

06-January 2019

Dear Sir or Madam

I am a hard-working and determined Systems Administrator seeking an opportunity to develop my career in an organisation such as yours. I am confident that my knowledge, ability and experience will allow me to deliver successful results for your organisation in a range of Information Technology positions, and would be a good fit.

Please allow me to highlight some of my key skills:

- Linux Systems Administrator with over 13 years of IT experience in the Higher Education sector and 18 years of overall employed IT Experience, supporting varied and demanding groups of customers.
- DevOps focused Senior IT Systems Administrator at the University of Surrey since 2017 using an setup of Chef / GitLAB environments based around CI/CD pipelines. These are leveraged to deploy updates through Chef to both Test and Production Linux environments of over 500 servers and workstations.
- Many years of experience specifying, provisioning, and purchasing equipment for University Faculties / Departments / Research Groups to deliver standard and bespoke hardware and software solutions to a wide range of customers.
- Experience testing, deploying, updating and licensing software to Linux, Windows through various different methods, including Linux Packaging, Apt/Yum repo, Microsoft SCCM, Application Jukebox, Symantec Ghost and Chef.
- CompTIA N+ (N10-007), Red Hat Linux 7 Systems Administrator (RH199) and ITIL Foundation trained.
- Experience managing University-wide networks, including edge gateways and security products, Campus-wide network infrastructure and Storage Area Network.
- University Degree in Computer Network Management & Design and a college background in IT and Business.
- Aptitude for identifying and resolving complex technical issues with strong problem-solving and crisis management skills.
- Strong team-working skills and ability to lead, manage and drive a team to reach technical goals.
- Proven ability to make sound decisions based on valid information and research.
- Able to quickly learn and understand technical subjects and quickly apply them in a practical setting.

Please find my CV enclosed for your consideration, however if you would like to know more please do not hesitate to contact me directly, or visit my website: <https://about.tfindley.co.uk>

TRISTAN FINDLEY

SENIOR SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR (DEVOPS FOCUSED),
UNIVERSITY OF SURREY, UK



EMPLOYMENT

University of
Surrey
2017 - present

Senior Systems Administrator (DevOps focused)

Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences (FEPS)

The FEPS IT Team provides IT Services to 12 departments, roughly 45% of the University students and staff. The Systems Administration team working closely with other faculty IT Teams to support the ongoing teaching and research requirements of our customers.

I am responsible for the delivery and development of the FEPS IT Infrastructure to support teaching, research and professional services. My primary focus is on Linux systems, comprising of a large server estate and desktop/lab estate, all running Ubuntu (LTS). I am an active developer on the FEPS Chef infrastructure which runs across our estates and allows for fast and responsive development/deployment of our estate, taking the DevOps 'Infrastructure as Code' approach to Systems Administration.

Our platform is based on the Chef infrastructure, underpinned by self-hosted GitLab Enterprise, using CI/CD Runners to Syntax/Lint check cookbooks and deploy them to test and production Chef environments. Combined with PXE, this provides an automated box-to-configured solution which can build and configure a desktop or server within 2 hours.

- CompTIA Network+ (N10-007) trained (2018)
- Red Hat Linux 7 Systems Administrator (RH199) trained (2018)
- Currently working on Storage Administration on Quantum StorNext (Research computing), Dell FluidFS (central infrastructure) and OnStor Bobcat (legacy infrastructure, migrating to FluidFS)
- Managing a large Ubuntu (LTS) Server environment, including: Infrastructure, Web, Database, Compute, GPU, Terminal Servers, and general use servers
- Managing the Windows Server infrastructure, including Terminal Servers, Compute and general use servers.
- Support Business as Usual operations resolving SysAdmin and escalated support desk tickets (third line) within the Service Level Agreement set by FEPS IT Management
- Use my skills to research and implement solutions, often requiring me to further develop my skillset beyond what I am already capable of.
- Create detailed documentation to aid in knowledge transfer within the team, for use by other technical teams, or for customer use

Royal Holloway
University
2006 - 2017

Systems Administrator

Departments of Computer Science, Information Security, Mathematics (CIM)

The School of Mathematics and Information Security are world renowned in their respective fields. The Information Security Group's (ISG) pioneering cyber security Masters degree programme is known around the globe as some of the finest in the industry, and was recently awarded a EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Cyber Security. The three departments are formed from over 70 staff, 25 researchers, 250 Postgraduates and 300 Undergraduates.

My primary responsibility was to manage and provide services to meet the IT requirements of three departments as part of a team of three. This includes mixed operating system server and desktop environments (Linux, Windows and macOS), as well as managing network infrastructure, firewalls and VPN appliances. The majority of department services are now hosted on virtualised server and storage solutions, delivering key services through the use of HA (High Availability) and DRS (Dynamic Resource Scheduler). I have managed the P2V (Physical to Virtual) migration of the departments legacy servers to the new virtualised platforms, and now manage their day-to-day requirements.

Other areas of responsibility include staff training (in one-to-one and small group environments) and teaching lab elements of the courses to Information Security and Computer Science students such as 'An Introduction to Linux', which is written and delivered by me to teach new students fundamentals of the Linux operating system.

- ITIL Foundation trained
- Provide 1st, 2nd and 3rd line support to staff and students across three departments, supporting research and teaching activities.
- Plan, purchase and provision new hardware and software solutions to support department IT services and research requirements.
- Deploy and manage Desktop infrastructure (Windows & Linux) using automated deployment solutions (Symantec Ghost) and Group Policy and scripting.
- Manage virtualised server infrastructure and storage platforms (VMWare, EMC).
- Build and maintain Linux and Windows servers which provide critical infrastructure services.

EDUCATION

BSc (Honours)
Computer Network Management & Design
Final Year Dissertation: Secure Web-Server Platforms
Graduated 10th August 2006 with
Second Class Honours (lower division)

University of
Portsmouth
2003 - 2006

Larch Computer
Services
2005

Solution Architect and Computer Technician

Laulind Ltd.
2001-2002

Technical Support Engineer & Computer Technician

Farnborough Sixth
Form College
2001 - 2002

Helpdesk Assistant / Assistant Network Technician

Computing - D (A-Level)
Business - D/E (GNVQ, Double Award)

Farnborough
Sixth Form College
2001 - 2003



TECHNICAL SKILLS

OS & INFRASTRUCTURE

- Microsoft Windows
- Apple macOS
- Linux - (Debian, Ubuntu, Redhat)
- VMWare - (vSphere ESXi)

SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATION, AUTOMATION & DEVOPS

- Chef
- GIT (GitLab / Git / Ci / CD)
- Docker (learning)

CORE SERVICES

- HAProxy
- DNS Services - (DJBDNS / TinyDNS)
- Open Directory Services
LDAP / Kerberos / Samba
- Active Directory / GP / Exchange
- IPAM (PHPiPAM / InfoBlocks)

APPLIANCES

- WatchGuard Firewalls
- HP ProCurve Switches
- Cisco ASA VPN
- Firewall Distros
(pfSense, SmoothWall / IPCop)

SERVICE SOFTWARE

- Apache / PHP / MySQL
- FTP / SSH / TFTP / PXE services
- DoveCot / Sendmail / PostFix
- IPTables / UFW

SAS / HOSTED SERVICES

- WordPress (Hosted)
- Google Apps Business Administration
- Office 365 Administration
- Amazon AWS
(S3 / Glacier / CloudFront)
- Azure (learning)

CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

- WordPress / Multisite (μ)
- Drupal
- Bookstack

ADMINISTRATION TOOLS

- IP Address Management (IPAM)
- OCS Inventory (asset database)
- osTicket / GLPI / HEAT

LANGUAGES

- Bash / Shell Scripting
- Batch / PowerShell
- Ruby (learning for Chef)

STORAGE

- EMC Celerra / Unity Storage
- Quantum QXS
- Dell FluidFS
- OnStor BobCat



BEYOND THE WORLD OF COMPUTING

- Semi-professional photographer with a focus toward travel photography and landscapes, also portraits, events, sports and corporate.
- Self-taught Adobe Photoshop, InDesign and Illustrator skills
- Worked on film sets as a photographer, and have also been a supporting actor, audio technician, boom operator, camera operator, second unit director, and assistant director with acreditations on IMDB.
- Directed, filmed and edited my own documentary piece which was used by Royal Holloway's Department of History for a Massively Online Open Course (MOOC) entitled 'The Camera Never Lies'.
- Martial Arts instructor for the Bushido Academy of Martial Arts since 2016 (Student since 2006).



ABOUT ME

Motivated, proactive and focused, with a passion for creativity and self-learning with an ability to quickly digest technical subject matter and use it in a practical application.

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Thank you for reviewing my CV. Would you like to know more?

Please take some time to visit <https://about.tfindley.co.uk> to find out more