

BEN SCHMITZ

817 Clinton Avenue
Oak Park, IL 60304

773/490-4601
ben@foink.com

SUMMARY

Experienced, results-driven IT professional with a proven track record of providing creative solutions to complex application issues, server configurations, and development hurdles. Seasoned experience in working in start-up organizations within the cutting edge Ecommerce arena. Possess excellent ability to adapt to ever changing environments, while providing a focused, thoughtful approach to achieving technical goals.

EXPERIENCE

ORBITZ, INC. (www.orbitz.com)

9/2000-11/2008

Hired into the organization as the 27th employee to join this leading online travel company in its earliest stages of inception.

Systems and Internet Architect

2006-2008

- Responsible for leading the performance tuning efforts for Orbitz next-generation platform; including hardware selection and testing, front-door architecture including content delivery, session affinity, and http acceleration utilizing Linux and Solaris systems, Juniper Redline and Citrix Systems. As well as utilizing Ixia and LoadRunner load testing software and hardware.
- Responsible for Data center refresh strategy including application platform for over 1000 java vms. This strategy will result in a reduction from over 500 servers to just over 80 Sun X6250 blades and a corresponding reduction in operating expense of over 60% or \$150,000 per month.
- Provide technical requirements and implementation of the next-generation platform alpha, beta and productions launches for ebookers.com and 13 other international sites including www.ebookers.es, ww.mrjet.se. The launch of these sites resulted in a 25% increase in OWW revenue for 2008.
- Lead technical vendor negotiations for all operational and systems performance initiatives pertaining to the next-generation platform
- Mentor junior Operations and Engineering support teams

Technical Lead

2004-2006

- Lead operational and engineering efforts for all new platform initiatives including vendor negotiations, product selection, and implementation of new Java application container, common caching software, as well as http acceleration platforms including Akamai, BEA Weblogic, JBOSS, Tomcat, Apache, Sun JVM 1.4, 1.5 and 1.6 as well as Tansol's Coherence and memcached caching software.
- Provide assistance as a Mentor to junior Operations and Engineering staff
- Documentation and hand off of existing Orbitz systems

Application Engineer III

2002-2004

- 3Operational and engineering Lead for the design and implementation of the Supplier Link service; a Java-based Jini backed connectivity suite for 3rd party applications and systems utilizing BEA Weblogic Server with Sun JDK1.4 and 1.5 as well as the Apache Foundation Tomcat container with Sun JDK 1.4 and 1.5
- Responsible for building and deploying all Orbitz.com code bases through pre-production environments to Production
- 24/7/365 99.99% uptime operational support while doing weekly Production code pushes

Application Engineer II**2000-2002**

- Designed, architected, deployed, and administered a cluster application that has grown to over 1000 physical servers running Linux RHEL 3 and 4 in a diskless configuration. This software was the differentiator for Orbitz.com; it provided Orbitz access to netrate fares. First production implementation of a standalone (non-gds based) flight search service. Received **USPTO patent 7231382** for this process.

THOMPSON TARGET MEDIA (www.Freezone.Com) 5/99-9/00**Webmaster, Systems Administrator, Lead Developer**

- Administered and configured Web Services running on Sun Solaris operating systems utilizing Apache and Netscape Enterprise Web Servers, as well as utilizing MySQL and Oracle databases in conjunction with Mod_perl to create dynamic database driven web content
- Developed customer user registration and authentication schema which allows for future personalization/localization
- Developed many custom packages including a database driven bulletin board system, and a database driven postcard system
- Defined and developed the project requirements for an internal bbs/mail system with complete screening capabilities. Utilized for internal members' only communication

DYNAMIC TRADE (www.dynamictrade.com)**5/99-6/01****Independent Consultant**

- Contract business which utilizes system servers at the core of the dynamic trade network
- Designed and implemented affiliate network registration and tracking software for clients

NEOGLYPHICS MEDIA CORP. (www.neog.com)**6/98-5/99****Technical Designer/Developer**

- Designed and published www documents utilizing HTML, JavaScript, Perl, CGI, Director, Flash, QuickTime and QuickTime VR to create compelling content for clients such as Sears, Motorola, and Renaissance International, Inc.
- Through the use of Mod_perl, apache, MySQL, dhtml, and html created a dynamic navigation system for the companies web presence
- Administered, and configured Web Services running on Sun Solaris, Linux and FreeBSD for both Apache and Netscape servers

FASTPARTS INC. (www.fastparts.com)**7/96-6/98****Systems Administrator/Software Developer**

- Designed and published www documents using HTML, JavaScript, and Perl CGI to create content for the FastParts web-based trading exchange. Created dynamic WebPages using Perl, CGI, SQL in conjunction with DBI/DBD in both an Oracle and SQL environment.

EDUCATION:

BA Political Science, Ohio University, (3.4/4.0 GPA)
ITIL V3 Certified Practitioner

Languages:

Perl, JavaScript, HTML, Lisp, Tk/Tcl, Python and Java
Net::Whois::IP module contributor to the Comprehensive Perl Archive Network (CPAN)

Operating Systems:

UNIX: Sun Solaris, Free BSD, Linux and SCO
RHCE #803004415510151
Windows XP, Windows 2000, Windows NT Server 4.0, Windows NT Workstation 4.0

Networks:

TCP/IP, DNS, SMTP, Bootp and DHCP. Implementation and administration of HTTP, Telnet, FTP, SSH, SMTP, POP, IMAP, SFTP, Rsync, IRC and proxy services on both UNIX and NT platforms