

Michal Zobec

Cover letter

Introduction

I would like to present myself, my work and a summary of my experience with this letter.

I have been working with computers since I was 12 years old (computer club in DDM Junior Brno), when I first met with computers, the first computer was PC / XT 286 with MS-DOS operating system. At that time I was learning the basics of programming in the Basic programming language as part of a suburban summer holiday camp. Then I attended the "Programming in Pascal" circle for three years.

Summary

I have work experience in the IT field for more than 20 years (1999), including experience in international companies with a multilingual environment. I started out as an external network administrator with Windows 95/98, then it was a simple network without a server.

Currently I have 11 years of experience (2008) as an administrator focusing on managing Windows Server server operating systems and server applications such as Microsoft IIS, Microsoft SQL Server, or Microsoft Exchange Server. For smaller companies, I am usually responsible for the entire ICT area, including infrastructure services such as Active Directory, DNS, DHCP and all network elements.

Experience in operation

I have experience with application management on Windows platform, but in my portfolio I also had some solutions originally designed for Linux, but running on Windows Server, such as Apache or Tomcat.

In addition, I also have some experience in running web applications purely on Linux, such as WordPress, ownCloud, NextCloud, TestLink. In this case, I was in charge of only web applications as such (not OS and DB).

In my practice I was responsible for running a large number of small to medium applications (10-50 users) with a basic level of availability.

I also have experience in the operation of critical services, such as Exchange Server operation in High Availability mode and nonstop surveillance (OnCall standby).

Among the biggest solutions (project) I was in charge was an information (invoicing) system, developed to order for E.ON, which had about 150 users, records of more than 500,000 customers with a database size over 50 GB. As part of the project, I was in charge of coordinating the delivery of services by an external supplier on the E.ON infrastructure and coordinating the requirements of E.ON and the supplier with other teams (Windows Server Hosting Team, Network Base Services, SQL DB Team), including handling access requests and access permissions. I was also responsible for the supplier's compliance with E.ON's internal operational and security standards.

An interesting solution, in terms of operation and experience, was the application I was in charge of at E.ON, which was an information concentrator linked to an identity management system operated at the headquarters (Germany). This solution linked information from various information sources/applications (5 in total) that were operated in the Czech Republic. All this information was linked to the identities of persons (employees or externals) and the data was sent back to the identity management in Germany. Part of my work was to check and solve various problems between data sources. One of the data sources was Active Directory with its own attributes (for example: date of birth, gender, employee/extern, employee id, contract id, office number, office location, etc.).

Automation

If possible, I try to emphasize the use of automation. With the help of automation, I try to standardize the environment so that it has a uniform configuration and the side effect is to simplify and speed up my work, so that I can do other tasks.

I automate the following areas:

- Software Deployment & Configuration
- OS Deployment & Configuration
- Virtualization
- Individual administrator activities, such as creating new user accounts, implementing new services, and configuring them.

I usually deal with the above mentioned areas at the level of creating MSI packages, using the Microsoft Deployment Toolkit (MDT) as well as my own solution written in PowerShell.

Security & Patch Management

For the past few years I have also devoted much more for security, including implementation of some standards or recommendations (Best Practices). These include:

- DoD Secure Host Baseline
- DISA Security Technical Implementation Guides (STIG)
- Microsoft Security Baseline (Windows, Office, Windows Server)
- NIST CyberSecurity Framework
- NSA Windows Secure Host Baseline.

Since 2018 I have experience with implementation of STIG for:

- Windows 10
- Internet Explorer
- BitLocker,
- Google Chrome for Windows
- Adobe Reader DC Continuous.

In connection with the described automation of Windows installation, I am also familiar with patch management since Windows 2000, including the possibility of integration into image (Offline Servicing).

Until recently, I used the Microsoft Baseline Security Analyzer (MBSA) to verify the status of updates on systems, including the offline scan option. I am currently using my own solution written in PowerShell, using the Microsoft Update Agent (WUA) API.

Scripting and programming

To 2015 I wrote CMD (BAT) scripts extended with WMI and external tools.

Since 2016 I write scripts only in PowerShell. To see my work, check out to my GitHub repository at <https://github.com/michalzobec>.

So far, my publicly available, the largest PowerShell script, is the Get-SystemReport script for automatically generating Windows reports <https://github.com/michalzobec/Get-SystemReport>.

I can also write simple self-tests of C# web applications using Selenium and Nunit.

In C# I sometime write simple single-purpose applications.

Project Management & More

I am also interested in creation, management and documentation of IT processes and standards. I have extensive experience with JIRA, JIRA Service Desk and Confluence.

I have been managing projects for about 7 years, of which I have been managing IT projects using the Agile SCRUM methodology in the JIRA application for the past three years. I have experience in managing small teams of up to 5 members.

I have knowledge and experience with IT processes management according to ITIL standard.

My job is my hobby, even if I don't work, it often happens that I study or try some new IT technology in my free time.

In my free time I write articles on Wikipedia or on some of my websites.