

# Steve Parker

Certified Unix & Linux Specialist

mobile: +44(0)789 777 2100  
email: [steve@steve-parker.org](mailto:steve@steve-parker.org)  
web: <http://steve-parker.org/cv>  
CV Last Updated: Feb 2017

## Profile

As a Technical Consultant, I am authoritative on medium and high-end UNIX systems design and configuration. With deep and wide knowledge of operating systems, servers, storage and clusters, as well as LAN, SAN and Virtualisation, I have the knowledge and understanding to propose, design and configure high-end systems within multi-million dollar projects. I bring high levels of professionalism, commitment and attention to detail to every project. I match customer requirements with industry best practices to deliver a design and implementation which provides the best of both.

As solutions do not end with a design, I also have excellent troubleshooting skills to address any issues which may arise later on in the project lifecycle.

## Key Technologies

- **Linux/Unix** - design, configuration, performance tuning, hardening. Particularly **Linux** and **Solaris**- RedHat Certified Engineer (**RHCE**), Sun Certified Systems Administrator.
- **DevOps** - Jenkins, Git/Gerrit, Puppet, Foreman/Spacewalk/Satellite, Artifactory/Nexus, JFrog, Atlassian
- **Cluster** – SunCluster, Red Hat HA, RAC, VCS - design, configuration, administration.
- **Servers** – from Blades up to M9000
- **Virtualisation** – VMware, Vagrant, VirtualBox, Xen, Zones/Jails, LDOM, WPAR, LPAR
- **Storage / Volume Management**- NAS, DAS, SAN, LVM, ZFS, Veritas, SVM
- **Programming** – Unix Shell (Bourne Shell, BASH, etc), C, and other languages

## Recent Successes

- Author of the Wiley book [Shell Scripting: Expert Recipes for Linux, Bash and more](#) (ISBN 1118024486). [facebook.com/shellscript](https://www.facebook.com/shellscript) has over 4,800 followers.
- Have designed and deployed the Linux strategy and infrastructure for the UK's third largest supermarket, and delivered and supported the first six projects based on that design.
- Reduced a 5-week Write / Format / Review documentation process into a 1-week Write-and-Review process, dramatically increasing the project's profitability.

## Work History

### Jan 2016 – Present: DevOps Engineer, Thales, Manchester (Contract, renewed 4 times)

Working across multiple projects providing Jenkins, Jira, Git, Gerrit, Artifactory, SonarQube and others for Java, C++, C# and iOS developers for Continuous Integration (CI) and Continuous Delivery (CD). Working with Satellite / Foreman, Katello, Puppet, Vagrant, VirtualBox and VMWare to deliver and manage build environments, developer workstations and other key infrastructure across the projects. Logstash, Filebeat and Topbeat for logging systems using Kibana.

### February 2015 – Jan 2016: Linux Engineer, United Utilities, Warrington (Contract)

Design of a standard virtualised Red Hat Linux build within an existing Solaris enterprise. Using DevOps methods in a traditional Enterprise environment to deliver application-ready virtual machines within 15 minutes, including application-specific customisations where required.

### April 2014 – January 2015: DevOps Engineer, BJSS Ltd, Leeds (Contract)

For a large NHS project, creating Puppet and Bash scripts to deploy, manage and maintain a large application using a complex combination of Java/Tomcat/Apache/PHP/Redis/PostgreSQL layers, into multiple environments on Red Hat and CentOS. Taking responsibility for coordinating test and

deployment activities between management, developers, testers, third-party suppliers and the end customer.

Tune and configure all elements of this stack for performance and resilience, including configuring, testing, building and deploying highly customised OpenLDAP packages.

Design and build multiple Red Hat High Availability clusters with EnterpriseDB. Deploy and Smoke-Test the application into all Test/Performance, Production and DR environments, on internally-hosted systems, on Rackspace cloud servers, and on the customer's hosting provider's servers. Working with typical DevOps tools such as Git, Maven, Jenkins, Puppet and Bash.

**August 2013 – April 2014: DevOps, Thales , Manchester (Contract, renewed 3 times)**

DevOps working with Jenkins Continuous Integration, Git, Gerrit, Shell Scripting, JBoss, Apache. Maintaining the build ecosystem used by many teams of Java developers, and deploying to multiple environments. Installing, maintaining, upgrading and configuring Jenkins CI, Git, Gerrit, Shell scripts, JBoss, Apache, MySQL, GeoWebCache, Artifactory, Sonar and related technologies. Gerrit configuration with OpenID and LDAP. Working with VMWare and Spacewalk (Kickstart) to automate build of RedHat and CentOS servers.

**June – July 2013 : Linux Specialist, Tesco PLC, Hertfordshire (Contract)**

Linux specialist providing design and strategy for a wide variety of projects on Virtual and Physical platforms. Collaborating with Storage, Network, Database and Application teams on DR, Big Data, Hadoop, Clustering, Hosting, and other projects.

**Dec 2011 – May 2013: Infrastructure Specialist, IBM, Preston (Contract, renewed twice)**

Unix / Linux Subject Matter Expert on IBM's contract with Department for Work and Pensions. Providing expertise on RedHat Linux 4 and 5, Solaris 9 and 10, AIX 5.2-7.1 and HP-UX 11.31. Working with VMWare, Zones and LDOM, vPAR, LPAR and WPAR virtualisation technologies, on x86, SPARC, Itanium and Power hardware.

Delivering standardised, secure, best-practice builds of Operating Systems and Middleware technologies. Detailed and accurate documentation of requirements and installation procedures. Working with and debugging many versions and combinations of Oracle, DB2, MySQL, WebSphere, Informatica, Siebel, Tomcat, Apache, Samba, Perl, JBoss, and many other technologies, from 10-year-old legacy releases to cutting edge configurations.

Defining and documenting infrastructure standards and procedures, from user account creation and management to access control and patch management. Mentoring and training offshore resources in best practices as well as in methodologies for troubleshooting and diagnosing problems. Providing direct assistance with Build and Deployment, Database, Shell, Java and Perl development tasks.

**June 2009 – Dec 2011: Linux Architect for Sainsbury's, London (Contract, renewed 7x)**

Consultant designing and implementing a Linux infrastructure to follow on from the existing Solaris environment. I used my deep understanding of Solaris and Linux, as well as SAN, Networking, Clustering, Monitoring and Application requirements to deliver a suitable solution for the business. Defining standards, procedures and best practices for design, deployment, resilience (VCS and RAC), storage and backup strategy. Documentation and training for Project, Support and Ops staff to build, use, support and extend the design. Having put all of this into place, I have guided through the next six projects using the standards and procedures provided. Virtualised Linux design using VMWare, as well as a specialised physical build to be rolled out to 200 stores.

**September 2007 - June 2009: Technical Consultant, iNTEQ Professional Services**

For Sun Professional Services, Sun Resellers and other partners, a technical authority providing Enterprise services specialising in design and build of Clusters, High-End Servers (E25K, M3000-M9000) and Volume servers. Designing and implementing Solaris and Linux systems and Clusters, Servers and Storage. Writing technical (iRunbook) documentation on VMWare ESX, RedHat Enterprise Linux, MySQL and other technologies for Sun.

### **September 2005 - September 2007: Technical Architect, EDS, Manchester**

Designing Solaris, HP-UX and Linux solutions, quotes, purchase and delivery, installation and configuration of the servers across environments within EDS and Client datacentres. Providing cost models for the deployment and support of the implementation. Working with Unix, SAN and network teams to provide detailed and accurate designs. Acted as the project team's single point-of-contact with technical teams to ensure successful implementation. Analysing application volumetrics and workflow. Taking a close involvement in the change management process.

### **June 1999 – September 2005: Technical Consultant, Sun Microsystems via Netops Ltd**

Sun-badged, providing Design, Installation, Configuration and Testing across the full range of Sun Microsystems offerings for clients in all markets including Financial, Telco, Retail, Utility and Public Sector. Specialisms in Solaris, SunCluster, VxVM, Storage. Also responsible for all aspects of Internet presence of Netops and its customers, including determining security policies and procedures, configuring, installing and administrating firewall, web server (Apache, ModSSL, PHP, MySQL), Sendmail, Exim, Bind DNS.

### **September 1998 – May 1999: Systems Specialist, Datel Computing Ltd, Preston**

AIX/SCO Systems Specialist providing consultancy, installation, ongoing maintenance and support. Sole company expert in SCO UNIX. Responsible for hardware, operating system, and networks.

### **May 1997 – September 1998: Unix Installations Engineer, Siemens Nixdorf**

Unix and networking for Mercedes, Tesco, Dixons. Taking the role of a Senior Engineer, I coordinated 12 engineers replacing the whole network – Unix clients and servers, PCs, printers, and Unix/X11 systems for a Mercedes dealership within one day without disrupting the business.

### **February 1997 – May 1997: Support Engineer, GEC Alsthom Signalling Ltd, Manchester**

Administration of Solaris, Windows and NetWare. Supporting PCs and SPARCstations. Administration and maintenance of Internet gateway, Intranet with Perl CGI scripting, NIS+.

### **September 1996 – February 1997: PC Support Technician, Refuge Assurance PLC**

On-site support for 600 PC users, Windows / NetWare. Programming of utilities for SCO UnixWare data-entry system. Administration and installation of the NetWare servers.

### **June 1994 – June 1995: Validation Engineer, ICL (Sandwich Year as part of Degree)**

DRS/NX, SCO, UnixWare and Windows NT validation and certification, specialising in Networking - including TCP/IP, OSI, X21, V24/X25, Token Ring, UUCP. Working closely with ICL's Unix developers, I got involved with the development team right down to Kernel level. This gave me a great insight into Unix internals. I also wrote a shell script which turned half a day of test preparation work into a two-minute task.

## **Education / Qualifications**

- **BSc. 2(i) (Honours) Computer Science**, University of Hertfordshire (1996)
- **A-Levels in Computer Science, Pure & Applied Mathematics**, General Studies (1992)
- Red Hat Certified Engineer (RHCE #110-278-421 )
- Sun Certified Systems Installer for Sun™ Cluster 3.x
- Sun Certified Data Management Engineer - VxVM + SDS
- Sun Certified System Administrator for Solaris 10 OS (Part I & II)

## **Publications (most also in Paperback and eBook)**

- <https://www.shellscript.sh>, (online tutorial), <http://nixshell.wordpress.com> (blog)
- Shell Scripting: Expert Recipes for Linux, Bash and more (<http://amzn.to/2h0tNX1>)
- How to Build a LAMP Server at <http://steve-parker.org/lamp> / <http://amzn.to/2gPFdz8>
- How to Create an RPM (<http://amzn.to/2h4gCr1>)
- Administrator of <http://facebook.com/shellscript>, with over 4,800 followers
- Author of **online IT tools** including <https://sgpit.com/smf>, <http://steve-parker.org/vxvm>