



Tony Godson

Systems Architect

My core skillset is as a Systems Architect, working in technology refresh, data centre transformation and application migration. Alongside this I have gained experience in pre-sales, business analysis and project management - I have delivered projects using both waterfall and Agile delivery.

Eclipse Group Solutions

Pre-Sales Architect

2011 - 2023

Contact

Email

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Education

1991-1995

BSc(Hons) 2:1

Computing Systems

Nottingham Trent University

Qualifications

- Microsoft MCSE / MCITP
- ITIL v3 / v2
- SAP Commerce Sales and Pre-Sales
- SAP Commerce Cloud Sales and Presales

Expertise

- Pre-Sales
- Systems Architecture Documentation
- Systems Design
- Project Management
Agile and Waterfall
- Hosting and Support
- Requirements Gathering
- Technical Design Authority
- Cost Models and TCO Analysis
- Microsoft, SAP, AWS, Azure, VMware, Hyper-V, Citrix

Overview

Initially at Eclipse the aim was to extend the infrastructure as a service business - developing and selling Desktop as a Service, IaaS, Backup, DR, network and traditional hosting. In 2015 we focused on e-commerce so I developed skills in SAP Commerce (Hybris) and Adobe Commerce (Magento), as well as migrating our hosting business from physical to virtual and then to AWS. I was also responsible for the internal Eclipse IT based on Microsoft 365, Azure AD, Cisco Meraki, JIRA, Confluence,

2011-2015

Infrastructure as a Service

I focused on hosting, managed desktop and ITIL service desk for new and existing clients. This was based on Office 365, Citrix Xen Server, Hyper-V, HP Server, Watchguard firewalls, and Dell Storage. Clients included Brintons Carpets, TNT Global Logistics, Motus (Imperial Commercials), Morgan Motors and the International Transport Workers Federation. The infrastructure business worked alongside the Eclipse development arm and gave us a differentiator on new client engagements.

2014-2023

SAP Commerce (Hybris)

In 2014 Eclipse took on Joules as a development client providing a Java development team working on their hybris platform - this became our gateway to becoming a hybris Gold Partner. I was a part of all of the eCommerce sales opportunities allowing us to offer support, hosting and integration alongside our Java development and test teams.

As part of the sales process, I would run the discovery workshops to elicit all of the requirements for the project, document the As-Is architecture and propose the target architecture.

Clients included: Joules Clothing, Wacoal Europe, Evans Cycles, Aurum Holdings, Waterstones, ghd, Saint Gobain, SIG, BIG Dug.

2018-2021

SAP Commerce (AWS)

Most of our customers were high street retailers, which had high demand for peak trading periods, so we needed a solution which could offer auto-scale. Traditional hybris clients would host on physical hardware in traditional data centres, we migrated some to virtual environments using Microsoft Hyper-V virtualisation to provide scalability and reduce costs. In 2018 we designed an AWS cloud solution utilising CloudFormation, Terraform, Kubernetes and distributed RDS MySQL to provide a highly available and auto-scaling hosting platform across multiple availability zones, with DR replicas in alternative regions. We migrated Joules, Wacoal and Evans Cycles to the AWS solution. We partnered with Dynatrace to provide technical and business insights using their APM toolset.

2022-2023

SAP Commerce (Azure)

By 2022 SAP had developed a hosting solution similar to our AWS solution which they offered as part of the SAP license, so we chose to migrate Joules and Wacoal to the SAP Azure solution. We developed a repeatable AWS to Azure migration process, which included a re-platform of the database from RDS MySQL to Microsoft SQL.

Unisys Systems Architect

1995 - 2010

Overview

While working at Unisys I progressed through the consultancy ranks to become a senior Systems Architect, I worked on some key accounts including Metropolitan Police, Orange Business Services, University of Salford, Vodafone and Barclays. Delivering projects within Unisys was based on an internal process that was based on Prince2, TOGAF, and ITIL principles. The technology profile of my Unisys projects were typically; Dell Server, EMC Storage, Cisco networking, VMWare, Microsoft Active Directory, Exchange, and Systems Management Server.

2010

University of Salford

Led the pre-sales of this £6m project in 2010 and then moved on to the delivery team. The project was a technology refresh based on Cisco Nexus, EMC storage, Dell Blade, VMware, and Netbackup, running Windows and Red Hat Linux. The new technology was part of the integration between the University and Media City.

2009-2010

Slough Borough Council

Took over as the lead architect for Slough Council in 2009, responsible for delivering ongoing projects; Hyper-V, file server migration, mobile working. As well as developing new opportunities for Unisys and the council; SAN upgrade, DR, and Data Centre optimisation.

2008-2009

Metropolitan Police

Responsible for architecting and delivering the installation of the new server estate for this major UK police force command and control infrastructure. This consisted of 130 commodity servers, 8 Unisys ES7000s, 2 Sun M9000, and 5 Unisys Dorado 2200 mainframe servers connected to an EMC DMX4 storage and Cisco SAN infrastructure. A key part of this solution was the dual data centre design with full capacity failover to support the multiple 999 call centres. We carried out regular DR tests to ensure the system was fit for purpose.

2006-2009

Orange Business Services

Unisys was subcontracted to Orange Business Services and was responsible for the technology transformation of their customer across Europe. I was the technical design authority for server consolidation, virtualisation, and desktop standardisation. The target architecture was based on VMware, Citrix Presentation Server and consolidated Microsoft SQL.

2004-2006

National College for School Leadership

Technical Design Authority responsible for the delivery of Disaster recovery, ISA 2004 firewall deployment, and migrating to a new backup and storage platform. Migrating key systems to Windows 2003.

2002-2003

Vodafone

Technical Architect responsible for designing, testing, and implementing an email migration strategy for Vodafone in the UK. The requirement was for an InterOrg migration of 15000 mailboxes from NT4 and Exchange 5.5 to Exchange 2000 and AD.

2001-2002

Barclays

Designing a Windows 2000 "OneWorld" infrastructure including AD, Exchange 2000, Desktop Refresh, Server Consolidation, PDA, centralised printing, centralised storage, and Citrix

2000-2001

Railtrack

Design Architect responsible for the server build, desktop build, backup, and storage design as well as the overall NT design.

1995-2000

Various clients; Equifax, United Friendly/Refuge Assurance, ICAS, Telecom Australia. Progressing through the consultant ranks within Unisys while working on Novell and Microsoft technology transformation projects