

# Russell Ballestrini

**Builds Products - 860-333-3047**

## Summary

Executes on ideas. Unites teams through communication and compromise. Builds tools to automate and accelerate product pipelines. Engineers open source software. Bootstrapper. Founder.

## Experience

**Remind** - *Remote, 06/2017 - Present* - System Engineer

Solving problems that teachers have communicating with parents and students.

Writing code to wrangle AWS Infrastructure. Responsibilities include managing cloud costs and security, developer throughput, release pipeline, and codifying business processes with automation.

<https://www.remind.com>

**Remarkbox** - *Remote, 02/2016 - Present* - Founder

Founded and bootstrapped [Remarkbox](https://www.remarkbox.com), Hosted comment service without ads or tracking.

<https://www.remarkbox.com>

**Mobiquity** - *Remote, 06/2016 - 06/2017* - Senior System Engineer

Builds products, scales AWS infrastructure, practices DevOps.

**FireEye** - *Remote, 07/2014 - 05/2016* - DevOps Engineer

Launched FireEye's SaaS offerings running on AWS. (TAP, FIC, and CTI projects)

- **Botoform**: Architect infrastructure on AWS using YAML.
- **s3p**: Use AWS S3 as a release pipeline.

**Cars.com** - *Remote, 10/2012 - 06/2014* - System Engineer

Practiced DevOps (Development and Release Automation) with team in Santa Monica, CA.

**LinkPeek** - *Remote, 01/2012 - Present* - Founder

Founded and bootstrapped [LinkPeek](https://www.linkpeek.com), web page screenshot service.

Open sourced:

- **ago**: human readable timedeltas.
- **filevault**: A class for managing a hash directory tree of files on a filesystem.
- **miniuri**: A universal URI parser class written in 150 lines.

<https://linkpeek.com>

**CSC** - Groton CT, 08/2006 - 10/2012 - Unix System Administrator

- pushed software updates to a fleet of 10,000+ computer assets
- built tools to help the company move faster and automate reporting
- championed Kernel Virtual Machine (KVM) hypervisors to lower costs

**Hillyer Realty** - Remote, 04/2004 - 09/2007 - Technology Consultant

Engineered and operated a real estate search engine well before Zillow existed.

**Pfizer** - Groton CT, 02/2006 - 08/2006 - Desktop Support Contractor

Exceeded Customer SLA expectations.

## Education

- *Eastern Connecticut State University*, Computer Science Major, 2009 - 2012
- *Three Rivers Community College*, AS, Computer Science, 2003 - 2006

## Skills

### Programming

Admires readable and testable code. Thoroughly enjoys the process of refactoring. Python, Bash, PHP, Perl, Ruby, Go, Java, and likely others.

### Systems

Ask me about: SaltStack, Ansible, Packer, FPM, DNS (Bind9), Postfix, stacker, AWS, Boto3, SmartOS, Linux (Redhat/Debian), Docker, k8s, uWSGI, or your choice!

## Interests

- Building products: Looking forward to launching <https://www.makepostsell.com>
- Technical Blog: <https://russell.ballestrini.net/about>
- Gardening and YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/RussellBallestrini>