

A little about myself is that in one way or another, I have been involved in computers ever since they became Desktop machines. The first computer I worked on was in the late 70's / early 80's called Compucolor II, and I even wrote a few simple programmes in Basic. During my school years, our school purchased 40 Apple IIe's which were all networked together to the "server" which had a "massive" 20MB HDD! I also attended "Computer Science" classes and wrote a few programmes in Fortran. Since then a lot has changed. My father had his own Desktop Publishing Company using the Apple Macintosh. So in one way or the other, I have always been exposed to computers.

In 1989, I started exploring the IBM Compatible computers. By 1993, and although my CV reflects that I had only been on a few computer courses at this stage, my fellow colleagues used to hound me to render assistance to them... I took the trouble to understand how a computer works with all the necessary operating system commands and various applications. And as new software and hardware came on the scene, I once again took the trouble to "know it all". The end result is that I became so efficient that we only called the IT department for their assistance when we had a hardware problem that needed replacing or if we needed access to a resource on a server that required Administrative privileges.

After attending the Turbo C++ Computer programming course, I then investigated other computer programmes. From that, I decided to write an Exchange Database programme in Clipper (something like DBase) to record all our client records. I taught myself Clipper with the aids of Norton Guides ("NG"), other example programmes, a manual, and with the kind help and guidance of a colleague.

In 1998, I had the opportunity of attending the MCSE course. After the course and outside of my normal workplace, I found myself rendering support to friends, and later on to other clients, such as the Head Office of OrionGroup and also contracted by Leon of Hattech to service SBIS (Swaziland Broadcasting and Information Services). The type of support involved was not only "fixing their computer or server or network", but I also rendered ad-hoc training. During this time, I gained a tremendous amount of industry experience.

In 2000, I started experimenting with web design, which I now thoroughly enjoy. I also still maintain my own web site. Please peruse our web site, www.ittech.co.nz, for a feel of what I can do.

At Telkom, I was actively involved with the F31 Exchange. This consisted of 5 Compaq NT4.0 Servers with 640 ports. A company called TLC was custom-writing the Oracle programme for us, and we were responsible for the upkeep and testing.

A bit on the training side during my employment with Telkom is that non-Telex Technicians working outside the Exchange and in the field were attending to Telex faults. Due to their lack of knowledge on Telex, a Telex and Telex Exchange Overview Course was subsequently arranged, and I was one of the key instructors. This not only enabled me to be aware of their various problems that they were experiencing in the field, but this also enabled me to meet new faces and do what I also enjoy: Training and Support.

Since working at Carich, I have thrived and enjoyed immensely the opportunity of being able to pass on to my students the knowledge I have gained in the industry. I have been able to give and compare practical examples of such in the classroom. As with the motto, I have been able to grow, and in return, my students have also grown. I started off as a DoC Level 5 Computer Lecturer, lecturing the A+, Network + and MCP and later was an IT Administrator and Co-ordinator (as can be seen in my Resume). From the end of September to the end of October 2003, I lectured MultiMedia – Adobe Premiere 6 – to students.

Carich went into receivership on 29th October 2003. I then resumed with further employment with Freelance Computer Services Ltd on the 5th January 2004. This is a company which provides IT Systems and Network Administration and Support to the clients and customers around New Zealand - not only in Auckland, but even as far as Christchurch on the South Island!

My primary role and enjoyable challenge with the company was to service a school, De La Salle College, which then had approximately 1000 users, which was divided between heads of students and staff. Here, I was responsible and accountable for the entire IT infrastructure. It had an IT network of about 180 computers (120 Desktops, 55 Laptops, and 5 Servers), 14 switches, 11 WLAN APs, etc. The supported Operating Systems were Windows 2000 Professional and Windows XP Professional, however there were a few Windows 98SE in the mix. All Servers were Windows 2000 - three Domain Controllers and one ISA Server.

The reason I say that it was an "enjoyable challenge" is because I enjoy and love the work I do, and a "challenge" simply because it is a school. There were some young aspiring computer gurus pushing the technology to its limits and testing the system, which, in turn, meant that I had to ensure that I was at least one step ahead!

Wishing to pursue other, and possibly newer technologies, I started further employment with Gulf Networks on 4th April 2005. Again, this is a company which provides IT Systems and Network Administration and Support to the clients and customers around New Zealand - not only in Auckland, but also as far as Rotorua, Taupo, and Wellington!

And then I was invited to be interviewed for employment by HEB Construction Ltd, a Civil Engineering Company, who are based in Drury (South Auckland). From October 2005, I have been part of the company's own in-house IT Team, and we are responsible for the entire IT infrastructure of the HEB Group of companies: HEB Construction, Marphona Farms, Green Valley Dairies, and Bruce Pulman Park Trust. The company has several hundred laptop and desktop users divided between Drury and its various offices and site offices jotted around the country. Most sites have at least switches and an ADSL connection, and PVC links have been established between Drury and the main site offices. The supported Operating Systems are Windows XP Professional and Windows 2003 Server, however there are a couple of Windows 2000 and Windows 98SE in the mix.

During my employment with HEB Construction Ltd, several changes and improvements have taken place: the change-over from a Windows 2000 domain to a Windows 2003 domain, and with that the upgrading from Exchange 5.5 to Exchange 2003, Great Plains and Reporting Services, WSUS, Citrix, etc. Not to mention the improved WAN connections which has prompted other improvements such as better deployment of company resources to remote sites, improved backup strategies, improved remote support, etc.

Yours sincerely,

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