

Russell Young | Solutions Architect

Location: Birmingham

Telephone: 07543 308025

Email: russell.young@leidos.com

Professional profile

I am an experienced admin who spent the first 15 years after graduating from University working with Unix & Linux systems. I gained AWS Certified status initially in 2019 and moved into a Cloud design role in 2022. I am a quick learner, who is never happy muddling along without a good understanding of what I am doing, and often will perform self-directed learning to make sure my skill set is up-to-date and relevant to my role, or learn about new technologies that can ultimately help the business.

My current role is designing the cloud solution for a nationwide biometric system which is mission critical to the UK Home Office. I have experience in dealing with a big, heterogeneous distributed system and tight SLAs. I am able to bring experience in older technologies like Solaris 8 while also learning and adapting to manage and troubleshoot new ways of doing things, for example moving from discreet hardware first to VMWare and now to AWS. The previous job I performed also included some programming elements, both writing scripts and maintenance programming in C and Java.

IT/Technical skills

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AWS Certified SysOps Admin• AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner• Perl, Python, bash & C-shell scripting• Oracle & PostgreSQL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Java, Spring, JBOSS• C• Sun Solaris admin• Oracle Discoverer admin• NetBackup	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oracle Identity Management• Veritas file systems and replication, samfs• SLES admin• VMWare
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Career summary

Sep 2006 – Feb 2022

Leidos Innovations UK Limited (previously Northrop Grumman UK Limited), Coventry.

Technical Support Analyst - Systems Support

Outline

I spent the first four years at my previous employer working my way up from 1st line support to 3rd line, which is where I stayed for eleven years. I dealt with handling complex support requests, maintenance programming, data integrity work as well as project work on things like migrations from older systems to new (Solaris -> Linux), implementation of replacement systems or large scale conversion of data sets.

Key responsibilities

- Primary responsibility was support - receiving escalations of complex incidents which can affect potentially thousands of mission-critical workers as well as other suppliers. This included on-call support.
- Experience of a very large and complex biometrics system. The system has evolved over 25 years, so contains a mixture of legacy Sun hardware alongside modern Linux systems on VMWare as well as some Windows machines.
- Maintenance programming to fix defects. Understanding and updating multiple languages primarily C, Java, Perl and C-Shell.
- Experience dealing with Oracle, RMAN and NetBackup systems with Quantum tape

- libraries.
- PostgreSQL administration and troubleshooting.
- Oracle Identity Management troubleshooting and support.
- Oracle Discoverer Business Intelligence administration and report authoring.

Key achievement/projects

- I authored the main monitoring system used across the whole distributed system in perl which has been built upon and is still used today after around fifteen years.
- I worked on and delivered the back record conversion of the data from an entire country which was joining the UK system. This involved two periods of data transformation, migration and load effort for the better part of a million person records.
- I worked on a number of projects which take existing legacy systems and migrate them to newer, supported systems. These projects had to focus on minimal disruption to the business while also ensuring the data integrity. I worked closely with the project manager on these working through the whole life cycle and even covered the PM role on a few occasions when needed, holding teleconferences with the UK Home Office on the project status.
- I built the replacement system for digital fingerprinting machines used in police stations nationwide. This is a Windows system using AD and VPN technologies. In addition, to support a rapid deployment, I created a bespoke build system allowing the team to build sysprepped units rapidly and in parallel.

Feb 2022 - Present

Leidos Innovations UK Limited, working remotely.

Outline

I sought a change in career direction, specifically after having studied for some AWS certifications on my own time. This led to a move into the Cloud Transformation team on the same project I've worked on previously, but now acting as a SME supporting the rest of the design team of architects and taking the lead designing some of the more complex elements of the system.

Key responsibilities

- Subject Matter Expert answering questions, often in a joint forum with the customer, on system functionality and justifying design decisions.
- Designing the migration strategy and changes to key systems moving into the Cloud.
- Mentoring other team members within the design team.

Education and qualifications

- **Certified SysOps Admin** – AWS - September, 2020
- **Certified Cloud Practitioner** – AWS – November, 2019
- **Oracle BI Discoverer Administrator 11g: Develop an EUL** – Oracle – 2014
- **Oracle BI Discoverer Plus 11g: Analyze Relational and OLAP Data** – Oracle – 2013
- **Oracle Identity Governance 11g R2: Develop Identity Provisioning** – Oracle – 2016
- **BSc (Hons) in Computer Science, 2:1** – Staffordshire University – 2005

References available on request