

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

System administration, support and software testing professional with extensive experience in the IT field. Experienced in a range of environments, from manufacturers selling products wholesale to the retail industry, organizations selling IT hardware & software solutions, through to quality assurance for consumer as well as control systems software.

PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- With Cigna, worked on implementation of OpenStack virtualization service for internal development groups. Evaluated, prototyped and set up Ceph storage for use as storage backend to OpenStack system. Trained others in Cloud Orchestration and Automation group on setup and maintenance of Ceph.
- Designed & developed incoming order tracking system in Paradox, replacing labor intensive, hand-written system, saving the company lost revenue from canceled customer orders and chargebacks.
- Developed open order summary reports using Paradox, using extracted data from accounting system. Customizing the accounting system to get the same information would have cost the company thousands of dollars and taken months to implement.
- Implemented & ran tests for IBM's HotMedia java authoring tool, from early development to end of project
- Developed Lotus Approach database to track budgets for internal software development project at IBM, Mt. Pleasant NY.
- Implemented EDI systems for PC-based accounting systems. Brought projects from initial customer requests up through final integration into daily process.
- Managed a migration from PC-based accounting package to AS/400-based system.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Red Hat, Inc., (working remote) **Software Quality Engineer**

2020-2024

- OpenStack QE test and engineering for MultiArch development (Power8 & Power9)
- Working with IBM's MultiArch team to coordinate testing and validation of OpenStack and other products being ported for support under Linux on Power/ppc64le.
- Validating install/configuration documentation posted online for customer evaluation of MultiArch x86_64/ppc64le installations.
- With OpenStack Hardware Provisioning team, maintained tests and triaged testing failures
- Working with other component teams to develop test scenarios for the next generation of Red Hat's OpenStack (Red Hat OpenStack Services on OpenShift 18.0)

SelectGroup, (working remote) **QE Software Engineering/Test (Red Hat)**

2017-2020

- OpenStack QE test and engineering for MultiArch development (Power8 & Power9)
- Working with IBM's MultiArch team to coordinate testing and validation of OpenStack and other products being ported for support under Linux on Power/ppc64le.
- Validating install/configuration documentation posted online for customer evaluation of MultiArch x86_64/ppc64le installations.

Collabera, (working remote)

2016-2017

Linux System Administrator - RFS Ring Fence (IBM)

- RFS Ring Fence was an IBM-internal staffing group to provide extra/fill-in staffing for other delivery teams at IBM that find themselves short-staffed for impending deliverables.
- Track down, analyze and correct security violations on customer systems
- Assisted development teams as they migrated customer's Oracle/SAP systems from HP-UX and Solaris to Linux on VMWare ESX.
- Configured, customized and secured servers for customer accounts as new systems came online

SelectGroup, (working remote)

2015

Cloud Storage Engineer (Cisco)

- QA/test for cloud storage automation group at Cisco. Testing for Ceph and Openstack for Cisco's cloud systems projects.

TEKsystems, (working remote)

2014-2015

Cloud Orchestration and Automation (Cigna)

- Researching & implementing Openstack (Havana and Icehouse), Ceph (Ceph Enterprise), Puppet, & other opensource resources for the development group at Cigna. Along with team, working with RedHat on troubleshooting & optimizing internal cloud computing solutions.
- The cloud group's (CPC Engineering) function at Cigna is to provide virtual compute resources for development and test internally, resources that could be quickly brought online using a custom-written control center (written by a member of the team). This way developers could quickly stand-up and also quickly decommission standardized configuration test servers (RedHat Linux and Microsoft Windows) within 30 minutes, eliminating the long wait times normally needed for requesting resources.
- Built new compute images to be made available for deployment in openstack
- Had been the initial team member researching & building out Ceph, after which I instructed the rest of the team on the concepts, install procedures and maintenance of Ceph.
- Managed and re-configured blades and servers hosting our Openstack and Ceph clusters through the UCS management tools for the Cisco server hardware.
- We were also working with Sensu, Logstash, Elasticsearch, Graphana, managing a Git host for developer code. Assisted other team members as they were installing, and configuring systems to work with these services.

Infinite Computer Solutions, (on client site)

2013

Server Systems Operations (IBM)

- Hands/Feet SA for AmerisourceBergen in IBM Poughkeepsie data center. Achieved certification for HIPAA before department was pared down to much smaller size

Collabera, (on client site)

2013

Senior System Administrator, Wallstreet Systems/Treasury Support, IBM

- Manage & update test servers for IBM's Global Business Services/Treasury management, and provide support for production servers in IBM's Business Services.

Computer Task Group, Poughkeepsie, NY
System Administrator

2004-2012

- Capacity on Demand and Benchmark Centers, IBM, 2007-2012
- Installed & upgraded management nodes and compute clusters (Linux clusters for the most part) for customers on System X for CoD group in Poughkeepsie, NY
- Manage, install & re-configure System P servers (AIX, SUSE Linux & Red Hat Enterprise Linux).
- Troubleshoot software & hardware for management & compute nodes in Linux & Windows computer clusters.

Operations Supervisor

- zSeries test group, IBM, 2007
- Deskside support, installing & supporting Linux and Windows on automated testing hosts connected to their development mainframes. Supported same on user workstations.
- Inventorying and documenting the connections for the fiber network on the mainframe systems test floor.

Infiniband / High Performance Switch Functional Verification Test, IBM

- RS/6000-SP systems, Server Group, 2004-2006
- Developed & ran verification tests for IB and High-Performance switch (Federation) system. Using design documentation & input from developers, performed functional verification testing. Test systems were running AIX 5.x as well as well as SUSE Linux.
- Handled administration, upgrades & installs on test systems for FVT team. Systems consisted of RS/6000 servers (which could be running either AIX or SLES) & Linux controllers for servers. Also installed, maintained & used RedHat Linux 7.2-based diagnostic systems used to debug, control & upgrade the test systems.

IBM

2001-2004

Communications Subsystem Functional Verification Test

- RS/6000-SP systems, Server Group, 2001-2004
- Developed & ran verification tests for both Infiniband and High-Performance switch (Federation) system. Using design documentation & input from developers, performed functional verification stage testing. Test systems were running AIX 5.x as well as well as Linux.
- Handled administration, upgrades & installs on test systems for FVT team. Systems consisted of RS/6000 servers (up through pSeries 690, which could be running either AIX or SuSE Enterprise Linux) & Linux controllers for p690 servers. Also installed, maintained & used RedHat Linux 7.2-based diagnostic systems used to debug, control & upgrade the test systems.

System administration, QA testing

- Internet Media Group division, 2001
- Installed, upgraded, diagnosed & maintained servers & workstations used for software testing, Maintained Windows (95-2000), Macintosh (OS 7-9), AIX, Linux & Solaris systems used in testing.
- Developed & ran tests for HotMedia java authoring tool, and verified functionality of applets produced by tool against various client & server configurations.

ONLINE LINKS:

- LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/in/james-labarre-a40a513>
- PDF - https://jelabarre59.github.io/pages/James_E_LaBarre_resume.pdf
- HTML - https://jelabarre59.github.io/pages/James_E_LaBarre_resume.html
- OpenDocument - https://jelabarre59.github.io/pages/James_E_LaBarre_resume.odt