RUSS MITTLER

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Diverse Leader, DevOps Accelerator, AWS/Azure Architect, SQL DBA

I'm an established leader with a proven track record in organizational management and driving rapid technical growth. My role involves collaborating closely with business and IT leaders to prioritize project requests and ensure our teams deliver robust, sustainable solutions that prioritize cost-efficiency, quality, and speed. One of my strengths is my effective communication, presentation, and interpersonal skills, allowing me to build strong relationships across a diverse group of stakeholders, including executives, managers, vendors, and subject matter experts. I have a knack for designing and delivering scalable, secure, and effective solutions, always following industry-standard design patterns and well-defined development practices. By partnering with Executive Leadership, I'm able to spot opportunities to leverage technology for revenue growth, strategic market advantage, differentiation, and operational efficiencies, all while making the most of our team's talents by aligning resources with high-priority initiatives. Guiding and supporting project teams in solution conceptualization and design is where I excel, providing insightful architectural assessments and recommendations tailored to various technical backgrounds. What drives me is defining strategic goals that pave the way for team evolution and growth. I'm all about researching and implementing best practices, fostering a culture of continuous improvement, and building a top-notch team of tech experts through effective recruitment, motivation, and development strategies. Additionally, I contribute by evaluating third-party software and service offerings, ensuring they meet our needs in terms of scope, deliverables, and cost, all while maintaining our high development standards to deliver solutions of the utmost quality.

Core Skillsets:

- 20+ years of Engineering experience/ 15+ years Cloud/DevOps Experience in a Leadership position.
- Hands-on technical manager and leader with prior success in automating a real-world production environment, and experience managing and building teams.
- Experience setting-up and configuring AWS services, including VPC/EC2, RDS, Redshift, S3, DynamoDB, NLB/ALB, Workspaces. CICD pipelines with CodeCommit/Deploy, EKS/ECS, Fargate.
- Experience configuring and deploying to Azure, Azure DevOps (creating pipelines, CI/CD), Automation Runbooks, PowerShell DSC, PowerBI, AKS (Kubernetes), Logic/Webapps, Keyvault, ARM templates.
- Experience working with microservice architectures and AWS / cloud environment
- Experience delivering infrastructure as code through technologies such as Docker, CloudFormation, Terraform.
- Expertise administering/optimizing relational databases, i.e., MSSQL/MySQL/Oracle (Learning MongoDB)
- Expertise with Visual Studio, .NET, PHP, TFS, SVN, GIT, CI/CD pipelines, TeamCity, Atlassian Suite
- Experience architecting and developing scalable distributed cloud infrastructure
- Experience working with compliance and regulatory requirements (SOC 2, Hitrust, HIPAA, PCI, PII)
- Strong practical Linux systems administration skills in a Cloud or virtualized environments.
- Strong scripting skills, i.e., PowerShell/PowerCLI/TSQL/Bash/Python (Learning Ruby)
- Experience acting as Scrum Master and following Agile best practices such as sprint planning, scrums, grooming, demos and retrospectives.
- Experience in IP networking, VPN's, DNS, load balancing (Netscaler/F5) and firewall configuration (Palo/Cisco).
- Experience with configuration management tools like Octopus Deploy, Chef, Jenkins.
- Familiarity with monitoring tools like AWS CloudWatch, Solar Winds, AppDynamics, Grafana.
- Experience with Disaster recovery planning, design and implementation.

Tools: Tools: Business Impact Analysis; Data Recovery; Disaster Recovery Planning; Contingency Planning; Research & Development; Risk Assessment; Cost Benefits Analysis. Network Configuration and Administration; Windows OS, Red Hat, Debian, Ubuntu, Jira, Bitbucket, Octopus, Palo Alto, Kubernetes, Docker, AKS, EKS, Lambda, SQL, TSQL, MySQL, Oracle, PowerShell, Teams, Python, Ruby, Octopus, Blue/Green, CICD, Jenkins, Chef, CloudWatch, CloudFormation, TFS, DevOps, Azure, AWS, GCP, Firebase, iOS, Android, Bamboo, Bitbucket, Team City, Git, GitHub, Git Actions, SVN, VMWare, HAProxy, NetScaler, F5, AppDynamics, SVN, NuGet, VS Code, O365, HIPAA, PCI, ISO127001, ITIL, Scrum, Agile, Postman, API, SDLC, Kanban, Linux, Progress DB, MFA, Okta, Slack, SaaS, PaaS, Rest, JSON, XML, Automation, QA Testing methodologies.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Vestmark   2021 – Present
Sr. Manager, Cloud Engineering/DevOps
SaaS based FinTech with $1.5 trillion AUM: Hands-on Product Owner and leader of 16-member Cloud Engineering, ProdOps, AWS Security engineers & DevOps teams, responsible for designing, building, and operating scalable secure and efficient cloud infrastructure while implementing best practices for security, disaster recovery and compliance. Also responsible for developing cloud adoption/migration strategy, infrastructure as code (IaC) and automated deployment of services/applications to Cloud. Successful implementation a cloud operation framework, with a focus on automation, scalability and performance reducing deployments from 3 days to 2 hours. Managed budget of $1 million.

- Led AWS cost optimization initiative with savings plans, reserved instance management, etc.
- Refined IaC development/deployment lifecycle for smaller iterative releases of code.
- Established KPI's and operational benchmarks using the DevOps Research & Assessment (DORA) framework.
- Collaborate and work with various cross-functional teams and stakeholders to influence strategy, drive org designs, contributions, and prioritization.
- Led AWS Security Engineers to increase AWS Security Hub score across organization from 12% -> 78% (and growing), utilizing NIST and CIS frameworks, implementing through IaC.
- Designed, built, and deployed a custom remote access tool for teams to use to connect to EC2 instances using a custom interface built on .NET called Remoteler.

RenPSG   2021 – 2021
Director, Cloud Infrastructure/Service Operations/DevOps
Hands-on leader of multiple departments including Azure Engineers (4), DevOps (3), Security (2) and HelpDesk (3), developing strategy, including policies, procedures, tools and metrics to align the infrastructure and service operations teams with RenPSG's strategic goals. Lead the planning, design, and implementation of enterprise-level infrastructure and services deployed into Azure Cloud environment. Responsible for overseeing the internal infrastructure, cloud infrastructure and operations as well the service operations team.

- Lead the strategy, planning and execution of all cloud infrastructure initiatives.
- Design/maintain long-term roadmap for core service capabilities and recommended initiatives.
- Coordinate across product/engineering teams to widely socialize teams' priorities across all products.
- Redesigned Azure DevOps pipelines to include security scanning tools and automated processes including testing, security scanning and email reports.
- Establish and implement processes for the ongoing proactive management and maintenance of cloud solution infrastructure, including patch management of all software.

ABB Optical Group   2014 – 2018 - 2021
Sr. Manager, Infrastructure Ops/DevOps
Manage team of 16 infrastructure/DevOps engineers of a $2BN+ enterprise with over 1200 servers; including Exchange clusters, SQL clusters, VMWare clusters, Web/API farms and various other servers to run the enterprise. Led 4 DevOps Engineers and 4 developers. Refined the SDLC process and developed processes to ensure successful continuous deployments using TFS/Jenkins/Octopus Deploy/Nuget. Designed and implemented multiple complex environments for Dev, QA, UAT and various project environments. Acting DBA, managing multiple SQL server clusters encompassing 2008-2016. Designed, implemented and migrated all 2008 SQL physical SQL servers onto virtual 2016 SQL servers using AlwaysOn Availability with over 200 databases.

- Managed/Led conversion 2008 SQL Cluster to SQL 2016 AlwaysOn consisting of over 200 db's.
- Led team to successful large-scale Oracle upgrade.
- Act as architect on complex projects following standard frameworks, TOGAF.
- Manage multiple engineers (16+) responsible for 900+ servers on VMWare and Azure Cloud Arch
- Manage clustered Citrix NetScaler load balancers.
- Designed and Wrote PowerShell/PowerCLI scripts for automation of tasks.
- Manage Azure DevOps, SVN, GIT, Jenkins & Octopus Deploy/NuGet for CI/CD, SDLC process.

Independent Contracts   2018 - 2019

CentralReach, LLC   2018 - 2019
Lead DevOps AWS Architect/DBA

Contract: Migrated SQL on AWS/EC2 instance to HA (SQL AlwaysOn) configuration. Setup and configured CloudFormation templates, maintained code using the Atlassian suite (Bitbucket/Jira/Bamboo).

- Wrote custom PowerShell scripts for deployments into AWS.
- Configured and modified CloudFormation templates for AG groups infrastructure config.
- Migrated repositories from GitHub to Bitbucket, Code deploys with Octopus Deploy and Bamboo.
- Migrated SQL Server on-prem single instance, to HA/DR multi-node AlwaysOn Group AWS.
- Utilized Postman for API testing using JSON POST/PUT requests.

Campus Management Corp   2018 - 2018
DevOps Manager/Architect

Contract: Led DevOps team consisting of 6 engineers in setting up automated CI/CD pipeline using Azure DevOps/VSTS/Release manager. Migrated all code from on premise TFS to cloud VSTS (now Azure DevOps), creating automated deployments to various environments all in Azure.

- Wrote custom PowerShell scripts for deployments into Azure.
- Maintained and modified Azure Blueprints and ARM templates for infrastructure deployments.
- Release code across multiple environments with VSTS (Azure DevOps)/Release Manager to Azure.
- Maintain configuration management using PowerShell DSC.
- Configured/Maintained automation runbooks.

AutoNation   2018 - 2018
Lead DevOps Engineer/Architect/SQL DBA

Contract: Led DevOps department for various projects including $20m disaster recovery project, management of code deployments within internal infrastructure to over 500 applications with Azure DevOps (TFS) with Jenkins and Octopus Deploy through use of NuGet packages. Also maintained code deployments to Azure environment for production public facing website through Azure DevOps/Release Manager/Octopus Deploy.

- Maintain Production SQL Clusters, SQL Server 2008/2012 AlwaysOn Cluster, TDE
- Write T-SQL updates and patches for database servers.
- Release code across multiple environments with Azure DevOps/Release Manager, Octopus Deploy
- Maintain configuration management through Chef CM.
- Lead team through major ($20m) disaster recovery migration.
- Configuration of Service Fabric in Azure environment.
- Managed Enterprise Active Directory

Professional Experience (cont'd):

Insight Software   2013 - 2014
Senior Cloud Engineer/SQL DBA/Senior Systems Engineer

Cloud Engineer for custom electronic medical records application is hosted on AWS. Maintaining the entire infrastructure using Hyper-V/ vSphere/VMWare.

- Setup/Maintained SQL Cluster, SQL Server 2008 and 2012 AlwaysOn Cluster, TDE
- Write T-SQL updates and patches for database servers.
- Migrated 2000+ Active Directory users from VMWare to Remote Desktop Services (RDS)/Hyper-V.
- Maintain load balancing of cloud infrastructure on Hyper-V with high availability.
- Published applications through terminal services, RemoteApp and configured licensing.
- Configured AWS instances for cloud infrastructure.
- Designed/Implemented self-managed web portal for user password reset.

Drug Place Pharmacy 2011 – 2013
Senior Systems Engineer/SQL DBA

Developed a custom patient management database/website written in C# using Silverlight controls with a backend of SQL Server. Managed the entire IT department with large Active Directory user base of 3,000 users, and local operations.

- Designed and developed custom patient management application with SQL backend using Silverlight.
- Managed production SQL Databases including MS SQL (200 databases) and Progress DB.
- Installed/configured a clustered Exchange 2010 server on Hyper-V to host multiple domains.
- Migrated all standalone servers to Hyper-V
- Developed policies and procedures for HIPPA compliance.
- Developed and designed disaster recovery plans.

Synergy Gaming 2009 – 2011
IT manager/SQL DBA/Senior Systems Engineer

Managed all facets of IT, R&D and all IT related projects for casino style gaming software and management systems. Led the department through large domain migrations and saved the company money on licensing while maintaining a stable and more secure infrastructure.

- Set up remote servers for large wide area VPN network, managed switches and routers.
- Managed and administrated SQL server 2005/08, set up ODBC connections and backups.
- Created new Database protocols, secured SQL server to preserve data integrity.
- Managed 160 locations throughout country on large Active Directory user base.
- Implemented centrally managed server for SQL database mirroring from all locations.
- Set up protocols, policies and procedures as well as acceptable use policies; companywide.
- Managed iPhone development project to successful completion.

Think Education Solutions 2008 – 2009
Senior Systems Engineer/SQL DBA/Cloud Engineer

Managed educational application hosting for 60 educational facilities and another 200 who hosted the application on their own infrastructure.

- Created Security protocols for protection of valuable data, implemented TDE.
- Support 200 clients during installation of Server 2003/08 and SQL 2005/08.
- Designed, implemented and managed SQL Server 2005/08.
- Wrote T-SQL queries for updates, patches, backups, maintenance plans, etc.
- Set up disaster recovery module and up to the minute backups on all databases and sites via log ship.

Adhesive Technology Corp. 2008 – 2008
Senior Systems Administrator

- Administered network for over 40 users in this manufacturing company, managed all 3rd party IT vendors. Responsible for firewall security settings on Watchguard firewall appliance.
- Managed daily, weekly and monthly backups and video surveillance backups.
- Administrated 40 user Active Directory infrastructure, Exchange on SBS, advanced TCP/IP

Denali State Bank 2007 – 2008
System Engineer/SQL DBA/ IT Specialist III

Administered the banks secure network locally including 5 branches, state-wide. Assisted in securing the banks network including securing email and monitoring the network traffic and usage.

- Administrated network with ISA Server, Untangle, SecureNOC, WebSense, Ninja and PostX.
- In charge of running tape backups and disaster recovery planning.
- Administrated 500 user Active Directory infrastructure, Exchange and advanced TCP/IP.
- Monitored all network activity using MRTG (multi router traffic graph) and Routers2.CGI.

Lead Network Engineer/ Admin

Designed, implemented and administrated about 150 contracted medical office networks as Lead Engineer. Responsible for continued support for over 500 other medical offices and hospitals. Managed a team of 4 technicians including training, supporting and dispatching service tickets for on-site work remote resolution wasn't possible. Administrated network TCP/IP.

- Developed a remote connection on our website in order to use for remotely connecting to end user PCs to save time, using Ultra VNC.
- Put together an offsite data recovery and backup server for our clients.
- Built servers and networks on site according to budget and cost parameters.
- Setup small access database to track all incoming client requests and support calls for techs.

EDUCATION AND CREDENTIALS

Courses for Associate of Science Degree in Systems Engineering
BROWARD COLLEGE – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Currently continuing education.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS
I am currently certified in:
A+, Network+, Server+, Linux+, MCP, MCDST, MCDBA, MCSA, MSCE
MCSE SQL Data 2014
AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner
Currently taking certifications for: AWS Certified Solutions Architect,
AZ-400 Azure DevOps Engineer, Docker Certified Associate