DANIEL GRAMMATICA
ENGINEERING MANAGER

Peterborough UK | 07506 304 762 | dan@t0xic.me | t0xic.me/cv

About

I have always had a fascination with technology since a young age. At twelve I was helping to manage my school's network and fixing computers for friends. This passion only grew as I got older and transformed into a career. Although I spend a lot of free time tinkering, building and crawling /r/sysadmin, I recognise the need to disconnect. From this need I have developed a great love for all things outdoors, especially climbing. I spend a lot of my free time down the local climbing gym and weekends exploring the Lake District, Snowdonia and Scotland.

Work

Smart Solutions Grp

Head of Engineering | *2025-04-01 — Present*

I'm a hands-on engineering leader in the MSP space, responsible for technical architecture, security posture, and delivery quality across diverse client environments. My work sits at the intersection of engineering, risk, and margin standardising platforms, reducing repeat incidents, and ensuring technology decisions scale commercially as well as technically. I'm passionate about building engineering functions that are calm, predictable, and defensible where good architecture replaces heroics.

Highlights

- Advising client IT and leadership teams on the design and implementation of secure, scalable infrastructure and identity architectures
- Leading Microsoft 365 security and identity hardening, including conditional access, MFA enforcement, tenant governance, and privilege management
- Conducting structured security reviews and technical audits, producing clear, actionable security reports for both technical teams and senior stakeholders
- Translating complex technical risk into practical remediation plans, supporting informed decision-making at leadership and board level
- Reducing recurring incidents through architectural improvement and preventative controls, rather than reactive firefighting
- Leading and delivering multi-site network, server, and tenant consolidation projects, including large-scale system migrations
- Acting as senior escalation point for security incidents, complex outages, and high-risk changes

Smart Solutions Grp

Engineering Manager | 2017-06-01 — 2025-04-01

I've naturally progressed to this role having been a mentor to the engineering team, whilst advising the sales team ensuring expectations are met first time. At Smart Solutions we pride ourselves in offering honest business solutions and support. Part of my role is upholding this reputation ensuring customer satisfaction. We have a strong proven loyal customer base. Amongst many, a major highlight has been heading up Peterborough United FC's systems. Not only providing day to day support, overhauling their IT and Telecoms infrastructure, also match day support having the privilege to see them through to the Championship.

Highlights

- Helping develop Junior engineers' skillsets and seeing them grow into the industry achieving their qualifications
- Maintaining a strong customer base developing business relationships
- Getting nominated for Business Continuity/Disaster Recovery (BC/DR) Project of the Year following our efforts to get Peterborough United FC match ready in five weeks (https://sdcawards.com/vote)

The Raspberry Pi Foundation

IT Support & Systems Analyst | 2016-03-21 — 2017-05-31

I joined the Raspberry Pi Foundation during a sustained period of growth, within a year we went from roughly 20 employees to 120+. This was an initial contract of three months with the aim to deploy a cloud infrastructure and improve local infrastructure in Cambridge and London. This contract was then extended to complete further projects.

Highlights

- Migrating the foundations existing hosted exchange and file storage to the Google suite of applications.
- Working with different teams to identify workflows and establish IT systems to help automate and remove mundane processes.
- Identifying the needs of different teams and trialling different CRM's before implementing the most suitable system.
- Helping with the security requirements to enable ground to space communication with our two Raspberry Pi's on the International Space Station.
- Networking with leading professionals at a variety of events, most notably our birthday party celebration at the Houses of Parliament.
- Spending a week at the family orientated music festival Camp Bestival teaching children how to code in Scratch and Python.

Smart Technologies

IT Systems Engineer | *2015-10-18 — 2016-03-19*

At Smart Technologies I supported over 45 clients with 235 Servers and 1000+ Workstations alongside my colleagues. Moving to the Private Sector was an interesting step knowing there wasn't much adoption for OpenSource systems within Small/Medium Business Applications.

Highlights

- Exposure to proprietary systems, SLA's, their commercial uses and vendor contracts that come with.
- Building my PowerShell skills developing fixes and scripting solutions for clients. Managing Cloud Based systems, Office365, Spam filtering, Remote Management etc.
- Migrating clients to hosted solutions ensuring a smooth changeover, without any loss of data or business productivity.
- Working with a vast range of Hardware/Software products. Applying previous knowledge to new systems, discovering the fundamentals are the same.
- Developing my customer focus and team working skills, ensuring the client is satisfied with the end product and level of support.

Bourne Grammar School

Systems Administrator & Performing Arts Technician | *2011-03-01 — 2015-10-18*

I started at Bourne Grammar School as an IT Technician after proving myself as a student IT assistant. My main responsibility was providing support for 1800 pupils and 100 staff. As I worked up to Systems Administrator I've built new systems and optimised many others, improving the end-user experience and enabling the School to use their finances for other departments.

Highlights

- Setting up an OpenStack private cloud to enable students to experiment with Linux and web servers.
- Using Cobbler and Fabric to PXE boot and configure a subnet of PC's with a Windows/Linux dual boot.
- Rebuilding the Schools network improving reliability and implementing VLANS. Along with a Fortinet firewall, web filtering and Nginx reverse proxy to save on IPv4 address'.
- Implemented BYOD for 1800 users using Meru wireless networking, combined with port ACL's for security.
- Building an Asterisk PBX to replace our dated Siemens analogue PBX, saving the School on expensive phone lines and support contracts.

Education

Bourne Grammar School

2005-09-01 — 2010-07-01

- 9 GCSE's including Maths, English, Science, IT
- 1 GCE AS - Computing

Volunteer

Angle Climbing Wall

Route Setter | 2024-06-01 — Present

Designing, installing, and maintaining climbing routes that are safe, varied, and appropriate for different ability levels.

Peterborough Mountaineering Club

Membership Secretary | 2023-12-01 — 2025-12-01

Managing membership records, renewals, and new joiners, acting as the primary point of contact for membership administration. Overseeing the club's British Mountaineering Council (BMC) affiliation and insurance, issuing information packs and member communications.

Child Protection Officer | 2021-10-01 — 2025-12-01

Acts as the club's designated safeguarding lead, ensuring policies and procedures align with the British Mountaineering Council (BMC) guidance.

Webmaster & TakeIn Magazine Editor | 2018-12-01 — 2025-12-01

Curating, editing, and producing the club magazine, coordinating contributions from members and committee roles. Maintaining and updating the club website, ensuring information is accurate, accessible, and up to date. Supports committee communication by managing online content, documents, and member facing resources.

Peterborough Climbing Wall

Route setter & Volunteer Supervisor | 2016-09-01 — 2021-01-01

As a volunteer supervisor at the climbing wall, I took part in a rota to open the centre, manage new registrations, check people in and ensure everyone taking part were climbing safety. Outside of opening hours as part of the route setting team I would set new routes and ensure a good range of grades were set.

Cambridgeshire Search and Rescue

Search Technician | 2017-03-01 — Present

Cambridgeshire Search and Rescue (CamSAR) is the Lowland Rescue unit covering our county, often also assisting sister teams in the wider region. We are a specialist team, called upon by Police in the search for vulnerable missing people: a child, an elderly person living with dementia or even someone who is considering taking their own life.

Highlights

- Locating a missing person allowing family and friends closure.
- Building on my skillset with specialist training. Including ALSAR First Aid, Health & Safety, Casualty Evacuation, Operations Control and more.

Bourne & District Roundtable 896

Hon. Treasurer | 2014-10-01 — 2017-04-01

Roundtable is about having a good time, networking and helping the local community. As well as our Music Festival, we invite the pensioners in Bourne to a Christmas Dinner. Along with a Fireworks night raising funds for the local primary school. During my time as Treasurer I had to manage the Charity and House accounts and submit them to the auditor at the end of the financial year

Highlights

- Organising a Music & Beer festival annually for the local community, raising on average £20k for charity.
- Attending social events. Raft race, Segwaying, Shooting and drinking!

Skills

Systems Administration

Windows Server Linux (Mostly Debian based) Firewall and Cyber Security Networking Scripting (Python/PowerShell/Bash) Documenting LEMP/LAMP Stacks Cloud Services (Azure/365/Mimecast/AWS) Cyber Essentials/PCI Compliance

Web Development

HTML CSS Markdown Frameworks CMS Photoshop/InDesign

Live Events

Event management Sound Lighting Stage Rigging Health & Safety

Interests

Great Outdoors

Bouldering Rock Climbing Scrambling Kayaking Camping

References

— Bob Symns, Chief Executive – Peterborough United Football Club.

— Phillip Colligan, Chief Executive – Raspberry Pi Foundation

— Stephen Brown, Director of Computing - Bourne Grammar School

Available on request