

Larry Ludlow

Principal Engineer

Livonia, Michigan US

 lludlow@gmail.com

 [lludlow2](#)



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

Principal Engineer / Manager at Otava February 2019 - Current

<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.

Site Reliability Engineer at Little Caesars Pizza March 2018 - December 2018

<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.

Sr. Linux Engineer at North American Bancard September 2016 - March 2018

<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, Kabana, 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.

Manager, Server Engineering at The Auto Club Group June 2013 - June 2016

<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

Sr. IT Consultant / Team Leader at The Auto Club Group September 2012 - June 2013

<https://aaa.com>

Build, Patch, and maintain 1000+ Linux servers

Develop standard operating procedures

Linux Team Lead at University of Michigan Health System January 2008 - September 2012

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

Maintain 200+ servers (including multiple HA clusters)

Manage licensing and contracts

Negotiate with vendors

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

Lead purchasing efforts (RFP/RPQ/etc.)

Owner at L2 Enterprise March 1997 - January 2012

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

Engineering Consultant at INCAT September 2007 - January 2008

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.

Linux / Unix Systems Engineer at Budco Inc. March 2006 - September 2007

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

Unix/Linux Engineer (BUDCO) at NuTechs March 2006 - September 2006

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

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Senior Systems Manager at Web Elite April 2005 - March 2006

<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 their 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

Data Services Manager at Coast to Coast Telecom January 2000 - May 2002

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

IT Manager at Jay Enn Corporation March 1997 - January 2000

<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

VOLUNTEER

Open Source Advocate at Open Management Consortium

December 2005 - December 2009

EDUCATION

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

2014 - 2014

Major courses: eiffel | intro to theoretical computer science

Reasoning, Data Analysis and Writing at Duke University

2014 - 2015

Major courses: 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

Major courses: novell certified linux engineer | advanced linux troubleshooting and optimization | novell zenworks administrator

HP BladeSystems at HP

2010 - 2010

Major courses: virtual connect | boot-from-san | bladesystem administration

Administration at Symantec

2006 - 2010

Major courses: 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

Major courses: rhcja | rhce 5

PUBLICATIONS

[Containers: Pros, Cons and How to Mitigate Risk](#) in Container Journal
7 January 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. "

