Dan Tracey

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# SUMMARY

Senior platform specialist with over 15 years’ experience in public and private cloud and software-defined datacenter consultancy on Windows, Linux and VMware infrastructure, including automation, orchestration, design, implementation, migration and support. Experience of working in both the private and public sector within Retail, Defence, Home Affairs, Space, Local Government and the NHS.

A proven track record of delivering complex solutions into challenging environments including cutting-edge, bespoke, autonomous and deployed solutions, with a recent focus on cloud platforms.

# KEY SKILLS

**Public** **Cloud** | Microsoft Azure, ARM Templates, Azure Automation, Google Cloud Platform (GCP)

**Private Cloud & Virtualization** | vRealize Automation, vRealize Orchestrator, vRealize Operations, vRealize Lifecycle Manager, vSphere vCenter, ESXi and NSX.

**Configuration Management & Scripting** | PowerShell, DSC, PowerCLI, PowerNSX, Pester, Octopus Deploy, Jenkins, Ansible, JavaScript, Chocolatey.

**Infrastructure-as-Code** | Packer, Vagrant, Terraform.

# EXPERIENCE

**Platform Automation Consultant | John Lewis & Partners | September 2019 - Present**

* Role responsibilities are similar to previous 3-year period at client (see below), in addition to:
* Automation support of new Google Cloud Platform (GCP) hybrid-cloud infrastructure, including OS build pipelines involving Docker containers, IaC (Packer and Terraform) and Gitlab CI/CD.
* Development of deployment and configuration management capability using PowerShell scripts, DSC and Ansible (including Ansible Tower).

**DevOps Engineer | De La Rue Plc | April 2019 - September 2019**

* Automated deployment of complex legacy applications based on .Net, IIS, BizTalk and SQL using Azure DevOps Pipelines, PowerShell DSC and Octopus Deploy.
* Automated vSphere VM and Template creation process using Packer, PowerShell and PowerCLI.
* Automated deployment of Azure DevOps build agents using PowerShell DSC and Chocolatey.

**Azure Architect | Hampshire County Council | January - March 2019 (8 Week Contract)**

* Delivered Azure Hybrid Cloud Network Architecture Design.
* Delivered Azure Backup and Recovery Operating Standards.
* Delivered Azure IaaS and PaaS Deployment and Configuration Standards.

**Platform Automation & Tooling Consultant | John Lewis & Partners | 2016 - 2019**

* Delivered an Azure Hybrid-cloud project, utilising Azure Automation, PowerShell DSC, and ARM templates, including IaaS, SQL PaaS and S2S VPN connectivity.
* Delivered a Partnership-wide infrastructure hosting platform, utilising the VMware vRealize Suite, including vRealize Automation (vRA) and NSX.
* Development of IaaS virtual machine provisioning workflows in vRealize Orchestrator (vRO), integrating with external systems (e.g Active Directory, DNS, SCCM, Chocolatey package manager, BitBucket SCM and Nexus artefact repository).
* Implemented continuous integration build pipeline for virtual machine templating, using Hashicorp Packer, CloudBees Jenkins and Chef Inspec.
* Automation of complex application deployment using vRA XaaS blueprints, including SQL Server, IIS, Tomcat and apache.
* Automated day-to-day processes for Operations teams, using Ansible, Jenkins, PowerShell, PowerCLI and PowerNSX, working with various REST APIs, and working to Infrastructure as Code (IaC) principles.
* Automation of vSphere builds and upgrades, including multiple vCenter instances and 350 remote ESXi hosts across the Waitrose branch estate.

**Virtualisation Lead | BAE Systems Submarine Solutions | 2010 - 2016**

* Delivered Software Defined Datacenter (SDDC) solution to host Combat System applications for Astute-class nuclear-powered attack submarines and Vanguard-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines. Consisting of a highly-available vSphere environment on Dell M-series blade hardware, Dell and HP switching and bespoke storage hardware running Datacore SANsymphony.
* Automation of vSphere components (e.g. ESXi build, vCenter and VM deployment).

**VMware Consultant | EADS Astrium | 2010**

* Design and build of a resilient multi-cluster vSphere 4.1 environment, providing the platform for the new European Space Centre at Harwell in Oxfordshire. Employing HP DL380 G7 rack servers, Cisco Catalyst 3560 switches and ASA 5510 VPN appliances.
* Design and build of a reference facility to demonstrate virtualization capabilities to the European Space Agency, and provide a development platform for PoC applications running on VMware View, Oracle Sun Ray Server and Sun Ray clients.
* Support and consultancy across existing VMware projects, producing best practices for OS standardisation, hardening and platform security, as well as general datacenter issues.

**VMware Consultant | Clinical Solutions (Capita) | 2009-2010**

* Tech Lead on VMware VI 3.5 to vSphere 4.1 upgrade (Multiple vCenter servers, 50+ hosts, 1000+ VMs), including HLD, LLD, Build and Operating Procedure documentation.
* Datacenter migration and P2V of multiple legacy and bespoke applications including Citrix and SQL Server. Design of DR solution using VEEAM product suite.
* Consultancy and Support of VMware environment including storage provisioning, VLAN configuration, troubleshooting HA, DRS and performance issues. 4th line support of infrastructure components (HP EVA SANs, Active Directory, Exchange, Firewalls etc).

**Platform & Infrastructure Consultant | CEOP (National Crime Agency) | 2009**

* SCCM packaging and deployment of bespoke and COTS applications to Covert Internet Investigator virtual environment (including Microsoft Office suite, Symantec Enterprise Vault, EndPoint Protection and TitusLabs message classification).
* DR design of Exchange, SharePoint and File and Print services using Microsoft Data Protection Manager.

**Server Build & Hardening Consultant | Global Crossing Telecom | 2008-2009**

* Design, build and hardening of complex application and server solutions on VMware VI3 and 3.5, Windows and Linux platforms for FCO and various Government departments, including K2 Blackpearl and Microsoft SharePoint.

**Technical Consultant | Herefordshire Council ICT | 2007**

* Principal Engineer across a number of projects including a mobile encryption solution, penetration testing of wireless environments, Windows 2003 Terminal Server consolidation onto VMware ESX.

**Integration Engineer | Fujitsu Defence and Security | 2005-2007**

* Integration and testing of bespoke and COTS applications and services across DII infrastructure (including deployed environment), adhering to various Government and industry practices such as ITIL and JSP440.
* Scripting with Windows PowerShell and batch for deployment via SMS.

**+ Various IT Support Roles | Global Crossing Telecom, IBM, G-Log (now Oracle) and the Post Office** | **1999-2005**

# EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS (Past & Present)

* Microsoft Certified Azure Administrator Associate (2019)
* Microsoft Azure Infrastructure and Deployment (AZ-100) exam (2019)
* Microsoft Azure Courses, including Fundamentals (M10979), Implementing Infrastructure Solutions (M20533) and Securing Azure workshop (2018).
* VMware VCAP-DCA (4 & 5), VMware VCP (3,4 & 5), CISSP, MCSE (NT, 2k & 2k3) & MCSA (2k & 2k3 - Messaging & Security), MCTS, C|EH, RHCT, CCNA, CCA, Linux+, Security+, Server+
* VMware Certified Advanced Professional vSphere 5 - Datacenter Administration (2013).
* VMware Certified Advanced Professional vSphere 4 - Datacenter Administration (2011).
* VMware vSphere 4 Advanced Courses - Design Workshop & Troubleshooting (2010).
* VMware vSphere 5 Custom Design Workshop (2015).
* VMware “Expert” Status on VMTN Forums (2009).
* Internet Security Systems Network Intrusion and Penetration Techniques course and exam (ISS-CEH).
* Vulnerability Assessment: Protecting Your Organisation (Learning Tree).
* Red Hat Systems Administration course and exam (RHCT).
* GCSE passes (A-C) in 10 subjects, City & Guilds Level 3 Certificate in Emergency and Primary Health Care
* Previously served 5 years with UK Special Forces (Reserve) - Qualified parachutist, Patrol Signaller and Combat Medic.