python, Go, Ruby, and VBScript (ADSI, CIM, COM, DSC, LDAP, REST, S.DS, S.DS.P, SOAP, SQL, WMI, XML, Pester)  C# and Visual Basic .NET  Regular Expressions  Continuous Integration (CI); Bamboo, Jenkins and TeamCity; Git (and GitHub), Team Foundation Server (TFS) and SVN. Octopus Deploy.  Puppet |
| **Networking** | Cisco ASA and PIX firewalls  Cisco routers  Cisco Catalyst switches  Juniper SRX firewalls  Juniper EX switches  Juniper SA and MAG SSL VPN  Palo Alto firewalls  DNS, DNSSEC, DHCP, LDAP, Kerberos, RADIUS, BGP, EIGRP, OSPF, STP, SNMP, SysLog, IEEE 802.1Q, IEEE 802.1X, IPSEC VPN, SSL VPN  Packet / Protocol level analysis and debugging using tools such as Wireshark and NMAP |
| **Systems** | Apache and Nginx  BIND  Failover Clustering and Network Load Balancing (NLB)  FreeRADIUS  Microsoft Active Directory  Microsoft ADFS  Microsoft DNS  Microsoft Exchange Server  Microsoft Hyper-V  Microsoft Internet Information Services (IIS)  Microsoft Office Communications Server (OCS) and Lync Server  Microsoft SQL Server  OpenLDAP  OpenSSL  Solarwinds Network Monitoring  Tripwire (File Integrity Monitoring)  VMware Server, ESX, ESXi, VSphere and View  Websense |
| **Operating Systems** | Microsoft Windows Server NT to 2016  CentOS, RedHat and Ubuntu Linux  Solaris Unix |