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Profile Summary

Chief Technology Officer | Strategic Technology Leader | Open Source Champion

Strategic technology leader with over 12 years of IT management experience specializing in cloud infrastructure, team development, and innovative solutions. Specializing in strategic technology leadership and team development, there's a strong commitment to crafting solutions that meet and exceed customer expectations. Efforts are continuously made to ensure technology strategies align seamlessly with business objectives, fostering growth and innovation. This career path is marked by successfully leading diverse, high-performing teams and initiating technology projects that enhance organizational efficiency and security. Emphasizing personal growth and team empowerment, there's a dedication to being both a student and mentor in the field, enhancing technical and communication skills to create a culture of collaboration and ongoing improvement. This commitment extends beyond professional duties, actively participating in non-profit community initiatives like IEEE SA Open Security and Foundation for Open Source Ecosystem Technology (FOSET), earning recognition for contributions to the technology sector.

Expertise and Capabilities

Leadership and Non-Technical Skills

- **Leadership**: motivation-focused community builder, inspiring mentor, empowering director of leaders and teams, cooperative servant leadership skills
- **Organizational**: coordinator of events, partnership development, team, and volunteer organizer
- **Innovation**: entrepreneur, innovator, analytical and artistic vision, adaptable problem solver
- **Learning**: self-motivated learner, technology tinkerer, critical thinker
- **Collaboration:** Strong oral and written communication skills, active listening, open-mindedness, and conflict-resolving

Technical Skills

Cloud Computing: AWS (EC2, ALB, ASG, ECS, EKS, Route 53, S3, Lambda, CloudWatch), MS Azure, GCP, Docker, Kubernetes, DevSecOps; **Virtualization**: VMware, Hyper-V, VDI - Citrix, Horizons, MS RDS

Operating Systems: Windows Server (NT-2023), Linux; **Directory Services**: Active Directory, LDAP; **Web Servers**: MS IIS, Apache, NGINX; **Collaboration**: Mattermost, Slack, BigBlueButton; **Source Control**: Git, GitHub, Gitlab; **Database**: MS SQL, PostgreSQL, MySQL, MariaDB, Cassandra, DynamoDB **Scripting/Programming**: Bash, Python, Visual Basic, .NET, C, C++, Perl, Kixtart, Batch, PowerShell; **Web Content Management**: Drupal, WordPress; **Applications**: Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Visio; **Infrastructure Hardware**: HP/IBM/Dell Servers/Storage Arrays, NetApp filers **Data Center:** Data Center and Rack architecture, Remote Hardware Management Solutions, Data Center Resource Management, Data Center Migration; **Help Desk Software**: ServiceNow **DevOps & IaC**: Docker, Kubernetes, Terraform, Ansible, GitLab CI/CD **AI/ML:** LLMs, OpenAI API, RAG, embeddings, Langchain, CrewAI

Education, Certifications, and Training

- AWS Certified Developer - Associate
- Technical presentations for Executives
- Essentials of People Management
- ITIL v3 Foundations
- Agile Project Management Fundamentals
- Toastmaster International Competent Communicator and Competent Leadership training
- DoD Top Secret Clearance - SCI eligible (2006 - 2021)
- Baldridge Business Practice Training at K&N Management - The Love of Excellence
- Technical Recruiting and Behavioral Interviewing Training
- University of Texas at Austin - Computer Science, Bachelor of Science degree plan

Professional Experience

Leadingbit Solutions, Inc. - Austin, TX (03/2021 – Present)

Director of IT Infrastructure and Operations / Solutions Architect / Chief Technology Officer

- **Executive Collaboration and Growth Strategy:** Acted as a key strategic advisor to the CEO, driving company growth through insightful technology leadership. Facilitated cross-functional partnerships to foster innovation and operational excellence.
- **Strategic Technology Direction:** Spearheaded alignment of technology strategies with business goals, championing Open Source innovations and enhancing product impact. Led agile and DevOps cultural shifts, accelerating delivery while ensuring security and quality.
- **Project Leadership and Operational Excellence:** Directed comprehensive project and operational management, ensuring strategic initiatives aligned with organizational goals, resulting in elevated customer satisfaction and process optimization.
- **Policy Development and Community Engagement:** Led the formulation of technical roadmaps and policies, enhancing community processes and collaboration and fostering open-source software development.
- **Security and Compliance Architecture:** Established robust security practices and compliance frameworks within DevOps and Open Source environments, ensuring the integrity and reliability of cloud-hosted infrastructures.
- **Team Leadership and Talent Development:** Managed a diverse, global team of engineers and project managers, fostering a culture of collaboration, innovation, and skill enhancement. Led by example in staff and community forums, including keynote presentations at industry events.
- **External Relationship and Communication Management:** Established and nurtured productive partnerships, supporting organizational growth and enhancing community development through effective communication strategies.
- **Visionary in Technological Direction:** Outlined and implemented the company's technological roadmap, ensuring the strategic alignment of technical resources with business needs and driving forward-looking technology transformations. Spearheaded research and development in open source large language models (LLMs) and Generative AI, enhancing platform functionality.
- **Open-Source Community Leadership:** Actively led and contributed to significant roles within open-source community projects, enhancing innovation and security in software development.
- **Operational Excellence and Innovation:** Provided strategic oversight for special projects, advocating for process improvements and operational efficiency across the organization.
- **Public Speaking and Industry Advocacy:** Engaged in advocacy and public speaking, emphasizing the role of technology in advancing open-source platforms and community collaboration. Speaker at the OpenUK State of Open on Platform Engineering.
- **Innovative Solution Architecting:** Designed and implemented an Open Source platform architecture leveraging a suite of technologies (GitLab, Mattermost, BigBlueButton, etc.) across AWS and GCP, enhancing collaborative productivity and operational efficiency.
- **Infrastructure as Code (IaC) Deployment:** Crafted automated deployment architectures using Bash, AWS CLI, Ansible, and CloudFormation, optimizing AWS resource utilization and resilience. Streamlined application updates and security audits to maintain high availability and security compliance.

BAE Systems, Inc. - Austin, TX (07/2008 – 03/2021)

Enterprise Cloud Services Operations Manager   *(03/2012 – 03/2021)*

- Managed Cloud Services server & virtualization IT remote operations teams that ensured organizational goals were achieved or exceeded
- Mentored, developed, and directed teams of up to 15 indirect IT resources made up of architects, engineers, operations admins
- Developed and implemented operational roadmaps that supported the adoption of new technology for the enterprise
- Forecasted yearly budget expenditures for my teams that worked with business short-term and long-term goals
- Facilitated the enterprise Citrix support partnership, saving the company over $25K annually by consolidating and upgrading 800+ Virtual Desktops and Xenapp Citrix licenses
- Architected an enterprise solution for data access governance that secured and made our unstructured data auditable
- Developed a relationship with one of our existing software vendors into a partnership that achieved a project savings of $217K and a recurring savings of $43K in software support annually
- Managed multiple teams to upgrade 1500 Windows 2003 servers before support ended, securing the environment, preventing security vulnerabilities, and facilitating successful security and compliance audits
- Designed a maintenance process for system upgrades and patching that had adaptable outage windows to meet business and security compliance needs, creating minimal user disruption and saving more than $600K annually
- Directed Data Center relocation from Herndon to Austin and consolidated infrastructure that saved $4.5M in IT operating costs
- Spearheaded the Virtualization and MS Windows Servers' cloud infrastructure component of an active divestiture solution that at a moment's notice, would effectively separate the company into 2-3 isolated entities without disrupting operations in preparation for a potential $1.2B sale
- Designed and deployed an Enterprise File Services solution that efficiently distributed low-cost file servers for storing unstructured data at remote sites, which saved more than $500K in Netapp and Commvault costs
- Created team-building events such as "Great Place to Work" and "Diversity and Inclusion" for seven IT teams that increased employee morale and departmental participation by 70%
- Planned Cloud Services Enterprise technology roadmap facilitating resources that effectively achieved data center objectives
- Impact Award Recipient: Regional Data Center Infrastructure upgrade implementation
- Bronze Chairman Award Recipient: Internal Live Broadcasting solution
- Difference Maker and Pathfinder Award Recipient for Shared Strategic Assessment
- Cloud operations technology lead designing our External Cloud Foundation Project, which defines how company-wide we can utilize resources hosted in AWS and Azure while meeting our DOD security and compliance needs

- Architected DevSecOps solution for the enterprise and designed the CONOPS for implementing it into operations

Senior Principal Systems Engineer (*07/2008 – 03/2012*)
- Managed Cloud Services department's projects and resolved mission-critical issues and outages impacting the enterprise
- Automated processes and procedures utilizing multiple scripting languages, maintaining Windows and VMware environments
- Managed Active Directory utilizing login scripts, OUs, GPOs, and DFS to maintain and secure the environment
- Managed closed Top Secret classified environments and data spills with secured Windows Servers, Unix Servers, storage, network, and desktops
- Safeguard Recognition Award Recipient: Fighting Advanced Persistent Threats for Major Cyber Security Compromise
- Virtualization Environment Upgrade Project Recognition Award Recipient: Upgrading the Unmanaged Virtualization Environment at Remote Sites
- Exceeding Service Levels Recognition Award Recipient: Awarded for Consistently Exceeding Service and Project timelines with the highest customer satisfaction
- Data Center Consolidation Achievement Award Recipient: Completion of Data Center Consolidation of multiple sites into Regional Data Centers
- Infrastructure Printer Services Project Award Recipient: Spearheaded project and managed team members with the design and implementation of virtual Print Services for Electronic Systems

Computer Sciences Corporation - Austin, TX (03/1998 – 07/2008)

Senior Principal Computer Scientist - Solutions Architect
- Mentored, coached, and directed IT teams of six to thirteen engineers
- Designed, implemented, and managed IT solutions for various clientele across banking, insurance, chemical energy, government, and defense industries throughout North American
- Identified technical requirements and implemented IT outsourcing onboarding that effectively translated information into software and hardware capabilities to support clientele initiatives
- Performed due diligence and documentation to develop gap analyses and best practices to ensure new business contract proposals were accurately drafted
- Analyzed clientele requirements and implemented MS Windows Server infrastructure solutions that ensured Service Level Agreement contract terms and conditions were accomplished within strict time demands
- Led IT Red Teams to identify and resolve escalated issues to ensure the highest customer satisfaction rates
- Managed compliance with a contractual agreement that eliminated financial penalties
- Presented technical solutions to Executive Leadership that facilitated organizational initiatives
- Directed IT teams to perform on-site MS Windows Server environment support, ensuring CSC contractual obligations were met
- Project Management Office team leader and guided IT Red Teams with process resolutions to support CSC customers
- Designated Team Leader and designed, installed, and migrated MS Windows Host Servers that increased system efficiencies
- Consolidated servers and applications to support Equiva and Texaco data center migrations
- Designed migration plans of data and application services to CSC data centers, reducing costs while refreshing hardware
- Spearheaded Enterprise Deployments and system maintenance to support Financial Services Group software development

Volunteering and Community Projects

- IEEE SA Open Security lead and Technical Advisory Group member (2020-2023)
    - Work with a team of IEEE technical resources, architects, developers, project managers, and volunteers
    - Contribute to the design and implementation of IEEE SA Open Community Platform and DevOps
    - Led the open source security community focused on securing open source software and operations
    - Lead the design and implementation of test versions of the IEEE SA Open platform using IaC
    - Maintain CI/CD pipeline for the project deploying as a web application hosted in GitLab-pages
- Member of Defense Industrial Base (DIB) Sector Coordinating Council Cyber Task Force - Supply Chain DRM Work Group (2019-2021)
- BAE Systems representative to the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) (2017)
- School of Business & Technology at Huston-Tillotson University Board Member (2016)
- Austin Agile (2013)
- Technical Steering Committee Lead - Foundation for Open Source Ecosystem Technology (FOSET) (2023)

Speaking Engagements & Community Involvement

- Presenter on Platform Engineering, OpenUK State of Open 2023, London
- Speaker at OSCON and InnerSource Commons
- Active participant in open source conferences and community events
- Established connections with numerous open source communities