Stephen Buchan: Curriculum Vitae

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Summary of key strengths

With a career in information technology spanning over 30 years, I bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the projects I undertake. During this period I have undertaken many different technical roles spanning all phases of the development life cycle from requirements analysis, systems design, project management, testing, implementation, documentation and training. The industry sectors I have worked in include electronics, education, finance, health and publishing.

Now in my 17th year of self-employment undertaking various contract roles, I am highly self-motivated and capable of working both independently and as part of a team. I have always had an interest in bridging the gap between business requirements and technical solutions, and have applied my communications skills both to explore customer needs and to explain systems design options. My track record has been a series of successful projects where the appropriate technologies have been implemented to address real business objectives.

The activities I undertake include:
- Requirements analysis
- Infrastructure design
- Migration planning and execution
- Testing and implementation
- Systems auditing and technical support
- Project management
- Production of accurate technical documentation

The technologies in which I have extensive expertise include:
- MS-Windows Server 2012 / 2008, Active Directory (in-depth)
- MS-Exchange Server 2010 / 2007, IIS 8, Certiificate Services
- EMC Isilon and VNX series SAN / NAS storage
- VMware
- Mixed environments comprising Windows 7/8, Mac OS X, RHEL
- TCP/IP network design for LANs, VLANs, WANs and wireless
- DHCP, DNS, WINS, VPNs
- Enterprise anti-virus products
- Firewall rules definition and implementation
- Data and communications encryption, network security
- Numerous(!) legacy systems

Career History

1998 - Present: Managing Director / Technical Consultant
Green Light Systems Ltd, 15 Hope Terrace, Edinburgh EH9 2AP
www.greenlight.f2s.com

Currently working under contract for Cirrus Logic International (UK) Ltd. (Sept 2014 – Present)
I am currently engaged in a high-profile role, designing the systems migration and integration pathway required following the recent acquisition of Wolfson Microelectronics plc by Cirrus Logic, Inc.

Through my company, Green Light Systems Ltd, I provide comprehensive, high-quality consultancy and support for organisations wishing to design and deploy infrastructures built around Microsoft technologies. I am the sole employee of this business and therefore undertake all technical activities personally.

When not busy on long-term contracts, I provide *ad hoc* design and support for a variety of small organisations, most of which have been clients since I created my company. These customers include:

St Andrew's Children's Society Ltd: I maintain the Windows-based LAN and WAN and design and implement enhancements for this adoption agency.

Microsys Solutions Ltd: I provide technical guidance on various projects and a range of Microsys clients, most notably undertaking work for the Scottish Parliament office of Scotland's Commissioner for Children & Young People, the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments in Scotland and the Scottish Information Commissioner. For the latter prepared the initial disaster recovery plans.

Munros Capital Management LLP: I was the sole technical resource responsible for designing all aspects of this client's IT infrastructure which is based around Windows Server 2003. Enhancements carried out since the initial installation include VPN for remote users, integration of Bloomberg data sources with the main network, and configuration of shared resources in Exchange Server 2003.

I have had major contracts with the following organisations:

Wolfson Microelectronics plc (2007 – 2011): In this long-term contract, Wolfson engaged me for the second time; I had previously undertaken contract work for Wolfson prior to the BT contract, below. During this second Wolfson contract, I contributed to a variety of IT projects, my maturity and wealth of experience allowing me to run with various key projects with little supervision. And so in addition to working closely with the team in the Edinburgh HQ, I also worked independently, for example: migrating the infrastructure of a Wolfson company acquisition into the core system and working on-site in southern India with an IT partner to permit contractors there to utilise thin client technology (VMware) for remote working on Edinburgh-based systems.

Network Design Architect at BT for the City of Edinburgh Council Education Department (Sept 2005 – June 2006):
As the senior technical resource, I was responsible for a major redesign project affecting the whole CEC Education community (comprising 240 educational establishments and some 44,000 users). My main focus was to design a solid Windows Server 2003 Active Directory (AD) architecture and define a migration path to consolidate 23 NT4 domains to the new directory service. I also made major contributions to the design of LANDesk systems management, McAfee ePO anti-virus, wireless networking, and the specification of firewall rules.

Wolfson Microelectronics plc (2003-2005): Technical lead in the design of, and migration to, a new global network infrastructure at Wolfson Microelectronics plc, comprising Windows Server 2003, Exchange Server 2003, Samba (on Solaris), and SAN data storage.

Bright Grey, a division of Royal London (2001 – 2003**):** Various technical roles but primarily responsible for the implementation of the ALIS insurance quotation system under Windows 2000 Server and its integration with a large suite of other applications.

1998-2002
During the four-year span above, I built up a customer base for Green Light Systems based on word-of-mouth recommendations, retaining some clients to the present day. My most important clients during this period were Impact Plus plc and Kempen Capital Management, but a large number of other clients also utilised my services; I can provide details of these if required.

1992 - 1997: Requirements Analyst
ICS (Medical) Ltd, 12 High Street, Aberdour, Fife KY3 0SW

I ran the Scottish branch of ICS, providing pre-sales consultancy, requirements analysis, systems design, documentation, implementation, training and post-sales support to the company's Health Service clients.

For three years I was contracted by Greater Glasgow Health Board (GGHB) to investigate the requirements and to produce a design specification for a complex real-time outpatients booking system, which was developed by ICS and rolled out to Glasgow's largest hospitals.

My second major project concerned ICS's middleware product, TALK. As well as writing technical documentation and providing training in the use of this application, I implemented a number of system-to-system data exchange architectures based on TALK.

1989 - 1992: Various technical roles
Office Workstations Ltd, 2 Anderson Place, Edinburgh EH6 5NP

As a **Software Engineer** I wrote text translation routines in C that generated hypertext representations of electronic documents for presentation by OWL's hypertext applications, Guide and Guidex. My contribution to the **Research Group** included definition of an SGML Markup to support OWL's hypertext presentation software. This specification, which I called HML, anticipated the publication of the HTML and XML standards by a number of years. In the role of **Systems Engineer** I worked with Ford, Volvo, Shell Expro and British Gas.

1987 - 1988: Software Engineer
G B Techniques Ltd, Prestwick

As a PC/Novell C programmer I wrote various applications including: a multiplexing PDL system, a Digital GEM font editor involving complex bit manipulation code and data validation routines for a Tele-Ad newspaper system. I also provided customer support for GBT's complete suite of products: typesetting editors, editorial document management, wire service databases and Chelgraph and Monotype phototypesetters.

1985 - 1986: Programmer/Systems Designer
West Coast Computer Services, Paisley

I designed and wrote database applications for McDonnell-Douglas and ADDS Mentor PICK minicomputers, including Patients Fund Management and an Endowments System.

1984 - 1985: Programmer
Strathclyde Regional Council, Glasgow
COBOL, FORTRAN and BASIC programming on a Honeywell DPS8 mainframe.

1980 – 1982: Educational work
While employed in educational projects for government organisations, I developed an interest in computing during this period.

Education

SCE Higher Grade Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, English

1975 - 1979: The University of Glasgow
Upper second class Honours BSc in Botany

1983 - 1984: Caledonian University, Glasgow
SCOTBEC Postgraduate Diploma in Systems Analysis and Design

1985 - 1987 (day release): University of the West of Scotland, Hamilton
SCOTVEC Advanced Diploma in Computer Studies (with BCS Part II exemption)

Interests

I've always considered myself something of a computer enthusiast and I'm never happier than when learning about some new technology - unfamiliar territory really appeals to me. Speaking of which, I travel widely and am fortunate to have family connections in Ghana.

A major passion for me is photography, particularly macro work and photomicrography. My subject material is mainly those living things that are less familiar to the general public, such as mosses and liverworts, fungi, lichens and marine algae. My work has appeared in various publications, and some examples can be seen on my Green Light Images website: http://www.greenlight.f2s.com/photos.