Ian R. Bennett

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SUMMARY

A dedicated Systems Administrator with a background in space science and infrastructure. My goals are automation and team collaboration: let the computer do the work, I say! I am comfortable managing global networks and globally-diverse teams, especially in an Agile evironment.

Recent Employment History

American Airlines

Senior Administrator , IT Operations :: Feb. 2016 – Present

Automation and Agile methodology are the goals at American Airlines. While I started out as the DNS and FTP admin (which required a fair amount of GnuPG and scripting experience), I quickly brought git, Ansible and Satellite into our environment, promoting team collaboration and automating system patching. I deployed SPECTRE mitigations, TLS upgrades and planned successful OS migrations for a wide variety of modern and obsolete RHEL and CentOS versions. In addition to maintaining the everyday operations of the world's largest airline and continuing to serve as the Repo Manager, I'm currently working on deploying LDAP/Kerberos and getting more involved in Morpheus and Jenkins.

Tech I use in some way every day: Nagios, bash, git, vim, irssi, twiki, Cherwell, Satellite, nmap, python, tmux and GnuPG.

Limelight Networks

Systems Engineer :: Nov. 2013 - Nov. 2015

At LLNW I often engaged in death battles with recalcitrant RAID controllers (MSI, 3ware, etc) and other bits of ancient hardware, but I also got to deploy and maintain Splunk, install and configure the OpenText Cordys BPM Suite, and build and deploy a globally redundant and geo-aware set of SMTP relays for each continent, powered by postfix, DNS-XD, cfengine and Zabbix monitoring.

I won an award for quick action in dealing with a flooded data center (!) my first week on the job, assisted in migrating to a new data center, both physically and in standardizing key servers in each POP and getting them into configuration management, managed and maintained the LLNW software repositories (apt, rpm, etc), and set up an automated VM provisioning and testing suite with Jenkins, serverspec, KVM, an in-house provisioning setup, all with some scripting to tie it all together.

Mars Space Flight Facility

Senior Systems Administrator :: Apr. 2007 - Nov. 2013

Managed a pair of NetApp heads controlling 215Tb of data, including hardware and software upgrades, deduplication, aggregate creation and maintenance and solving the occasional hardware fault. Designed a complete disaster recovery system with offsite tape backup and weekly random recovery tests. Built and managed a high-traffic mail server and spam filtering system, and managed a number of large-volume mailing lists supporting our Education and Public Outreach department. Helped design and deploy Xen virtualization across the network, including a 48-node virtual cluster and our redundant mapservers powering JMARS, our mission planning software.

Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter Camera Science Operations Center

Senior Systems Administrator :: Apr. 2007 - Nov. 2013

Built out and managed the critical infrastructure for a NASA moon mission, including design and implementation of targeting systems, public displays, 1.5 petabytes of network storage, backup and disaster recovery, network and power redundancy, and secure data exchange between Mission Ops and the SOC, across two redundant data centers. Managed servers and system imaging software, including SystemImager and puppet, acted as the facility's postmaster, maintaining a postfix/amavis/clamav/mailman setup and responding to user Spam complaints. Designed and supported network monitoring software (nagios/cacti) to alert admins of site issues.