Russell Ballestrini

Grows Product & Services - 860-333-3047

Summary

Executes on ideas guided by vision & mission. Unites teams through communication and compromise. Grows sytems and tooling to automate & accelerate product pipelines. Engineers open source software. Bootstrapper. Founder.

Experience

Cofense - *Remote, 07/2020 - 03/2022* Senior Security Engineer

Terraform Base AWS Account Controls and User Access Management Automation. Governance, SOC2, FedRAMP environments. Reports to Director of Cloud Security. Works with scrum teams to ship product with high security integrity. Gitlab Enterprise. Okta. Python. Gitlab. DefectDojo, CloudMapper, SSM agents & documents.

Remind - *Remote, 06/2017 - 07/2020* - Lead Software Engineer

Writing code to wrangle AWS Infrastructure (Python and stacker). Responsibilities include managing cloud costs and security, developer throughput, release pipeline, and codifying business processes with automation. Stacker codebase. Cloudformation.

- https://engineering.remind.com/migrate-the-empire-to-c5/
- https://engineering.remind.com/ops-infrastructure-status-2/

Remind is a communication and education platform aiming to help every student succeed. My team ensured our critical services scaled and stayed up during distance learning during lock downs.

Linux, ECS, EC2, SQS, RDS, API, DynamoDB, Load Balancing, Guided Scale Up Environment during sars-cov-2 outbreak & distance learning, Messaging Backend Services, SRE, Incident Response, Cloud Security.

Grew a platform for the engineering teams & streams to quickly expand & scale up to go to market for our breakthrough & essential Remind Coaching & Tutoring, Emergency messaging, & more.

Make Post Sell - *Remote, 01/2019 - Present* - Founder

Founded and bootstrapped MakePostSell, provides an environment for multi tenant e-commerce shops.

Allows shop owners to sell the digital things they make—commission free

- https://www.makepostsell.com

I have open sourced the SaaS & place it into the public domain:

The codebase is Linux, Python, Pyramid, SQLAlchemy, caddy

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

Founded and bootstrapped Remarkbox, Hosted comment service without ads or tracking.

- https://www.remarkbox.com

I have open sourced the SaaS & place it into the public domain:

The codebase is Linux, Python, Pyramid, SQLAlchemy, nginx

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

Builds products, scales AWS infrastructure, practices DevOps.

Linux, AWS, RDS, MongoDB, EC2, CloudFormation, I was loaned out to help build out DevOps solutions for several of our most high profile customers.

Intedtegrate directly with the customer engineering teams to accelerate project momentum.

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

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

Linux, AWS, RDS, EC2, NodeJS, Load Balancing, DNS, nginx, TLS, loaned out to various high inititive teams to build out DevOps solutions for several of our most high profile customers internally & externally.

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

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

Linux, Python, Pyramid, PHP, SaltStack, DevOps, Jenkins, Bash, Chicago Equinix, Cisco Blade, SAN, & NAS, BigIP Load Balancing, Apache2, nginx

LinkPeek - *Remote, 01/2012 - 01/2022* - Founder

Founded and bootstrapped LinkPeek, web page screenshot service.

Open sourced:

- ago: human readable timedeltas.
- miniuri: A universal URI parser class written in 150 lines.

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
- Partnered with my peer Tara to establish a 3x data center, multi million dollar Hitachi SAN & NAS solution with disaster recovery & multi region replication, RAID & WORM

Education

- *Three Rivers Community College*, AS, Computer Science, 2003 - 2006

Skills

Programming

Admires readable and testable code. 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

- Actively Growing product: https://www.makepostsell.com
- Technical Blog: https://russell.ballestrini.net/about
- Gardening and YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/c/RussellBallestrini