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PHP • ZCE • MySQL • Cloud • Linux • Caching • Perl • C/C++ • Squid • Javascript • SOA • Java

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## SUMMARY:

I'm an extremely motivated self-starter, committed to results over unnecessary cowboy-coding. Dedicated to both my team and my craft and not afraid to call "BS" when I see it.

## WORK EXPERIENCE:

*June 2007 to Present*

Yahoo!, Inc., Sunnyvale, CA, 94089, yahoo.com

\*Technical Yahoo (Sr. Software Engineer) - PHP, MySQL, Apache TS, Perl, C, Java, FreeBSD/Linux

### ◆ Product Launches

- **Global News** (news.yahoo.com – in progress) – worked with teams in India, Taiwan and Norway on the release of Yahoo! Global News. Designed and implemented a platform on top of RHEL 5 that leveraged the latest Yahoo! technology, including Cloud deployment, that was sharable across Media. Spent two weeks in Taiwan training back-end engineers on best practices. Wrote a custom installer in Perl that would build and configure developer Virtual Machines with a single command. Built and configured Apache Traffic Server for internal use and provided guidance to Service Engineering for the production deployment.
- **Story Page Redesign** (news.yahoo.com) – The most viewed page of Yahoo! News - over 1 billion page views per month. Coded key MetaData API (low cache hit rate by nature) and key category APIs (fast and highly cacheable by design). Wrote a front-end daemon using Perl/PHP to fetch XML "map" files from API servers to FE machines. Contributed software packaging and provided architecture input. Integrated proprietary template mapping module and coded related accessory software into the News implementation of Yahoo's development framework.
- **Good Morning Yahoo!** (gmy.news.yahoo.com, since retired). Sole BE Engineer managing a 5 person consulting team (Avenue A/Razorfish) in the creation of this property. Wrote key pieces of code as well as ensuring compliance with Yahoo! Platform standards and deployment policies. Conducted weekly meetings, code reviews and daily backend support, including coding and integration with internal platforms. Project was delivered on time and on budget. 2008 sponsorship was worth over 3 million dollars.
- **Yahoo! Elections Redesign** (elections.yahoo.com; since retired) – again, as the sole backend engineer created a fast site with small footprint. Due to time and resource constraints, came up with a fast and scalable solution using the proprietary blogging tool to act as a software configuration tool/admin panel. Worked with the flash team and data providers to reduce and streamline data delivery for the Political Dashboard portion of the site, which received accolades from political media for its performance and timeliness. I handed this project off to another team in April of 2008.
- **Democratic Candidate Mashup** (debates.news.yahoo.com; since retired) – as the sole backend engineer I integrated video, polls and message boards into a small yet highly scaleable website. The site works completely on web services and features both squid and view level module caching. Cache times and web service urls are configurable via package settings that can be modified in real time without a software build. Sped up front end processing of message board data by over 80% by crunching data offline and distributing custom XML. DCM served 3.7 video streams in its first week.

The site was featured on CNN and the Wall Street Journal along with many other media outlets worldwide.

- **Flickr Integration Tool** – took a “dead” project consisting of loose diagrams and untested code and revamped it into something widely used by the editorial team today.
- Infrastructure Engineering (Y! Stack, API development, Feed Processing Farm, RSS farm scalability)
- **Build Engineering (Continuous Integration)** – installed and configured Hudson (1 Master/ 5 Slaves), Unit Testing (PHPUnit), Build Status notifications (wrote client in C/Ruby); various other tools using the Hudson API. My system supported running performance tests at key milestones and parallel lines of development on 6 different platforms. Designed and implemented a procedure to support a two-week release cycle with completely automated handoffs to QA and Operations with audit trail, which became the standard for Yahoo! Media. Consulted with groups across Media on how I integrated Hudson into the Yahoo! Deployment system and presented this in a tech talk to Media Engineering in 11/2009. This was also submitted as a poster to TechPulse 2010.
- **Migration from CVS to SVN** - moved the Yahoo! News code base from CVS to SVN – over million lines of code; over 75,000 commits; close to 100 branches. Also integrated SVN into other internal tools, such as Bugzilla and the proprietary build and editorial tools. Presented my work to the Media Tech-Leads group in 1/2009 and provided technical training on Subversion migration and usage to all of Media Engineering in 4/2009.
- **Firefox Toolbar** – conceptualized and created a Firefox toolbar that integrates many common functions that Engineers, Editors, QA and News Operations need to handle on a daily basis. Technologies used include XUL, Javascript, CSS, image editing; builds with Ant. Presented to the News Team at Hack Day where it was widely received and is now in use by most news personnel.
- **RSS and API programming** – RSS contributes to nearly one half of the total traffic to Yahoo! News servers. I made several large significant changes to these feeds as well as internal APIs consumed across Yahoo!.
- **Feed processing and publishing** – programming in Perl to add new feeds (various formats; NewsML) and features while staying consistent with our 15-second SLA. Contact with providers (such as AP and Reuters) when required. Both US and International News properties
- **On-call/triage** - spent extensive amounts of time as the on-call engineer (by choice) where I worked with teams and people across the world working on issues from all platforms and customers. Databases, DNS, ACLs, proxies, caches, ad-serving, hardware issues, etc.
- **Architecture and Capacity Planning** – active contributor to architecture design and review sessions. Worked on various tests and proposals pertaining to capacity planning.
- **Sprint Task Engineer** - followed the sprint cycle (Agile) – I completed many tasks to the core site and other sub-properties, including our international properties. Tasks included feature enhancements, bug fixes, log cleanup and package upgrades.
- Company-Wide Contributions
- **WSDist** – internal file distribution system based on Web Services. The system would make a request for an “outline” of what it should do and then proceed to make the appropriate requests and perform the necessary actions. WSDist was built in OO/PHP5 and can be configured by inheriting its parent classes. The system is designed to run as a command line utility (for use with cron or by sys-admins, for example) or can be executed via its public methods by instantiating it in your own

PHP code.

- **HostDiff** – created a script to compare package versions and settings between hosts (handling both virtual machines and physical hosts), with output format options be exclusive or inclusive of package or settings, etc. and to allow users to upgrade a machine to match. Not trivial in an organization with many thousands of hosts. This package has been well received by my peers.

*April 2004 to June 2007*

Bascom Global Internet Services, Inc., Hauppauge, NY, 11788, bascom.com

\*Senior Software Developer - PHP, Apache, MySQL, Perl, Linux, RPM, IPTables, Squid

- Web Development and Systems Programming using PHP, Perl, Mod Perl, Bash, MySQL, SQLite, on Bascom's custom Linux distribution (based on SUSE), as well as Redhat Enterprise Linux (RHEL 4) and SUSE Enterprise Linux (version 9).
- **Global Chalkboard Server** – An “internet appliance” designed for schools that performs basic network functions (Firewall, DNS, DHCP, Web Proxy, Web Cache, Web Filter, Print Server, etc.) as well as provide curriculum tools for teachers to build “Web Lessons” for students to use in classrooms and computer labs. I designed the Web application framework and internal libraries using PHP PEAR and PECL modules. Designed database structure and implemented with SQLite (we later moved to Postgres and finally to MySQL). System level programming using Perl, Bash. Software packaging and distribution using RPM. Internal support and configuration (recompiling, small patches) of open source packages including the Linux kernel, Apache, iptables, sshd and Squid.
- **Web Library** – Educational portal maintained by both Schools and BASCOM, available to BASCOM subscribers. Maintained existing system and added new “district site sharing” functionality, using Mod Perl and MySQL. Integrated mnoGoSearch into website to allow for faster searching and more thorough indexing of sites.
- **Internal Servers** – Personally responsible for internal servers, including test and production development machines, SVN, Twiki and internal system management tools, as well as public web and mail servers, including maintenance of internally built software (I added YUIs autocomplete functionality to the RPM manager, for example), package and system upgrades.
- Managed Development Team – managed the development team, including product roadmaps, task scheduling and Project Management. Report directly to CTO.
- Customer Meetings/Tradeshows – actively attended customer meetings and participate in company-attended tradeshows in a sales-engineering capacity.

*September 1998 to April 2004*

Desktop Solutions Software, Inc., Hauppauge, NY, 11788, desktopsolutions.com

\*Chief Technology Developer – PHP, MySQL, Apache, Linux, SysAdmin, DNS, Perl, E-commerce, C++

- Web Application Development (Programming, RDBMS) - designed, programmed and maintained web applications using PHP, Perl, MySQL on the Unix/Linux/Apache platform and Cold Fusion and Sybase on the NT4/IIS4 platform.
- **www.lawrencemetal.com** - designed and programmed many portions of the site, including: product catalog "configurator" system; multi-level security; B to B discount mechanism and Net 30 terms; multi-cart shopping system; FAQ, Best Sellers, Registration, Checkout, Administration. Real-time credit card processing, real-time tax calculations (e-salestax.com, authored official PHP API to server software), order status and print invoice functions. (This project was a finalist in the 2001 Web Awards of Long Island). The site generated over 3 million dollars in sales in 2002.

- **www.fada.com** - designed and programmed site for this 30+ member organization. Features include multi-level security, artist approval mechanism, smart gallery search, request information routing, artist biographies, essays with linked images and more.
- **www.thegoldbook.com** - programmed and maintained all front-end functions (search by product, category, price, name, event, etc) and back end administration section (view, add, edit, delete on system tables, data export, reports, customer records/status etc.) Designed and programmed user subscription system; Designed and programmed secure credit card processing system (AuthorizeNet Secure Processing API).
- **www.shogyo.com** - programmed component parts system, designed and programmed RFQ system, administrative functionality
- **www.legalpronet.com** - programmed advanced administrative search functions and facility to email attorneys when a new document has been added (this project was a finalist in the 2000 Long Island Software Awards).
- **www.invest.com** – designed and programmed ‘search by category and ‘search by company name’ functions, code maintenance.
- **www.desktopsolutions.com** – company portfolio web site in which I worked on many of the sites listed. Companies include: Verizon, Cablevision, Barron’s Educational Books, New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, Rent-A-PC, Regent Sports Corporation, Ramp Chevrolet and many more.
- ◆ Web Site Development (Graphics, User Interface, Multimedia) - worked on many web sites using:
  - HTML/Frontpage
  - CSS
  - Javascript
  - Photoshop/Imageready
  - Flash
  - MP3/Real Audio, Video.
  - IE/Netscape Compatibility
- ◆ Project Management, Training and Support
  - Lead team of in-house developers/programmers and independent contractors on several web site projects.
  - Training of employees and end users in: MS Frontpage, Photoshop 5.5, PHP, MySQL, email configuration, FTP, 3rd party software, etc.
  - Technical liaison between customers and developers
  - Reported to President frequently with progress, technical issues
- ◆ Version Control System
  - Installed, configured and maintained company CVS system and provided training and written documentation for company president and all developers.
- ◆ Internal Code Library Maintenance and Documentation
  - Major contributor to the company's internal code library and co-author of developer's handbook.
- ◆ Web server administration
  - Installation, configuration and support of Linux (Redhat, Intel SMP) servers running Apache, SSL, FTP, stats, Email services, DNS, MySQL, Backup and UPS services, Sendmail, Perl, PHP, CVS, etc.
  - Installation, configuration and support of Windows NT servers running IIS3/IIS4, Cold Fusion, Sybase

- ◆ Network Integration - 100BaseTX, T1 via Cisco 2600
  - Helped design network architecture to allow staff members and developers to connect to company production servers from behind company firewall or remotely using samba and IP authentication.

*September 2002 to June 2007*

State University of New York, College at Farmingdale

\*Adjunct Instructor, Computer Systems Department

- ◆ Courses taught:
  - BCS 215: *Intro to UNIX I*
  - BCS 185: *Programming in Visual Basic*
  - BCS 350: *Web Application Development with PHP and MySQL*
  - BCS 301: *Systems Analysis and Design*

*March 2003 to June 2007*

Long Island PHP Users Group ([www.liphp.org](http://www.liphp.org))

\*Founder and Past President

- ◆ Created mailing list and website on Dell hardware and organized, promoted and booked speakers for meetings. I have personally given presentations on PHP and Dynamic Flash Generation with Ming, NuSphere's PHPed, and PDF creation with PHP, Zend IDE, XML, MySQL replication, SQLite, PHP5, AJAX, Regular Expressions and several others. When I resigned membership was over 200 individuals, corporations and non-profit organizations.

*October 2003 to June 2007*

Linux in Business SIG, Long Island Software and Technology Network (LISTNET) (<http://www.listnet.org>)

\*Co-Founder and Co-Chairman

- ◆ Developed, organized and led meetings of local executives and IT professionals to discuss business issues, such as ROI, staffing, support, etc. with high profile industry leaders in Linux. Previous speakers have included:
  - Alex Pinchev, VP of International Sales, Redhat Inc. (<http://www.redhat.com>)
  - Rick Berenstein, Founder and Chairman, Xandros, Inc (<http://www.xandros.com>)
  - Len Santalucia, Senior Open Systems Consultant, IBM Americas, IBM, Inc (<http://www.ibm.com>)

*September 1999 to February 2006*

YumYum.Com – The Recipe Web Site for Everyday Cooks!™, [www.yumyum.com](http://www.yumyum.com)

\*Co-Owner and Senior Developer

- PHP/MySQL port of recipe search scripts from Perl/FoxBase
- Programming to allow for automated download of recipes to From Scratch (web site companion software)
- Design and programming of web-based administration section, allowing non-technical people to maintain the site
- Many features, including: Searching, 'Email this recipe', 'Print recipe' and product upsell features, banner creation and HTML code for "Link to Us" section
- Managed independent contractor in the win16 to win32 port of From Scratch (recipe software)
- Complete Linux server build, including hardware, software, backup, security, configuration
- Work directly with major advertising agencies and advertising customers (Avenue A, HerAgency, GreatFoods.com, Kitchen Collection, Family.com); responsible for online and print promotion of site
- Presenter, Long Island Capital Form 2000
- YumYum.Com was a finalist in the 2001 Web Awards of Long Island
- YumYum.Com was sold to an internet-media firm in February 2006

## **TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS:**

- ◆ Many training courses provided by Yahoo!, including a MySQL and High Availability and building PHP extensions
- ◆ Zend Certified PHP Engineer (ZCE), September 6, 2005
- ◆ President's Club graduate, Sandler Sales Institute (5 month course), July-November 2005
- ◆ Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP) Windows 95, January 1998 (since retired)
- ◆ LinuxWorld Expo, NYC, January 30 – February 2, 2001 – tutorials taken: High Availability, Stack Smashing Security Attacks, Open Source Databases, Ultramonkey (load balancing), Server Data Replication, Linux in the Enterprise
- ◆ LinuxWorld Expo, NYC, February 1-4 2000 – tutorials taken: Security for Linux (levels 1 and 2), Oracle 8i for Linux, network infrastructure, Heterogeneous Networks, cross platform development, alpha Linux high availability web server clustering, Writing High Performance OpenGL Applications for Linux
- ◆ Notary Public, New York State, County of Suffolk, commissioned since September 1997
- ◆ Various Tradeshows in technology and education, including PC Expo 1998 and 1999, Oracle Developer Days (New Brunswick, NJ, 2003), Open Source Database Summit (2001), Internet World (1998,1999,2000), NCEA (2005), Suffolk Boces (2005), Web 2.0 expo (2008) and many more

#### **OPEN SOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS:**

- ◆ Developed Menugen, a javascript menu generator, with over 7,000 users to date, including corporate clients such as Bank of America, Cisco, Xilinx and many more
- ◆ PHP ShipTrack class at [phpclasses.org](http://phpclasses.org)
- ◆ WebhelpX software at <http://webhelpx.sf.net> (no longer maintained)
- ◆ Contributed patches to DotProject (<http://www.dotproject.net>), SQLiteManager, (<http://sqlitemanager.sf.net>) and others
- ◆ Founded and developed db\_2\_pdo, a PHP class for using PEAR DB code with the PDO extension (at the time, needed to use SQLite3, PHP5, and PEAR together)
- ◆ Presentation on PHP on OS/2, given at Warpstock 2005 October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2005, available at <http://www.supertom.com/warpstock2005>
- ◆ Presentation, "Building configurable applications for the web", International PHP Conference, 11/2009 <http://it-republik.de/php/phpconference09/speaker/>
- ◆ Code Snippets and Tutorials at <http://www.supertom.com/code>

#### **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

- ◆ M.S., Information Systems, Long Island University, C.W. Post Campus, May 2006
  - Courses taken in Project Management, Personnel Management and Allocation, Costing Analysis, Communicating and Documenting Information Systems, Training Techniques for Software Trainers and others
  - Independent Research in Robotics Summer 2005

- Recipient of the John T. Keane III Memorial Award in Outstanding Achievement in Graduate Information Systems
- ◆ B.A., Sociology, SUNY Stony Brook, August 1998
  - Conducted independent research (college-accredited) in survey methodology
  - One year of Calculus; One year of Quantitative/Qualitative analysis
- ◆ A.A.S., Computer Information Systems, Suffolk County Community College, May 1999
  - Courses taken in C++/Data Structures, Visual Basic, COBOL, HTML/JavaScript
  - Courses also taken covering various Spreadsheet, Word Processing, and Database applications
- ◆ A.A.S., Business Administration, Suffolk County Community College, August 1996
  - Courses taken in Managerial Science and Accounting
  - Other courses and topics included Marketing, Human Resources, Business Communications and Business Ethics.
- ◆ Computer Science Major, SUNY College at Old Westbury, January - May 2002
  - Courses taken in Computer Architecture and Systems Programming

**LINKS:**

- **Website:** <http://www.supertom.com>
- **LinkedIn:** <http://www.linkedin.com/in/supertomcom>
- **Facebook:** <http://www.supertom.com/facebook> (you'll be redirected)

**\*REFERENCES WILL BE PROVIDED UPON REQUEST\***