Rob Lemley

Rochester, NY

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Summary

Build and Release Engineer with senior level expertise bridging Linux administration and software development. Delivered multiple Thunderbird releases weekly, built automation scripts that reduced release cycle time, and introduced MSI/MSIX packaging for all releases. Skilled in CI/CD, infrastructure optimization, and cross team collaboration. Seeking to leverage this blend of operations and engineering to accelerate product delivery and reliability.

Technical Skills

- **Languages**: Python, Bash, JavaScript, PHP
- **Systems**: Linux (Debian, Ubuntu, RHEL), Docker
- **CI/CD**: Github Actions, GitLab CI, Taskcluster
- **Monitoring**: Zabbix, Nagios
- **Packaging**: RPM, DEB, MSI, MSIX
- **Services**: Apache, Nginx, OpenLDAP, Samba
- **Version Control**: Git (GitHub, GitLab), Mercurial, SVN

Work Experience

MZLA Technologies (Mozilla Thunderbird)   2018 - 2025
Build and Release Engineer   *Remote*

- Collaborated with the Thunderbird Release manager to ship multiple Thunderbird releases in a week; prepared code, handled failures in the build and release pipelines, and wrote release notes
- Developed JavaScript web tool that identified potential bugs for promotion to beta and release channels, reducing manual triage time
- Triaged and resolved build related issues in Bugzilla, writing patches restored CI builds
- Worked with Firefox Build and Release Engineering teams to maintain Thunderbird support on shared CI infrastructure, ensuring continuous integration and delivery without downtime
- Identified and patched regressions in Thunderbird introduced by upstream Firefox changes
- Introduced MSI and MSIX packaging for Thunderbird releases, integrating them into the CI pipeline

University of Rochester, Center for Integrated Research Computing   2014 - 2017
Linux System Administrator   *Rochester NY*

- Managed a 300+ node Linux HPC cluster on RHEL, collaborating with the administration team to maintain high availability and support research workloads, minimizing job interruptions
- Administered the university GitLab server, handling user provisioning, and maintenance which allowed research code sharing across the campus
- Supported a medical research team by migrating their code repository from Subversion to GitLab, enabling faster collaboration and simplifying version control
- Optimized Zabbix monitoring and developed custom checks for Slurm metrics, improving alert accuracy and reducing downtime for compute jobs

LetsTalk.com   **2009 - 2012**

Senior System Administrator   *San Francisco CA*

- Led administration of 50+ Linux (CentOS) servers using Zabbix monitoring and Git based configuration scripts to maintain PCI compliance
- Replaced aging hardware and introduced configuration management with Bcfg2, resulting in a more stable environment and higher system reliability
- Optimized code deployment, reducing downtime to zero and deployment duration by 90%
- Ensured that Payment Card Industry (PCI) standards were met on required systems
- Tuned Xcache PHP accelerator on Apache servers, improving site load times by 300%
- Upgraded MySQL hardware on CentOS servers with minimal downtime by promoting replicas

Slide.com   **2006 - 2009**

Linux System Administrator   *San Francisco CA*

- Supported the 24x7 social and gaming platform using Ubuntu Linux, Apache, and Python during on call rotation, handling incidents promptly and maintaining 99.9% uptime
- Built LDAP (OpenLDAP), Samba domain, Zimbra, Mailman, and Request Tracker services enabling reliable authentication and email for 50+ users and cutting onboarding time by 50%
- Introduced a parallel RDist deployment process, cutting deployment time in half

Education

Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester NY

Bachelor of Science, Information Technology

Home Lab & Personal Projects

- Deployed Home Assistant with Frigate for security automation and real-time mobile alerts
- Built two voice assistant satellites on Raspberry Pi devices using HA Voice and OLlama for local speech processing
- Manage Docker-based web apps on Raspberry Pi using ZoraXY reverse proxy with automated TLS certificate renewal