David Trail

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About me

What I'm looking for more than anything is to get into a Senior DevOps role, that has been my number one priority for the past two years and what I see myself doing for the foreseeable future. I have already made great strides towards that end in my own time and by selecting work for clients involved in high level Linux sysadmin and DevOps related technologies.

I know that my current Linux sysadmin abilities are extremely good as I have been running dedicated and cloud servers and VPSs since 2006, I have run them since before I started at university and continue to administer them to this day.

Though freelancing I've taught myself a great many skills in the world of sysadmin/DevOps but what I'm really looking for now is to hone those skills to perfection in a permanent work environment.

Work history

Freelance Linux System Administrator
September 2014 until today

- Repeat contracts for numerous clients generally in the area of Linux DevOps/sysadmin/software engineering
- Technologies include: Docker, Qemu/KVM, OpenVPN, Puppet, Python, Perl, Bash, AWS (Cloud Formation, EC2, S3, ...), Cloud-Flare, Git, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Nginx/Apache/uwsgi, etc
- Duties include: migration, configuration and set-up, security, service optimisation, monitoring, benchmarking, auto-scaling, networking, ...

Client: Leo Hämäläinen

- Leo has been my client for the past ≈ 7 months
- I have been contracted as a Linux sysadmin for their operations at devoca.fi, a backend for their hand-held label device and other products with hundreds of clients throughout Finland and elsewhere who rely on Devoca's servers to operate
- Duties have included: Upscaling operations; troubleshooting downtime; eradicating a rootkit that they'd contracted under a previous contractor; optimising both Apache and MySQL's configurations; planning for minimal downtime during migration periods; master-slave MySQL mirroring; backup script writing

- Technologies include: Apache Servermix, Apache HTTP, Exim mail server (MTA), Ubuntu 14.04, iptables firewall, fail2ban, MySQL, DKIM + SPF, DNS
- Communication has been key to my success in this role

Client: CloudWorks

- I was contracted to set up a continuous deployment strategy utilising AWS's Cloud Formation, EC2 and RDS alongside a Puppet master server to manage the deployed servers. This required writing from scratch a Cloud Formation script with a variable number of EC2 instances which would image themselves from an AMI which would connect to a Puppet master server and auto-configure themselves with an app hosted on Github.
- This has been the most challenging but also most enjoyable role I have done so far. Working within Linux, AWS and DevOps is where I feel completely at home and find myself loving the work that I do, impressing myself with my own abilities.
- Technologies: AWS, EC2, RDS, Route53, Puppet, PostgreSQL, troposphere, cloud-config, Cloud Formation

Freelance Software Engineer
July 2013 to September 2014 (1 year 2 months)
- Several large projects using Django + Python
- Web development
- Postgres + MySQL
- Bitcoin trading, investment and development
- Linux system administration

Client: Éric Bisceglia

- Worked with Éric and another software engineer for ≈ 6 months
- Containerising app instances to provide security in case of a security breach, ensuring uptime and redundancy for the web frontend/PostgreSQL backend on Microsoft's Azure platform

Software Engineer, Scotweb
June 2011 to July 2013 (2 years 1 month)

- Commercial web development and maintenance
- Linux system administration
- Twisted Python / Python development
- Full stack deployment and configuration
- Web development (HTML/CSS/jQuery)

Village Orderly, Aberdeenshire council
July 2007 to September 2010 (3 years, 2 months)

Kitchen Porter, Valentinos restaurant
June 2004 to June 2006 (2 years)

EDUCATION   Computer Science BSc, **Heriot-Watt University**
September 2007 to May 2011

2nd year	3rd year	4th year
Database Management	Artificial Intelligence	Distributed Systems
Discreet Mathematics	Operating Systems	Parallel Technologies
Internet Communications	Computer Graphics	Data Mining
Software Design	Professional Development	Machine Learning
Formal Specifications	Concurrency	Biological computation

OTHER
- Achieved Intermediate 1 Spanish (Escuela de Idiomas)
- Raised £1,050 for MND Scotland in a charity Skydive
- Maintain Github and Bitbucket profiles
- Always up to date with the latest technologies in DevOps and Software Engineering

REFERENCES

Name	**Dr. Greg Michaelson**	**Mr. Steve Tuttle**
Relation	Project supervisor	Client (DevOps, AWS)
Email	G.Michaelson@hw.ac.uk	swt@drinkme.com
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