

Thomas Leavitt

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Summary

Senior Systems Administrator (SAGE Level IV) with fifteen plus years of experience in a diverse set of complex, cross-platform environments, including consumer-facing 24/7 production environments ranked in the top 500 by Media Metrix and PC Data.

Recent Experience

2000 – Present Godmoma's Forge, LLC Santa Cruz, CA

IT Services Consultant/Owner

Manage web site design and IT services business, and provide Linux/Unix, Windows, and network support services to a variety of businesses, organizations and professionals.

Task split: 75% technical/25% management and other

- Current IT Services clients:
 - **WaferGen, Inc.** - publicly traded / venture financed biotech startup, manage Samba/Ubuntu based Windows/OS X LAN
 - **Santa Cruz Public Library** - government agency running mixed Debian and Windows server, initiated and facilitated migration to standardized Ubuntu and VMware vSphere environment, implemented Xymon system and network monitoring
 - **MultiGig** - venture financed semi-conductor design startup, on call emergency system administration on production RHEL server systems
- Recent clients (sampling):
 - **Dust Networks, Inc.** - venture financed startup developing embedded wireless networking, complete responsibility (as sub-contractor) for managing network of development and Intranet servers running RHEL – updated systems and networks to current release levels, implemented Hobbit network monitoring, implemented NAS, CentOS, Ubuntu, and VMware ESXi
 - **Asterpix, Inc.** - series A venture financed company running Ubuntu Linux, maintained (as sub-contractor) and updated company Intranet and multi-stage development and software Q/A environment, integrated all applications into secure LDAP back end, managed VMware Server
 - **Octant Technologies** – aerospace systems integrator/developer in defense segment, sole responsibility (as sub-contractor) for diverse network of server and desktop Solaris systems, introduced NAS, Ubuntu server, use of Live Upgrade and facilitated migration to new Enterprise class server

- Have worked as a sub-contractor for the following outsource firms and companies: **U'Name IT Solutions, Inc.** (2008/09), **AboutScan, LLC** (2007/08), and **Single Point of Contact** (2007/08), **Serengeti Systems** (2006 to present), **Stratos Systems** (2005/6)

1999–2002 TargetFirst, Inc. San Mateo, CA

Co-Founder/Sr. Systems Operations

Internet Advertising Company pioneered the C2B (Consumer to Business) market by developing technologies and methods that allow delivery of highly targeted marketing messages to opt-in consumers via the Internet – PC Data Top 500 company.

Task split: 75% technical/25% management

- Define, specify and assist in implementing a highly scalable, redundant and secure systems architecture--including Cisco PIX Firewall, F5 Big/IP HA+ load balancer, Network Appliance storage system and Sybase back end, utilizing Intel x86 systems running various flavors of Unix/Linux for data service in outsourced data center environment.
- Migrate services with minimal downtime to low-cost datacenter environment and reconfigure back end systems to maintain adequate levels of service at 5-10% of previous cost without specialized equipment after company “rightsizing” resulted in immediate layoff all systems staff.
- Identify original opportunity, specify product and marketing strategy, join with co-founders to develop prototype, obtain seed funding and assist in recruiting CEO and other staff.
- ClickDough service gained 400,000 plus users in less than one year, ranked among top 500 Internet sites by PC Data, and generated \$700,000+ in revenue in face of collapsing Internet advertising market.

1994–1999 Web Communications, LLC Santa Cruz, CA

Co-Founder/VP Systems Operations

Pioneered and defined business model for Self-service Web Hosting segment in 1994 – Media Metrix Top 500 Internet property.

Task split: 75% technical/25% management

- Design, build and maintain entire IT infrastructure: including email, web, and database servers on enterprise class Solaris on Sparc platform, sole systems administrator for most of my tenure; pioneering user of outsourced datacenter servers (reference company in Exodus Networks IPO prospectus)
- Personally wrote 7,000+ lines of code in CGI, SQL and Perl to create end user interfaces allowing self-service account management, automate systems maintenance, and handle monitoring and reporting (for both technical and business purposes).
- Grew company to \$3,000,000 in revenue, 25 employees, and 10,000+ customers before sale to Verio (now a unit of NTT).

Education

1993–1994, 2004–Present Cabrillo College Aptos, CA *Finishing G.E. requirements for transfer to CSU*

- Courses in Math, Humanities, Communications, Perl Programming and Linux System Administration, Unix, multi-media authoring, C programming, Network Administration

1990–1992 Occidental College Eagle Rock, CA *Majored in Religious Studies*

- National Merit Scholar
- Elections Director for ASOC (student government)

Skills

- Experience with systems running Linux (10 years), Solaris (7), HP-UX (4), and BSD (2) including specification, installation, configuration, management, and backup using hardware and software RAID systems, tape changers and libraries
- Experience with virtualization (VMware Server and ESXi) in a production environment
- Experience managing enterprise class hardware (Sun Sparc, HP PA-RISC, Dell PowerEdge, NetApp)
- Experience managing datacenter environments, including vendor relations, remote management, monitoring and problem resolution
- Experience with configuring and deployment of Network Monitoring (Xymon/Hobbit, Hyperic HQ, custom in-house solutions)
- Experience managing foundational Internet and network services including Postfix, Sendmail, BIND 8/9, NIS, NFS, Samba, LDAP, Winbind, NTP, iptables, Netscape Server and Apache 1/2, SSH and WU-FTP
- Production DBA experience managing Sybase and MySQL
- Programming experience using Perl and SQL (including stored procedures) for user-interface design, system management automation, and reporting
- Web content creation and technical writing experience using HTML and PHP
- Experience purchasing over \$1 million worth of equipment from various vendors for WebCom, TargetFirst and a variety of consulting clients, from specification, to negotiation, lease/purchase and delivery/installation on site or in datacenter
- Data analysis, including definition and programming of ad-hoc SQL queries to identify trends and patterns in sales and customer turn over, and to expose suspected anomalies in customer management software and billing (WebCom)

Other Activities

- Member, Usenix/SAGE, BayLISA, Santa Cruz area Linux User Groups
- Chair, Living Wage Advisory Commission, City of Santa Cruz, CA
- Extensive leadership experience in local community organizations