

CAREER PROFILE

As an experienced Systems Engineer, I specialise in Workflow Optimisation, Workload Reduction, Process Standardisation and Toolset Integration. I excel in solving complex IT problems and have successfully undertaken diverse roles throughout my career. I am passionate about sharing my knowledge and possess strong interpersonal skills, enabling effective communication at all organisational levels, from front-line support to senior directors.

EXPERIENCES

Full Stack Systems Engineer III2020 - Present

Rackspace Technology

Responsible for the project delivery, design and development of business products and support tooling. Working with external stakeholders to qualify and document new products, both hardware and software.

Identifying areas of improvement both within the team and the larger organisation. Architecture and implementation of tooling to reduce total cost, to customers, the business and to minimise human error.

Responsibilities

- Identify areas of improvement for existing or new tooling;
- Manage approved projects and implement within assigned timelines;
- Provide support and guidance to other engineers;
- Point of escalation for support teams and Full Stack Systems Engineers.

Achievements

- Designed, developed & implemented an analytics tool that was able to identify discrepancies in billing and allow these to be corrected;
 - Around \$1.2 million in missing revenue identified;
- Designed, developed & implemented a fully automated test lab using Terraform and Ansible allowing either user testing or fully automated testing;
- Implemented an end-of-life program for devices running end-of-life operating systems, adding roughly \$600,000 revenue per year.

Technologies

Jira, Python, Powershell, Github Actions, Okd

Full Stack Systems Engineer II2019 - 2020

Rackspace Technology

Responsible for the design and development of business products and support tooling. Working closely within the team and external stakeholders, assisting senior engineers with qualifying and documenting new products, both hardware and software.

Identifying areas of improvement both within the team and the larger organisation. Designing, engineering, architecture, and integration of tooling to reduce total cost, to support customers and minimise human error.

Responsibilities

- Improve business workflows and tooling to provide a more efficient service;
- Independently manage assigned tasks and communicate with task stakeholders.

Technologies

Jira, Python, Powershell, Go, Github Actions,

Technical Support, Team Leader2017 - 2019

Rackspace Technology

Responsible for leading a team of 13 Windows Engineers, providing 3rd line support to our customer base.

Responsibilities

- Management of Windows Engineering team, including performance reviews and 1-to-1s;
- Planning of on-call rotas and shift patterns;
- Ticket queue reporting and ensuring SLAs are adhered to.

Achievements

- Implemented a reporting tool using Python and Grafana that allowed identification of stale tickets along with closure times and additional statistics to aid in faster customer ticket resolutions and increase engineer responsibility;
- Reduced ticket wait times and queue lengths significantly by implementing better reporting and ticket management procedures.

Technologies

ServiceNow, Python, Grafana, InfluxDB

Technical Lead2015 - 2017

Datapipe (Acquired by Rackspace Technology)

Managing a small number of high value enterprise customers ensuring the best solutions for the client's needs are provided. A point of escalation for the customer to assist with any issues that arise.

Responsibilities

- Overall technical responsibility for a number of large enterprise businesses;
- Working closely with the Account Director and Service Manager to co-ordinate teams and deliver the best possible service;
- Track and progress problems and projects to enable continued improvement.

Achievements

- Worked with the company's two largest customers to ensure retention after a period of issues, with one customer expanding their contract and adding additional £1.2m due to this effort;
- Provided a full CMDB device and relationship mapping to allow enhanced support and impact analysis;
- Executed monthly usage analysis to provide feedback on potential savings or performance bottlenecks; This resulted in a major bottleneck being found with part of the infrastructure and mitigation being implemented;
- Implemented a billing audit to ensure devices were being billed accurately each month;
- Resolved some major problems that were causing poor customer performance.

Technologies

VMware vSphere, VMware vRealize, ServiceNow, Windows Server, Cisco ASA

Senior Hosting Engineer2014 - 2015

Adapt (Acquired by Datapipe)

Providing support and implementing solutions for customers, including development of existing products. A point of escalation for junior engineers.

Responsibilities

- Architecture and management of the deployment of customer environments;
- Act as an escalation point for junior engineers;
- Improve technical documentation and procedures.

Achievements

- Designed a repeatable VMware environment with DR capabilities where required;
- Automated the deployment of environments to enable the most efficient use of engineer's time;
- Continued development of internal IPAM for asset tracking and IP Management.

Technologies

Juniper SRX and EX, VMware vSphere, vCloud Director, Xen Server, NetApp, Windows Server, Linux (RHEL & Ubuntu), DNS, PHP, MySQL

Hosting Engineer2013 - 2014

Sleek Networks (Acquired by Adapt)

Providing support to our customers and assisting senior hosting engineers with implementing customer solutions. Completing data centre maintenance including failover testing for generators and A/C checks.

Responsibilities

- Provide assistance in maintaining the data center, including failover testing for generators and mains power;
- Provisioning of new cabinets with power, cabling and switching gear;
- 1st and 2nd line helpdesk support for any customer queries or issues.

Technologies

Juniper SRX and EX, Cisco ASA, VMware vSphere, vCloud Director, Xen Server, NetApp Storage & Backup, Windows Server, Linux (RHEL & Ubuntu), DNS

CERTIFICATIONS

Professional Cloud Architect2020 - 2024

Google (8d75167e-0417-4d9a-b834-4e3d4975086a)

Google Cloud Certified

AI Ready2023

Rackspace Technology (93cf1769-57d6-45c8-b2d4-a3617b9ae672)

AI Ready

PROJECTS

Below are a few projects that I have developed

Atomic Calendar Revive - An advanced calendar card for Home Assistant.

Pyarr - A Python client for Servarr API's (Sonarr, Radarr, Readarr, Lidarr)



Steven Marks

Full Stack Systems Engineer III

marksie1988@gmail.com

UK National

Europe/London

totaldebug.uk

marksie1988

marksie1988

marksie1988

Resume PDF

LANGUAGES

English (Native)

INTERESTS

Rugby

Home Automation