

# Larry Ludlow

## Principal Engineer

Livonia, Michigan US

✉ [lludlow@gmail.com](mailto:lludlow@gmail.com)

[in lludlow2](#) [Download](#)

A Detroit Metro Area senior Global or Enterprise level infrastructure architect setting and implementing direction that encourages new innovation and the pursuit of excellence.

Expert in solution architecture, design, implementation and support of secure, high performance, scalable, globally distributed Internet connected data center environments, private and public cloud server infrastructure.

Unique ability to step into an opportunity, assess the needs, rapidly identify possible solutions taking into account the "Big Picture" and doing whatever is required to accomplish win:win successes. Excels at building intelligent, common sense, loyal teams that exceed expectations. A problem solver and troubleshooter.

### SKILLS

#### Linux / Unix

Redhat Ubuntu Suse AIX  
Solaris

#### Virtualization

vmware vCloud Director KVM  
Proxmox PowerVM

#### DevOps

Puppet Ansible SaltStack  
Terraform Argo Flux Helm

#### Languages

Python golang PHP Java  
C++ Rust

#### Cloud

AWS Azure Google Cloud

#### Containers

K8S Rancher Docker  
Docker Swarm

### WORK EXPERIENCE (13)

🔗 <https://www.otava.com>

Built a highly available, distributed S3 product with streamlined deployments using CI/CD and Ansible.

Provide Tier 3 support for customers and channel partners.

Wrote training materials and held classes on ansible, gitlab, docker, and CI/CD practices.

Developed ansible good practices to streamline new projects.

Actively work with product team to develop new offerings and improve existing

Maintain a lab to support proliferation of automation within the organization.

Technical lead for our Gen3 cloud deployment utilizing vCloud Director.

🔗 <https://littlecaesars.com>

Maintain CI/CD for all facets of online and mobile ordering

Develop ansible and terraform modules for maintenance and growth of our multi-cloud environment (MS Azure and Google cloud).

Built a modular monitoring and metrics stack utilizing prometheus, influxdb, grafana, alertmanager in a container environment to scale as needed.

Configured federation between monitoring systems in each virtual environment (VPC)

Created predictive algorithms to alert on potential problems before they happen.

Built a container environment to host .netCore applications with auto scaling to provide cost savings over a standard machine deployment.

Built several proof of concepts to manage remote store systems (15,000+). Most of these utilized ansible to perform the configuration with a higher level orchestration (salt, puppet, foreman)

Wrote an ESB consumer and dispatcher in python to replace windows based services.

Committed upstream fixes to several open source products we utilize.

Developed a python based service to scrape metrics from our cloud providers and expose them to a metrics endpoint for prometheus consumption.

 <https://www.northamericanbancard.com/>

Responsible for all Linux servers in a multi company environment. Systems include Ubuntu, CentOS, and Redhat Enterprise Linux

Managed automated builds and deployments using Stash and Bamboo.

Automated deployments to AWS using bamboo and docker.

Built a configuration management system using Ansible to deploy, configure, and ensure against configuration drift. I have also developed many other ansible plays to perform inventory collection, patching, and PCI remediation. Additionally I wrote plugins to send status of each of these to our central logging system.

Developed a centralized log management system using Logstash, Elasticsearch, Kibana, and HAProxy to provide a highly available and scalable method of collecting logs from our servers, infrastructure, and applications.

Implemented a server monitoring system and integrated it with our alerting system and slack.

Built a server and application metrics dashboard using Graphite, Grafana, and collectd. This has enabled dev, ops, and support people to see historic system metrics and better troubleshoot servers and applications.

 <https://aaa.com>

High level responsibilities:

- Plan, organize, and direct activities related to server infrastructure services.
- Manage technology vendor relationships and contract negotiations
- Provide technical process oversight and assistance to a variety of IT projects
- IT Security, Audit and Compliance
- Disaster recovery planning and testing

Directly Managed the following teams:

- \*Nix Server Teams (AIX, RedHat, Solaris)
- Microsoft Server Team (AD, System Center, Exchange, Lync/OCS)
- Virtual Server Team (Vmware, RHEV, HyperV)
- Middleware (Apache, JBoss, IIS)

Environment:

- 3 Data centers 2 in Michigan 1 in Florida
- 200+ remote sites (file, print, DC)
- 1000 +/- Linux servers
- 1400 +/- Windows servers
- 80 +/- ESX hosts

 <https://aaa.com>

Build, Patch, and maintain 1000+ Linux servers

Develop standard operating procedures

 <https://med.umich.edu/>

Maintain 200+ servers (including multiple HA clusters)

Manage licensing and contracts

Negotiate with vendors

Take an active roll in committees to determine the best practices and technologies

Lead purchasing efforts (RFP/RPQ/etc.)

Systems Security and Management.

Notable Clients:

GE Aerospace

Detroit Beer Company

Henkel

Detroit Auto Dealers Association

Eastern Michigan University

Detroit Opera House

City of Troy

Grid4 Communications

Designed and installed a large JBoss/Linux environment to support finite element analysis for a large aerospace organization.

Wrote and debugged java code for a large scale portal designed to provide reporting and request tracking to engineering groups.

Upgraded 100+ Solaris servers across a global network for a large foreign automotive company.

Lead Engineer on a "Fork Lift" Infrastructure upgrade (Solaris to Linux)

Implemented an internal update server (yum) and custom compiled rpm's from source to meet our specific needs

Compiled RedHat Cluster Suite and GFS kernels from source to provide us with a cost effective method of OS level clustering and shared filesystems

Assist with installation and configuration of Oracle 10g RAC clusters

Implemented a clustered JBoss AS environment (F5 Load balancers in front of an Apache web farm using mod\_jk)

Migrated all local users and service accounts to a Highly Available LDAP directory server that synchronizes users passwords with Active Directory

Provide Linux training to DBA and Systems administration teams

Designed an Open source monitoring system that compliments our existing Compuware Monitoring Suite, and displays server health on graphical representation of our network

 <https://www.nutechs.com/>

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 <https://www.webelite.com>

Responsible for generating quotes, planning projects, and providing training to clients

Provide application, web, email, and database hosting for companies seeking to reduce there IT budget

Engineered and Built a remote Datacenter using Cisco, IBM, Dell, and Sun Hardware

Manage 29 Red Hat AS3 Servers running a mix of Apache, Oracle, Qmail, DNS, DHCP, Tomcat, Zope, Open LDAP, Subversion, and MySQL

Designed an Open source monitoring system that monitors and reports customer SLA, server health, database performance, SPAM, network usage, and web site statistics

Manage 17 Sun servers (Solaris 8, 9, 10) running Sun Java Enterprise, Apache, MySQL, Oracle, and Tomcat

Manage 3 Windows 2003 Servers running Exchange 2003, IIS, DHCP, and Netbackup 5.x

Coordinated an interdepartmental project to convert 60,000 customers to new billing system in order to save the company \$3 Million

Negotiated contracts with vendors to provide the best possible service yet still maintain profitability

Maintained WAN consisting of 2x OC48, 4x DS3's, 15x T1's, and Multiple Cisco routers and switches

Administered 5 RedHat 7.x Linux servers (Bind, Apache, Radius, Sendmail)

Provided 24hr tier 3 support for Collocation, dedicated IP, and remote customer base of 500 users

 <http://www.jayenn.com/>

Designed and implemented a medium sized office LAN (under 100 users)

Responsible for day to day system administration tasks in a Windows NT 4.0 environment

Installed, configured, and administered Windows NT4 with DHCP, MS Exchange Server 5.5

Evaluated and recommended new software and hardware, both on the desktop PCs and the servers

Troubleshooting hardware and software problems on desktop and laptop PCs running Windows 98 and Windows NT Workstation 4.0

Wrote policies and procedures for IT department

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## **VOLUNTEER**

**Open Source Advocate** at Open Management Consortium

**Dec 2005 - Dec 2009**

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## **EDUCATION (12)**

**Bachelor Information Technology Management** at Western Governors University

2021 - 2024

Eiffel Intro to theoretical computer science

**Computing: Art, Magic, Science** at Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich

2014 - 2014

Eiffel Intro to theoretical computer science

**Reasoning, Data Analysis and Writing** at Duke University

2014 - 2015

How to Reason and Argue Data Analysis and Statistical Inference English Composition I

**Critical Perspectives on Management** at IE Business School

2014 - 2014

**Supply Chain Fundamentals** at Massachusetts Institute of Technology

2014 - 2014

**The Institute for Leadership Fitness™** at David Chinsky & Associates

2010 - 2011

**Novell Certified Linux Engineer** at Novell Advanced Technical Training

2009 - 2011

Novell Certified Linux Engineer Advanced Linux Troubleshooting and Optimization Novell Zenworks Administrator

**HP BladeSystems** at HP

2010 - 2010

Virtual Connect Boot-from-SAN BladeSystem Administration

**Administration** at Symantec

2006 - 2010

Storage Foundation + HA 5.0 Netbackup 6.x Administration Netbackup 6.x Troubleshooting

**Lean Healthcare Management** at University of Michigan

2009 - 2009

**Certifications** at RedHat

2004 - 2009

RHCJA RHCE 5

**Bachelor Computer Science** at Oakland University

1997 - 2000

## PUBLICATIONS

🔗 [Containers: Pros, Cons and How to Mitigate Risk](#) in Container Journal

7 Jan 2020

## LANGUAGES

**English**

Native Speaker

## REFERENCES

“ Larry is an outstanding technical resource supporting Linux / Unix, adept at coming up with creative solutions to any technical problem that arises. He also displays a very calm demeanor and remains that way in high

pressure situations working against tight deadlines and when making presentations to Sr. IT Leadership. ”

### **Larry Dragich**

“ I've had the pleasure of knowing Larry during his time at The Auto Club Group. Larry is well versed across multiple technical disciplines. He's proven his capabilities many times while working together on several projects. ”

### **Scott Burgess, PMP, ITIL**

“ I enjoyed working with Larry during his time at ACG. He was always approachable, positive and results oriented. Supporting mission critical technology is stressful by nature, but Larry was one of those people who could be counted on to roll up his sleeves and do whatever was necessary to solve problems. ”

### **Frank Remski**

“ I'm glad that I had a chance to work with Larry at UM for 4 years. He was technical strong and was instrumental in implementing new technologies like puppet, Munin and SMT to manage our servers better. He was really fun to work with and always willing to help and impart his technical skills to me and the group. ”

### **Sivakumar Ramarajan**

“ Mr. Larry Ludlow is an asset to any organization due to his deep knowledge in Linux / UNIX in addition to his unlimited understanding and capability in design and architecture of open source software. Larry is articulate, detail oriented, very efficient and by all means he is all about customer satisfaction. Larry strives in bringing new innovations and his solutions to the IT challenges are thoughtful and intelligent. Larry has a very friendly personality and he gets along with everyone. His sense of responsibility and taking ownership of the problems and issues makes him a breath of fresh air to deal with. ”

### **Merdi Zonooz**

“ Larry is a very knowledgeable and well rounded technologist. I worked with him while on the Linux team, and learned a great deal from him. I believe that he would be a valuable asset to any company's team. ”

### **Darren Cooley**

“ Larry has been an exceptional member of the Linux team at UMHS/MCIT. He demonstrates a willingness to share his knowledge without reserve, which is sometimes rare in this day and age, and has proven himself to be technically strong. Larry's attention to customer service, and his responsiveness to the needs of not only his customer base but also his peers has been very valuable. ”

### **Beth Pumo, MBA, CISA, CISM, CISSP**