

- Hortonworks Certified Hadoop 2 Developer
- MapR Certified Hadoop Admin (MCHA)

Head of IT Operations & DevOps Manager

Infectious Media Ltd

Apr 2013 - Jan 2015

Leading DevOps, Data Science and Data in the growing RTA world.

In this role I managed a team of different specialists including Developers; Data Engineers; Data Analysts and Data Scientists. With them we built, maintained and run a fully scalable RTB product on top of a secure platform of servers. As a team we scaled the platform in just over a year from 4000 transactions a second to over 150,000 transactions per second; with each transaction analysing many different data points. This enabled it to create the best bid price for the advert and respond to the bid exchange within 95% of the time in under 10ms. As a member of the leadership team, I ensured each member of my team felt valued and were given support and skills to allow them to grow within the company. This was achieved by forming a strong team bond with open knowledge sharing and an ethos of there never being a stupid question.

During my time in post I evaluated the hardware and cloud offerings we were using, this led us to migrate our ETL data environment over to using Google's Cloud Services making substantial use of Big Query. We found this increased our ETL throughput with many jobs that used to take 20-30 mins using a standard columnar based database now running in under 2 mins. It also allowed us due to speed and cost savings to substantially scale the amounts of data we held, allowing greater access to the data within the organisation and more transparent analytical results.

During the same period we re-engineered our production RTB environment to run over multiple Google Compute zones, which increased performance by nearly 300% and reduced relative cost around 50% allowing us to scale dynamically.

The additional skills I have picked up whilst working here are:

Hadoop

Pig

Python UDF's

Zookeeper

Along with improving my general programming skills in many languages including Ruby, Python and recently Golang.

Global Systems Manager

Thermeon Worldwide

Jan 2002 - Apr 2013

I was responsible for the day to day running and management of the global infrastructure and Car Rental systems. This included designing a highly available co-location grade system with multiple levels of redundancy. During the design phase I met with potential suppliers and hosting companies to secure the best dedicated hosting available for our clients. Ensuring good global connectivity and sufficient bandwidth whilst keeping an eye on the cost model. The architecture included live replication of data from site A to site B, within virtual servers, therefore should it be needed we could relocate a customer live from one data centre to the other with only a few minutes of down time. The design and implementation allowed Thermeon to win a worldwide contract to supply our car rental software to all Hertz Licenses globally.

Some of the tools I have used to run this network are:

BGP, OSPF, Dynamic Network routing Management

Fortinet & CISCO Firewalls,

DRBD. Live disk replication, DRBD Proxy, Worlds first 4 way drbd HA replication

VirtSH, OpenVZ. XEN, Vmware, VirtualBox, Vagrant and KVM Virtual Servers.

Linux 64bit and 32bit Systems, including dynamic remote installs.

Bind, tinydns Domain Name Management

Sendmail, Postfix, Qmail, SpamAssasin, Email Delivery.

Vlans, IPSec, pptp, MPLS

Zabbix, Monit, Nagios, Sensu.

NodeJS, Bash

PagerDuty

Ansible, Puppet & Chef along with Ruby for scripting and templating.

Private Cloud, AWS and Rackspace Cloud Environments.

VOIP, Voice Telephony via IP, Global SIP routing

* GNS3 routing visualisation.

I also assisted in customers 1st, 2nd and 3rd line support as needed including on-site trips to customers globally including Ireland, Sweden and Australia, training and trouble shooting issues, with a speciality on data mining. As part of supporting customers I advised them on their internal networks; systems and in some cases act in the capacity of their IT Manager.

Systems Tester / Systems Administrator

Netmonitor / Kestrial Solutions Ltd

Seep 2000 - Jan 2002

After leaving University I started my career with Netmonitor; They developed software to manage and monitor network time pieces. My role initial was as a Software Tester, following strict testing guidelines, producing test plans to ensure good coverage. To ensure fair tests we often rebuilt servers and clients back to known states so that we could test the changes in the software. During this time I became the company systems administrator looking after the Window Server and Solaris estate along with the bespoke customer hardware that we managed. As a skilled tester part of my role included third line and on-site support including a trip to Mexico where I installed and upgraded the monitoring systems of Mexico Telecom on behalf of our client Symmetricom.

Education

University of Portsmouth

BSc Hons, Business Systems Information

1997 - 2000

School / College

Cardinal Newman School, Hove

1990 - 1997

Including:

Advanced GNVQ Business and European Studies

Double Science and Maths

* English, Music and Basic Languages (French/German).

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