

# James M

## Professional profile

- An experienced I.T. infrastructure, VMware virtualisation, Wintel and storage engineer with more than 20 years commercial I.T.
- Storage specialist mainly which includes the design, implementation and support of HP EVA SAN, IBM XIV enterprise storage arrays, 48000 Brocade fibre channel network switches
- Expertise in vSphere 5.5 to 6.7. **VCP410, VCP510 and VCP550** qualified. I also have **2V0-620 - vSphere 6 Foundation Exam (4 May 2016)**, **VCAC510-Cloud** and **VCAD510-VCA-DCV**
- Excellent people management, presentation and communication skills
- A good problem solver who works well under pressure and is passionate about technology
- My team are based in the London head office and provide global support. London staff are Enterprise Admins/ Domain Admins and global Administrators in Azure so we have the highest level of access to systems. We are responsible for all equipment in the datacenters in Europe (London and Eschborn), Asia (Hong Kong and Singapore) and Americas (New York/New Jersey and Washington).

## Work Experience

### Clifford Chance (11 July 2016 – 14 February 2020)

#### Senior Systems Engineer

- Working in the London docklands for one of the biggest law firms in the world in a small Wintel and virtualization team.
- We have approximately 56 offices globally. Work involves project work and BAU
- Provide on call support when required out of business hours
- I hold various certifications in VMware and have been involved in design and implementation of VMware environment at Clifford Chance for all offices globally. I have also provided training on a weekly basis when working on VMware project.
- My team are responsible for more than 3,000 servers globally, more than 200 HPE BL460 blades, **Windows Server 2008R2/12R2, 2016 and 2019, HPE Proliant servers and BL460 blades, DNS, Windows server 2003-2019, Active Director, DHCP, DFS, ADFS, Azure, VMware 6.5, Site Recovery Manager (SRM), (vRealize Operations Manager (vROPS), LDAP, WSUS, GIT, GrayLog, Jenkins, vPostgres, AD Sites and Services, SRM, vROPS, SCCM 2012/2016, IIS, fail over clusters, SCOM 2012, Zabbix, Linux (Rhel and Ubuntu), GPO, PKI certificate infrastructure, NLB, Azure, certificate infrastructure, GPO, VB scripts, Powershell, PowerCLI, Hyper-V, HPE MSAs, HPE Oneview, Microsoft Orchestrator 2019, WSUS, SolarWinds, Zabbix, Microsoft Orchestrator, etc.**
- My team are responsible for Azure which includes technical engineering support and project work within the Microsoft Azure platform (including LaaS, PasS and SaaS offerings), AD Connect, Custom Domains, Azure AD SSO, VMSS, custom roles, Azure backups, VMSS, RBAC, MFA, NSG, Firewalls, network gateways, VNets, vnet Peering, App Service plans, File Sync, load balancing, key vault, AzCopy, policies, Recovery Services Vault, etc.
- Providing 3rd and 4th line support of Physical and Virtual Windows Servers and associated Wintel Back Office infrastructure as well as design and implementation project work
- I am a VMware SME and I was technical lead and architect in the vSphere 5.5 Windows/ SQL to vSphere 6.5 U2 appliance/ vPostgres project for all offices globally. This included building a brand new environment as well as new SRM (globally) and vROPs (London). The project was completed successfully on time and on budget with absolutely no down time and saved the company more than £400,000 in consultancy fees

- Project scope also had to factor in moving from EVC storage to Netapp (approx. 420 datastores globally) which made the project more challenging, particularly in terms of ensuring we moved to the latest VMFS and could avoid duplicating task.
- The VMware project involved creating a new VMware environment as well as SRM and vROPS from scratch. Smaller environments such as LABS were migrated using the VMware migration tool and I managed to consolidate ten vCenter servers down to eight by combining the VDI with server environment
- Responsible for both high and low-level designs and various other documentation including a ninety-page presentation to go through the existing environment and the new design plan with team on weekly basis
- Strick deadline of 19 September for the VMware
- Design plan also involved integrating our VDI vSphere environment into our VCSA for servers. This resulted in minimizing the number of vCenter servers in our environment from ten to six and freeing up vCenter licences to be used elsewhere like labs
- Responsible for all documentation and I also presented the design to VMware and had the pleasure of meeting up with lead architect at VMWare, Emad Younis
- Implementation also involved using the migration tool for migrating our vSphere LAB environments. The migration tool was not an option for our production environment
- Installed latest version of VMware Realize Operations (vROPS) with mirroring and VMware Site Recovery Manager (SRM) from scratch to replace older versions
- The project also involved installing the latest SPP on HPE blades and upgrading more than 200 hosts from 5.5 to 6.5. All GEN 6 and GEN 7 hardware (Circa 60) had to be replaced to meet the VMware HCL
- Approximately forty MSAs in our smaller offices had to be replaced from the P2000 model to the 1060 model.
- PowerCli was used to automate as much as possible to facilitate a lot of the steps involved, such as transferring roles, folders and permissions to the new environment etc.
- I attended weekly meetings to report on progress and was also responsible for training internal staff in building the new environment which includes VCSAs and two external PSCs in each site for resiliency, vROPS and also Site Recovery Manager (SRM)
- Lead in the design and implementation of Zabbix monitoring on Linux Rhel 7.5 platform with MariaDB SQL backend. This is currently monitoring our vSphere environment which includes all VCSAs, PSCs, ESXi hosts and also includes NetApp storage monitoring. Alerts forward to our SCOM enterprise monitoring environment.
- Completed project to build new SCOM Servers running Server 2008 to Server 2012 R2 (around 7 servers in total) and also moving Microsoft Orchestrator 2012 to latest version from Server 2008 R2 to Server 2016 R2 Standard and moving all runbooks across. I also created some new runbooks. One being to move alerts of a specific severity from Zabbix to SCOM
- Project to build and configure HPE OneView to replace HPE SIM, Virtual Connect, Onboard Administrator and HPE SUM using HPE Synergy technology
- Implementation of various Powershell scripts. I have expertise in Powershell
- Daily BAU work. Tickets are logged in Service Now. Earlier project work included implementation of fine grain password (PSO), DNS redesign and rebuild of an existing root DNS server, AD Sites and Services, PowerShell project work (e.g. Ransomware scans), VMware vRealize for Business (VOA)

## Courses and Certifications

- Microsoft Azure (AZ103) training - 17-21 June 2019
- **2V0-620 - vSphere 6 Foundation certification – 4 May 2016**
- Administering Windows Server 2012 (M20411) 10 – 14 Nov 2014
- M10961 Automating Administration with Windows PowerShell v3.0 – 15 - 19 Sept 2014
- M10747 Administering System Center 2012 Configuration Manager (SCCM) - 8 - 12 Sept 2014
- VCAP550-DCA & DCD (advanced) lab based exam certification scheduled
- VCAC510-VCA Cloud certified - 24 November 2013
- HK756S HP Systems Insight Manager Essentials: 3 Dec 2012

- VMware vSphere 4/ 4.1 Fast Track - 13 Dec 2012
- VMware vSphere V5: What's New - 19 October 2012
- **VCAD510-VCA-DCV (Data Centre Virtualization) certified - 24 November 2013**
- **VCP550 VMware Certified Professional on vSphere 5.5 15 certification December 2014**
- **VCP510 VMware Certified Professional on vSphere 5.1 certification - 25 January 2012**
- **VCP 410 VMware Certified Professional on vSphere 4 certification - 23 May 2011**
- Data OnTap 7/ NetApps Fundamentals - 2011
- VMware vSphere on NetApp - 24 Oct 2011
- F5 Training Advanced - 9 May 2011
- vSphere Advanced FastTrack - 17 Dec 2010
- BlackBerry Enterprise Server 5.0 Technical Training - 2010
- HP Storage XP 1 for XP24000 / 20000 (HDS USP V): Configuration and Management - 2008
- Lotus Notes Administration - 2009
- Legato v6 training certificate 9 March 2001 & Legato (EMC) NetWorker 7.X Administration - 2006
- Maintaining a Microsoft Windows Server 2003 Environment - 2005
- Supporting Windows NT4 core Technologies - 2004
- Certification of Excellence Microsoft Windows 2000 rapid Deployment Program Support

### Personal Interests

Technology and Innovation, web development, photography, health and nutrition, music, travelling, gym, cycling, going to cinema and making sure I learn something new each day. In my spare time I am trying to learn Italian and German and I am also studying for the AZ-104, AZ-300 and AZ-900 Microsoft Azure certifications in my spare time