Contact

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Top Skills

TFS

Visual Studio
Microsoft SQL Server

Certifications

Course MS-6214A: Effective Team Development using Microsoft Visual Studio Team System - 2/4/2009

Course MS-6215A: Implementing and Administering Microsoft Visual Studio 2008 Team Foundation Server

Course 10263A: Developing Windows Communication Foundation Solutions with Microsoft Visual Studio 2010

Security+

Publications

Learning XNA 3.0: XNA 3.0 Game Development for the PC, Xbox 360, and Zune

William Howard Brown

DevOps, Build & Release Automation, TFS/VSTS, Azure | Remote - C2C

Fort Walton Beach, Florida

Summary

In the IT business in one form or another since 2006. Started out writing C# client/server code for a Military contractor, but within a couple of years transitioned over to more of an IT Pro role and have been doing that ever since. I enjoy writing code and have been automating things in Windows since before PowerShell made it cool and easy.

My PASSION is building code and deploying it. Deployment Automation! Nowadays anyone can code but who can get that code built and out to each environment fast - all the while passing every gate: build artifacts, versioning, unit testing, automated/integrated/smoke and regression testing. Who knows how to tie it all together? I do! Who understands the workflow of moving not just "code" but all aspects of an application through environments? I do! I am here to help. I'm just a smart guy who loves a challenge.

I am completely focused on the configuration management and automation of the Microsoft stack. I love me some Azure too. It's my shiny toy! AUTOMATION RULES!!!

Remain Awesome - Howard

Experience

Bedrock Automation Inc

TFS/VSTS Architect, Azure Automation, and DevOps specialist January 2016 - Present

Destin/Fort Walton Beach, Florida Area

Bedrock is a company I started to help with the burgeoning demand for DevOps engineers. I have four consultants that I provide oversight to and guide them as a mentor on any roadblocks they encounter at their various clients. I also train them on the latest technologies, trends, and best practices. The real story is there is only so much time and way too much work. So I

decided to do something about it. I created a company and I train people; My goal is to teach DevOps.

CFA Institute

Team Foundation Server Architect November 2014 - January 2016 (1 year 3 months)

Charlottesville, Virginia Area

I designed a build and release system focusing on end to end automation - utilizing TFS and Octopus Deploy. My responsibility was to come up with a deployment strategy for a hybrid Azure and OnPrem solution. I created builds, implemented versioning, customized build templates, rewrote the PowerShell SharePoint deployment script/ecosystem, and advised them on their branch management and branching and merging strategy. I weighed various deployment automation tools and chose two for a proof of concept. After the POC we decided to go with Octopus Deploy. I don't know if it is possible to love a piece of software but I am here to tell you that I am in love. It was a pleasure to use this deployment automation tool! I also wrote a custom tool to compare server configurations which led us to choose a more complete enterprise product. We chose UpGuard (formely GuardRail) by ScriptRock. What a fantastic tool. Comparing servers and their drift over time has never been easier. And it was very extensible. I incorporated it into each deployment pre and post as well. Now they can monitor changes to the environment and keep their environments stable and clean.

c4ecare.com

Consultant - Enterprise Architect / Program Manager June 2013 - January 2016 (2 years 8 months)

I designed and implemented the entire architecture from the ground up to include parsing their existing cloud based records system into a SQL database, a new web portal capable of handling 16 clinics simultaneously, hosting solution, encryption, and SMS notification system

Vitalz

Team Foundation Server Architect / Release Manager March 2014 - November 2014 (9 months)

Tampa, Florida Area

Release Manager who in actuality is a Build Engineering, Automation Engineer, Admin, Mr Fix-It, and all around smart guy who can get things done. I handle the Team Foundation Server configuration and administration

I set up Team Foundation Build servers, Build Controllers and Build Agents, and Builds including custom Build Templates

Things break, it sucks, it is always complex and/or on Fire (important...like NOW to get it fixed) but eventually I figure it out and fix it.

I understand the TFS Security model, Object Model, Global Lists, Security groups etc...

I have used all the cool toys like: TFS Power Tools, server command line utilities, and 3rd party plug-ins, TFS object model and API, custom UIs and DLLS

I keep an eye out for architectural improvements in the build and deployment processes; like Release Management

I strive to increase the reliability and efficiency of continuous delivery objectives including the creation of custom tools utilizing the TFS API Create and maintain software builds and environments

Oversee, maintain, and troubleshoot source control repositories

Design of source tree architecture (TFS) Branching and Merging, solutions
architecture (Visual Studio)

Extensive Branch Management experience (i.e. merging code between branches)

Responsible for managing the code base of various applications across multiple branches and environments

I dive deep into the build templates to leverage NuGet, Versioning, and MS WebDeploy

Deployment:

Experience creating and maintaining an automated build and deployment process

Manage the configuration, integration, and validation of build servers and deployment servers and processes

Modify the build template to accommodate for versioning and custom deployment process

Technologies used: Team Foundation Server 2013, Team Foundation Build, Visual Studio 2013, Test Manager, Virtual Machines, MS Server 2012, MSTest, C#, LINQ, SOA, NuGet, MS Deploy, Release Management

Logisitcare

Team Foundation Server Consultant September 2014 - October 2014 (2 months)

Gainesville, Florida Area

I advised them on their Branching and Merging strategy, Build architecture, Deployment setup and strategy, Active Domain & account setup both in and out of TFS, TFS security policies and practices, TFS Architecture Design and Platform Implementation, ALM Process Mapping in TFS, Sustainment and Support

SSI Group, Mobile, AL Team Foundation Server Consultant May 2014 - May 2014 (1 month)

Brought onsite to assess and correct any deficiencies in their implementation of Team Foundation server. I advised them on their Branching and Merging strategy, Build architecture, Deployment setup and strategy, Active Domain & account setup both in and out of TFS, TFS security policies and practices, TFS Architecture Design and Platform Implementation, ALM Process Mapping in TFS, Sustainment and Support

Serve an American Express Company Team Foundation Server Architect March 2012 - March 2014 (2 years 1 month) Saint Petersburg, Florida

Responsible for Release/Build Engineering and monitoring the health of the project(s) and ensure compliance for 800+ professional developers

Own the Team Foundation Server configuration from end-to-end

Converted 220+ CruiseControl builds on one dual core server to Team

Foundation Build and expanded to 1800+ builds for 16 different environments utilizing 9 build servers with 60 build agents and customized their corresponding packaging and deployment to multiple DEV, QA, UAT, Stress, Smoke, and Dual Production environments

Proven track record troubleshooting complex environment issues TFS Security model: TFS Global Lists, groups and implemented TFS security strategies and policies

Experience with TFS Power Tools, server command line utilities, and 3rd party plugins, TFS object model and API

Drive architectural improvements in the product build and deployment processes to increase reliability and efficiency of continuous delivery objectives including the creation of custom tools utilizing the TFS API Create and maintain software builds and environments

Oversee, maintain, and troubleshoot source control repositories

Design of source tree architecture (TFS), solution architecture (Visual Studio)

Extensive Branch Management experience (i.e. merging code between branches)

Responsible for managing the code base of various applications across multiple branches and environments

Modification of build templates to utilize NuGet, Versioning, and Web Deploy

Deployment:

Experience creating and maintaining an automated build and deployment process

Manage the configuration, integration, and validation of build servers and deployment servers

Modify the build template to accommodate for custom deployment process

Technologies used: Team Foundation Server 2012, Team Foundation Build, Visual Studio 2012, Test Manager, Virtual Machines, MS Server 2008R2, MSTest, C#, LINQ, SOA

TYBRIN Corporation

Team Foundation Server Administrator / Software Systems Engineer December 2008 - February 2012 (3 years 3 months)

Valparaiso, FL

What it is: Patriot Excalibur (PEX) is unit-level software "squadron" automation tool that coordinates the activities of military flying squadrons for Flight scheduling, Aircraft Maintenance, Qualification/Continuation training, and management of Aircrew Standardization and Evaluation program. Patriot Excalibur is operational in over 680 units worldwide including AF, Special Ops and US Army, and allied militaries

Responsible for the engineering and monitoring the health of the project and ensuring compliance for 100+ professional developers including two offsite development teams using Team Foundation Server 2010 and MS Build as a Team Foundation Server SME (subject matter expert)

- Own the Team Foundation Server configuration from end-to-end
- Experience deploying, managing, and supporting TFS Server in a 24x7 production environment
- Responsible for managing the code base and software build environments of multiple applications across multiple branches and environments, merging code, and resolving merge conflicts

Technologies used: Entity Framework 4.0, NUnit, MSTest, C#, LINQ, SOA, SQL Server 2008R2, MS Build, Silverlight RIA services, Visual Studio 2010, Team Foundation Server 2010, Lab Manager, Virtual PC, Hyper-V

inContact Software Developer October 2008 - December 2008 (3 months) Salt Lake City, UT

Created custom web controls and charts used in client facing web pages Coded and debugged project throughout its entire development lifecycle

ThetaTraders.com
Project Manager / Software Developer
July 2008 - December 2008 (6 months)
Murray, Utah

What it is: Web application using charts and stock market analysis techniques devoted to giving recommendations on when to execute trades on stock options Website tracks user's current trades and their performance history for past trades

Programmed advanced calculus algorithms and automated time delay stored procedures to parse incoming options after the stock market closed

Responsible for nightly production builds and deployment using Visual Studio 2008, installed on a development staging server and installing updates/ patches to our customers via remote logins

Utilizing: C#, ASP.NET, dotNETCharting, LINQ, XML, MS SQL 2005, .NET 3.5, Visual Studio 2008, MS Build, Tortoise SVN

Cyclops Media Remote
Project Manager / Software Developer
April 2008 - September 2008 (6 months)
Salt Lake City, UT

Managed a team of 7 people

Responsible for all Design & Documentation

Specialized in UI Design and Application Architecture

Presented project at conferences and worked with school officials to make the project into an internal ongoing project

Sox-R-Us Software Developer January 2008 - March 2008 (3 months) Salt Lake City, UT

Converted JSP/Servlet Framework to Spring Framework Enhanced database design to handle additional features Learned and applied Aspect Oriented Programming

UPX Inc.

Project Manager / Software Developer October 2007 - December 2007 (3 months) Salt Lake City, UT

Project Manager for a team of 5 people
Responsible for all Design & Documentation
Software Development

PerksResort Online Reservation System Software Developer July 2007 - September 2007 (3 months) Salt Lake City, UT

Implemented the use of new technology (Orcas Beta 2)
Documentation
Designed, coded, and maintained activities system
Tested and debugged the application

Fix-A-Wreck Software Developer April 2007 - June 2007 (3 months) Salt Lake City, UT

Part of a team of 3 developers

Wrote all documentation

Designed, coded, and maintained parts tracking system, project schedule, resource allocation

Tested and debugged the application

Education

Neumont University

Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Computer Science · (2006 - 2008)

Northwest Florida State College

Electrical Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering · (2003 - 2006)