

Robert Melcher

System Administrator

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ABOUT ME

System Administrator and former Cybersecurity Engineer with expertise in **Linux, networking, and security**. I specialize in **server management, virtualization, and infrastructure automation**. I also **write a technical blog** about my **work-related projects and HomeLab experiments**, focusing on practical IT solutions and automation.

WORK EXPERIENCE

FORVIA

2022 – Present

HPC SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR

- **Maintained Windows and Linux servers** ensuring system stability and performance
- Integrated Active Directory and SALT minions on Linux servers
- Managed virtual servers (ManageIQ) and network infrastructure (VitalQIP)
- Installed and configured PBS (Portable Batch System) on HPC server for job scheduling and resource allocation
- **Led HPC Cluster Deployment:** Coordinated cross-team efforts (Network, Security, DC Ops) for VLAN tagging and firewall rule implementation
- **End-to-End Infrastructure Setup:** Configured Dell servers via iDRAC, deploying a 6-node cluster (Head Node, FEM, Compute Nodes)
- **Authentication & Storage Integration:** Implemented Winbind and Samba for Active Directory integration and SMB/NFS file sharing

DOLPHOST

2022 – 2024

FOUNDER

- Developed secure WordPress websites with emphasis on **security best practices**
- Provided maintenance and sales of VPS and web hosting services
- Managed domain registrations and transfers
- Implemented and configured hosting management solutions (WHMCS, cPanel)

ATOS IT SOLUTIONS

2020 – 2022

CYBER SECURITY ENGINEER

- Conducted risk and vulnerability assessments using NESSUS, providing detailed reports to senior management
- Implemented firewall rules on next-generation firewalls (Cisco, Fortinet, Palo Alto, Juniper)
- Configured and managed proxy rules on McAfee and SQUID systems
- Monitored data access and regulated file use using CyberArk (PAM)
- Migrated and created policy rules for Windows 10 end users using Forescout

NETEX ROMANIA

2018 – 2020

SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR

- Managed backup processes using BAREOS, ensuring data integrity and redundancy

- Performed **patching and troubleshooting** on NetexOS (Debian-based) with **Puppet automation**
- Installed **XEN hypervisors** and integrated **Docker** for development teams
- **Migrated Puppet** from bare metal infrastructure to **Kubernetes (K8s) cluster**
- Managed **VOIP system** based on **Asterisk** and **Cisco phones**
- Configured **StrongSwan** for **IPsec site-to-site VPN** connections
- **Maintained server room infrastructure:** installed **rack-mounted servers**, managed **network cabling**, and handled **hardware maintenance**

EDUCATION

CISCO CERTIFIED NETWORK ASSOCIATE (CCNA- #NJKWKRFD7D1EQ7C0) 2019 – 2020

- Prepared through a **7-month vocational training program** covering 4 comprehensive modules
- Gained **extensive practical experience** with **physical Cisco equipment** and **GNS3** virtual environments

WEST UNIVERSITY OF TIMISOARA 2016 – 2018

COMPUTER SCIENCE

West University of Timișoara – Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics Computer Science (unfinished Bachelor's degree)

- Relevant coursework: • Networking (towards CCNA certification) • Linux administration • Virtualization & Containerization (Docker, Kubernetes)

SKILLS

SYSTEMS

- Linux Administration
- Windows Server
- Virtualization (Proxmox, Docker)

SECURITY & AUTOMATION

- Security Assessment
- Backup Solutions

NETWORKING

- CISCO Configuration
- Firewall Management
- VPN Implementation

PROJECTS

HOMELAB

- **Built and maintained** custom lab on **Dell PowerEdge R720** hardware
- Managed **Proxmox virtualization** environment running **Linux and Windows VMs**
- Implemented Network Security using **VLANs, WAF, and pFsense firewall**
- Deployed **Docker environments** orchestrated with **Portainer**
- Implemented K8s Cluster with Rancher and transitioned to GitOps using FluxCD
- Hybrid Cloud Monitoring: Managed an Oracle Cloud (Ampere) instance running Grafana & Prometheus to monitor HomeLab metrics via Tailscale and Cloudflare Tunnels
- Actively developing a K8s infrastructure repository to automate cluster management: github.com/meroxdotdev/infrastructure