

COLIN ANDREW BRETT

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EXPERIENCE

I am a UNIX Systems Administrator with over 12 years commercial experience in several environments including Government science laboratories and the oil industry. I am looking to build upon my existing skills and develop new ones, perhaps moving into a senior or team leader role.

Operating Systems

Extensive experience of various UNIX-based systems, with six years Sun Solaris 2.5, 2.6, 7, 8 and 10 administration. Over the last 10 years, I have also worked with Silicon Graphics Irix 6.5, HP-UX 10.20, DEC ULTRIX, IBM AIX and Cray UNICOS. I have some experience of RedHat-based Linux distributions. My skill set includes

- **Day-to-day administration** (setting up users, changing passwords, installing and moving workstations, disk administration and regular housekeeping tasks, user support and help desk work)
- **Solaris 10 specific skills** (patching with Sun Update Manager, IP multi-pathing of network interfaces, ZFS filesystems, resource management with Solaris projects, SMF service management, encryption of backups)
- **RedHat Linux 5.3 skills** (installation and configuration of the operating system on servers and VMware systems, package builds and installations, configuration of init scripts, use of ssh for scripting)
- **Shell programming**
- **Writing and administering cron jobs**
- Backup and restore (Legato Networker, Veritas NetBackup, Solaris ufsdump with encryption)
- Sun NIS, NFS and automounter
- Solaris Volume Manager for boot disk mirroring and RAID5 filesystems
- DNS administration
- Installation of Solaris and IRIX onto desktop workstations
- Installation of Linux onto PCs and laptops
- Installation of software and operating system patches
- Compilation, configuration and installation of various software packages.
- Limited experience with Windows NT 4.0 and Windows Server 2003; Windows 9x; DEC VAX/VMS and IBM VM/CMS on IBM mainframe.

Software

Installation and configuration of several UNIX software packages, for example:

- **Compiling, installing, administering and backing up MySQL**
- **Compiling, installing and configuring Apache Webserver**

- **Configuration of Apache and Tomcat with SSL**
- **Compiling and installing Perl and a large set of Perl modules**
- Installation and configuration of Legato Networker (Solstice Backup)
- Installation and configuration of Progress Open Edge database
- Installation, upgrades, configuration and disaster recovery with Veritas NetBackup
- Set up and administration of Samba
- HP JetAdmin and JetPrint
- Sun and SGI compiler and Developer Workshop packages
- Best Practical Request Tracker help desk system
- Working knowledge of various UNIX and PC packages, eg: MS Office, Outlook, Netscape, Opera, Open Office and StarOffice.

Programming Languages

I have used several programming languages in the course of my career

- **Bourne, Korn and bash shell programming on UNIX systems**
- Some Oracle SQL and PL/SQL
- Working knowledge Perl 5.8
- Working knowledge of HTML and simple website design
- Some educational use of BASIC, FORTRAN and Pascal

Oracle Databases

Installation, configuration and administration of Oracle 8.1.5, 8.1.6 and 8.1.7 (Oracle 8i) under Solaris and Linux. Installation of Oracle 9i on Solaris platforms. My Oracle skills include

- initial installation and upgrades of Oracle 8i and 9i on Solaris platforms
- creating databases
- exporting and importing databases
- SQL programming
- creating backup scripts for tablespaces
- disaster recovery of Oracle databases
- installation of Oracle Applications Server 11i (11.5.3), installing and testing patches and upgrading to 11.5.7

Technical

In addition to the above, my skills include

- Some Sun, SGI, HP and PC hardware (hard-disk swaps and installing Ethernet cards, extra memory, modem cards, graphics cards and CPUs)
- Building Ethernet networks
- Using SCSI buses and devices
- Familiarity with RAID configuration with Solstice DiskSuite

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Company: TotalSystems plc, 394 City Road, London, EC1V 2QA

Dates: March 2007 to present

Role: UNIX Systems Administrator in Sun Solaris 10 environment. Includes backup and restore with Veritas NetBackup, day-to-day systems administration, user support, operating system installation and patching, shell scripting. Disaster recovery planning, testing and documentation. Responsible for some client support work, for example, installation and patching of servers, troubleshooting, encrypted backup and restore, scripting and software installation.

Company: ProQuest Ltd, The Quorum, Barnwell Road, CAMBRIDGE, CB5 8SW

Dates: April 2000 to June 2006 (left due to company-wide redundancies)

Role: UNIX Systems Administrator/Oracle Database Administrator in Sun Solaris environment. Includes backup and restore administration, user support, general systems administration. Compilation, configuration and installation of various software packages on Solaris systems, for example: Apache webserver, Tomcat, Perl, MySQL. Internal UNIX user training. Sole responsibility for Oracle databases running on internal systems. Some Sun hardware, for example: adding internal and external disks then using Solstice Disk Suite to configure mirrored and RAID-5 filesystems; memory upgrades; a motherboard replacement on an Ultra-5 workstation.

Company: CADCentre Ltd, High Cross, Madingley Road, CAMBRIDGE, CB3 0HB

Dates: May 1999 to April 2000.

Role: UNIX Systems Administration on mixed SGI IRIX and HP-UX systems. Includes backup and restore administration, user support, fixing hardware problems, installing operating systems, documentation.

Company: Geotech Systems Limited, 4, High Street, Bramley, Guildford, Surrey, GU5 0BH

Dates: July 1998 to April 1999.

Role: Varied UNIX Systems Administration tasks for client companies in the oil industry. Companies include Lasmco, Chevron and BHP. Legato Networker administration, software installation, operating system installation (Solaris 2.5 and IRIX 6.4), user support, systems documentation, generating management reports on application usage.

Company: NERC, Institute of Hydrology, Wallingford, Oxon, OX10 8BB

Dates: From April 1996 to July 1998.

Role: User Support and Help Desk duties in mixed Unix and PC environment (eg SunOS, Solaris, IRIX, Windows 95, NT). Systems administration of Unix-based operating systems and Tektronix WinDD. Preparing user guides and software release notes. Installing Unix and PC software. Installing Solaris 2.5 Operating system. Carrying out memory upgrades on Sun Workstations. Some staff management and reporting procedures.

Company: Solid State Logic Limited, Begbroke, OXFORD, OX5 1RU.

Dates: From June 1994 to May 1995.

Role: Computer Systems Administrator. Backup and restore of data on UNIX, VMS and Apple Macintosh systems; also user support on these platforms. Apple Mac and PC maintenance. Network maintenance - Ethernet and AppleTalk. Dealing with maintenance contractors and computer suppliers.

Company: SERC, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Chilton, DIDCOT, Oxon.

Dates: From July 1991 to September 1992 (1 year industrial placement as part of degree course)

Role: User support on UNIX-based systems (eg Cray X-MP and IBM RS/6000). Answering user queries by telephone and email. Reporting recurrent problems. Preparing user documentation. Investigating software.

TECHNICAL TRAINING COURSES

March 2008 – QA-IQ Training Centre

Solaris 10 Features for Experienced System Admins (SA-225-S10) – covered Solaris 10 new features, including ZFS filesystems, Zoning, Service Management Facilities, Trusted Solaris extensions, web-based JumpStart.

October 2003 – Long Road College, Cambridge

Web Authoring with HTML – covered creating basic HTML pages with a text editor; formatting HTML with alignment, colours and rules; adding graphics; forms, tables, frames and anchors; incorporating JavaScript.

August 2003 – Learning Tree International

Introduction to Perl Programming: Hands On – covered basic Perl data types, data structures, control flow, regular expressions, and an introduction to object oriented programming.

December 2000 - Verhoef Training

Oracle Database Administration Part 1 - covered, among other areas, creating databases; stopping and starting Oracle instances; creating and managing users and roles.

November to December 2000 - Verhoef Training

Oracle 8/8i SQL (Parts 1 and 2) and PL/SQL (Parts 1 and 2) - covered, for example, SELECT statements, creating tables, inserting and deleting data. Also covered PL/SQL packages.

October 1998

Legato Networker Systems Administration Part 1 - covered, for example, installation and configuration of Legato, backup schedules and groups, backup and restore, some disaster recovery techniques.

May 1998 - First Alternative

Solaris 2 Advanced Systems Administration - covered, for example, Solaris performance tuning, advanced format and newfs commands, the Internet basics, NFS automounter, advanced NIS, NIS+ and DNS administration, disk quotas, automatic Solaris installation (eg Jumpstart).

September 1997 - Silicon Graphics

IRIX 6.2 Systems Administration Part 1 - covered, for example, system set up (not installation), user accounts and groups, disk maintenance, introduction to NFS, logical volumes.

October 1996 - First Alternative

Solaris 2 Systems Administration Parts 1 and 2 - covered, for example, Solaris 2.5 installation, adding user accounts and groups, backup utilities, adding printers, disks and terminals, basic networking, NFS, NIS and NIS+.

EDUCATION

	From	To
University of Northumbria at Newcastle Ellison Place. NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.	Sept 1989	June 1993
St. Benet Biscop RC High School, Ridge Terrace, BEDLINGTON, Northumberland.	Sept 1981	June 1986

QUALIFICATIONS

Degree (1993)

Bsc (Hons) Computing, University of Northumbria, (3rd class)

A Levels (1986)

Biology (B), Chemistry (C), Physics (E)

O Levels (1984)

English Language (B), English Literature (C), Mathematics (C), Physics (B), Chemistry (C), Biology (C), Geography (B), Technology (C), Spanish (C)

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

- Historical, fantasy and science-fiction wargaming.
- Modelling and painting wargames figures and scenery.
- Reading, especially science-fiction, fantasy and crime novels.
- Role-play gaming, both as a player and referee.
- Writing short stories, often based on the roleplaying games.
- Solving crossword puzzles.
- Eating out, particularly Chinese and Italian food.
- I also take a keen interest in current affairs at home and abroad, and in new developments in science and technology.