

Valentin Feron

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Tldr.

Proactive and fast learner. Can do attitude.

Key Qualifications.

- **Systems:** Linux (Ubuntu, CentOS, Debian), Mac OS X, Windows.
- **Services:** Nginx, Cassandra, Mongo, DNS, DHCP, FTP, SSH, Linux-HA, NFS, Samba, SAN, NAS, EdgeCast, MySQL, PostgreSQL, MSSQL,...
- **Automation:** Bash, Python, SaltStack, Puppet, Fabric, Teamcity, Devops Methodologies,...
- **Monitoring:** Nagios, Icinga, Graphite, InfluxDB, Grafana, Cacti.
- **Virtualization/Cloud:** Amazon Web Services, IBM SoftLayer, KVM, OpenVz, Proxmox, VMWare.
- **Load balancing/Networks/Security:** CISCO(Catalyst) / Dell(PowerConnect) switches. TCP/IP, MPLS, OSI, VLAN, NAT, WLAN. Iptables, shorewall.
- **Languages:** Bash, Python, keen to extend the list!
- **Misc:** Atlassian suite, Git, Mercurial

Education.

- European Master of Science (France) - IT System Engineering
- Bachelor degree (France) - IT systems and networks

Employment History.

Brandscreen - Sydney

Brandscreen offers a media-buying platform that empowers marketers to more effectively invest in programmatic digital media.

Senior IT Infrastructure Engineer, July 2015 - Current

IT Infrastructure Engineer, July 2014 – July 2015

Brandscreen platform – globally distributed (5 geo locations), capable of processing above 200,000 requests per second with response time below 10 milliseconds.

Responsible for full stack including devops standard activities.

Working closely with the developers team, day to day tasks include monitoring and releasing software updates and bug fixes.

Responsible of monitoring the infrastructure performance using open source and internally built tools.

Other responsibilities include

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- Architectural changes of the infrastructure to improve reliability and performance
- Automation of tasks in order to improve efficiency and consistency of the infrastructure desired state
- General security of the infrastructure to any security related downtime

Infrastructure is hosted on cloud (AWS and Softlayer), less hardware focused and higher automation, software reliability and performance improvement approach.

Shared responsibility of a Windows cluster running Brandscreen's UI (IIS / MSSQL / .NET)

Projects/Achievements

- Migrated major parts of Brandscreen platform from AWS to IBM SoftLayer.

SoftLayer offers bare metal servers and Brandscreen platform running on hardware outperforms virtual in order of magnitude. This resulted in increase of performance, reduction in number of servers and reduced infrastructure cost by 70%.

- Migrated 95% of existing configuration management code from Puppet to Saltstack, improving deployment performance and integrating it with teamcity to implement Continuous Delivery.

- Through a number of architectural changes and implementation of in-house developed software, significantly improved Brandscreen analytic platform by increasing reliability and reducing delay on processing large sets of data from hours to minutes.

- Side projects including Django and Golang development,

AHL (now EVT) - Sydney

Regroupment of Event Cinemas, Rydges Hotels and Thredbo Resort.

IT Administrator, October 2013 – May 2014

Working for company global IT on several projects as my first work opportunity in Australia which lead to working on a wide list of technologies, from working with VMWare to automating a backup solution for every “Event cinema” in Australia.

Six month contract that extended further to accomplish projects started from my initiative.

Being proactive and with a can do attitude, I was lucky to have the approval from AHL to present solutions to their needs using Open Source technologies and facilitate their infrastructure management.

Projects

- Deployment of a monitoring solution to easily and cost efficiently monitor their infrastructure (Zabbix).

AHL was in need for a simple yet reliable monitoring solution. Convinced them to use Zabbix as they are more familiar with graphical interfaces. They are still using this solution today.

- Designed, developed and implemented a simple backup solution based on Bash scripts and running on virtual machines in every cinema.

AHL had an urgent need for an incremental backup solution with specific constraints which I solved by developing scheduled scripts managing the limited bandwidth and the data to be backed up.

Thalos - France

Thalos offers satellite based communication and data to fishing ships through a Linux based embedded server.

Thalos made the choice to work with Open Source technologies which led me to develop my skills and grow a passion for the Open Source, highly influencing my career choices to this day.

Linux System Engineer, October 2010– September 2013

Over the three years spent at Thalos, I have completed a series of projects that made the infrastructure resilient and stable. I also worked on network projects to ensure a high level of security.

Being part of a small infrastructure team, I had the chance to learn and work with a lot of technologies

This role involved a lot of hardware related work, building and maintaining colocated servers and network equipment, from personal testing racks to production cluster.

Projects

- Migration of the infrastructure to Proxmox.

Proxmox is a complete server virtualization management tool that made Thalos infrastructure more robust and resilient. Integrating high availability and failover has brought the peace of mind needed for an infrastructure where downtime isn't an option.

- Design and implementation of Network security with Juniper equipment.

Because of the nature of the traffic transiting through satellites, it's required to be minimum, secure and stable from end to end which was achieved by utilizing the network capabilities of Juniper hardware.

- Design and automation of a high availability/redundant NAS solution.

Based on Dell servers with high storage capabilities, I built a NAS solution including key requirements such as redundancy, automatic failover, and monitoring.