

# Curriculum Vitae

## Personal Details

Name: Nigel Gibbs  
Location: Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, UK

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## Expertise

Linux (CentOS, Redhat, Debian/Ubuntu)  
CM (Puppet/Ansible/Chef/Salt)  
DB Admin (MySQL, PgSQL, Sybase)  
Proven Leadership

AWS, vSphere/vCloud, Vagrant, Docker, Terraform  
Scripting (Ruby, Python, BASH, PERL, Powershell)  
Architecture Design  
Communication Skills

## Qualifications and Professional Memberships<sup>1</sup>

Puppet Certified Professional 2017  
Certified ScrumMaster  
VMware VCP 5.5  
Microsoft MCSE, MCT, MCS D  
Novell MCNI, MCNE  
Citrix CCA, CCI

PRINCE2 Foundation  
Member Institute of Engineering and Technology  
Chartered IT Professional, Member BCS  
PGDip Human Resource Management  
PGDip IT Management  
BA Information Technology

## Career History

**February 2014 – Present: Independent IT contractor, various locations  
DevOps Consultant**

- (December 2017 - present) | Working with the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) to build cloud infrastructure on **AWS using Terraform and Puppet** to host various public facing pension services such as *Check Your State Pension* and *Get Your State Pension*.
- (November 2016 - present) | Working with Innovate UK on behalf of M4 Managed Services to **define, implement, manage and maintain Cloud infrastructure**. Working with suppliers and other Stakeholders to ensure fit for service architecture/processes are implemented. Building and configuring new server platforms and infrastructure using Terraform, Ansible and Kubernetes/OpenShift on AWS. Identification and development of resources to establish a sustainable internal capability for long term DevOps and hosting needs.
- (August 2016 - November 2016) | Spent 4 months with the .GOV.UK Pay team at Government Digital Services (GDS) on behalf of Kainos. **Helped build a scalable payments platform using Terraform, Chef and Ansible with Docker around Jenkins on AWS.**
- (January 2016 - July 2016) | Spent 6 months (3 months + 2 extensions) with NHSBSA as DevOps Consultant on behalf of IndigoBlue Consulting. To engender a DevOps culture I formed a scrum team using the client's own previously siloed resources and led them through the design and implementation of a **greenfields CI/CD system based around GitLabCI, Terraform and Ansible in the Skyscape vCloud.**
- (April 2015 - October 2015) | Spent 6 months (3 months + 1 extension) with UCAS as Puppet SME floating between 8 SCRUM teams. Devised scalable masterless implementation on AWS. **Extensive remediation work on estate of over 100 Puppet modules.** Wrote a Windows Webfarm custom type/provider in Ruby and Powershell.
- (February 2014 - April 2015) | Spent 13 months (6 month + 2 extensions) with Symantec.cloud. Implemented configuration management using **Python**, and later **masterless Puppet** in very constrained environments.

**March 2012 – January 2014: NTT Com Security AG, Theale, Reading, Berkshire, UK  
Senior Linux Engineer, DevOps**

NTT is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest IT Services Company in the world.

- **Writing puppet modules** and manifests, both in PE and Puppet open-source.
- **Writing automation scripts** in BASH, PERL, Ruby and Python.
- **Linux build and configuration management** using RedHat/CentOS with Cobbler and Puppet

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<sup>1</sup>some of which may have expired

- **Provided a consistent and stable platform for NTT Com Sec's market leading Managed Security Service** working as a strong team player and great communicator within the DevOps team.
- **Project Manager for a data centre migration with a budget of £1M.** Led the design and implementation of a security focused scalable enterprise class physical and virtual infrastructure.

***June 2009 – February 2012: LexisNexis / Moreover Technologies Inc, Dayton, Ohio, USA  
DevOps Engineer***

Moreover harvest over 2.5 million articles and posts per day. Enterprise clients use the award winning Newsdesk product to gain strategic business intelligence from this enormous up to the minute database of media monitoring.

- **Headed up the Infrastructure team, building and managing around 400+ physical and virtual Linux servers** spread across 4 locations in the USA, UK and in Amazon AWS/EC2 cloud.
- **Designed and implemented a scalable enterprise class VMware vSphere solution with tiered Equallogic SAN storage** to drastically reduce data centre footprint and hosting costs while simplifying management. Achieved a p2v ratio of 25:1.
- **Planned, managed and led the migration of Moreover's New Jersey data centre to Dayton Ohio** without any significant downtime.
- **Standardised VM builds on RHEL/CentOS 64-bit Linux installations using Kickstart scripts over PXE (Cobbler).**
- **Working closely with the development team in an Agile development environment** providing in-house platform and application support which includes supporting Linux, SQL, Java, PERL, Apache, Nagios, Cacti, etc.

***March 2008 – June 2009: Independent IT contractor, various locations***

- **VMware ESX, SANs and Linux/Windows Server deployments** on behalf of PCI Services Ltd.
- **RHEL5 Clustering/SAN implementations** and support on behalf of NCS PLC & Moreover Technologies.
- **Business Continuity Planning consultations** to the NHS and various service and manufacturing organisations. Pre-sales virtualisation consultations and implementations on behalf of ITPS Ltd.

***January 2003 - February 2008: IT Professional Services Ltd, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, UK  
Data Centre Manager***

ITPS is a leading North East based IT VAR/solutions house with a well-established client base throughout the UK. The company had 75 staff and turned over around £8.5M. My role enabled me to both further develop my management skills and still remain hands-on.

- **Developed the Data Centre architecture almost from scratch** under very broad objectives from company directors, to a well respected tier-2 (TIA-942) facility spread over 3 geographical locations, housing 200+ servers and for 50+ customers with 5 dedicated engineers.
- **Designed and deployed significant solutions architecture** for ITPS and their clients.
- **Greatly improved uptime and service levels** for ITPS Data Centre customers by facilitating 24-hour support and introducing automated monitoring and alerting systems.
- **Managed many substantial consultancy projects** from inception, through to roll-out and sign-off on schedule and to budget. Some clients include GAC Shipping, the NHS and Swissport.
- **Built a formidable 3<sup>rd</sup> line support team by training and mentoring junior staff.** Held regular performance appraisals, career planning, and training needs analysis.
- **Additionally, I introduced HRM to the organisation** adopting a strategic approach to human resource matters company-wide. I held the position of HR Manager as well as Data Centre manager for the latter 2 years of this appointment.

***March 2001 - June 2002: VeriSign Inc, Doxford International, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear, UK  
Engineering Production Manager***

VeriSign had a market cap of \$8 billion and employed over 4000 people in 15 countries. It was the market leader in Internet security services, DNS and electronic commerce over the Internet.

Although a managerial position, this role enabled me to stay very much 'hands-on'. I frequently built and administered systems and developed code/scripts when required.

- **Increased VeriSign's commercial presence** by leading the Production Team in working with project sponsors and developers on the full software development life cycle of the internationalisation and roll out of many pan-European Internet storefronts.
- **Achieved an SLA uptime of 99.99%** by designing, implementing and operating a 24-hour monitoring system of all business critical systems using Deep Matrix IP monitor with C, ASP and MS SQL Server.
- **Secured revenue streams** by installing, maintaining and ensuring constant operational and security states of all customer-facing Internet systems including racks.

**Oct 2000 - March 2001: Domainnames.com, Doxford International, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear, UK  
Projects Manager**

- **Managed IT projects** to completion on time and to budget.

**1992 - 2000: MTC Computer Training & Consultancy, Tyne & Wear  
Senior IT Consultant/Trainer**

- Delivered many official curriculum courses targeted at System Managers and IT Professionals in corporate IT departments.

**1986 - 1992: MARI, Tyne & Wear  
Software Training Officer**

- Developed and delivered training courses in SDLC management, C, PASCAL and Unix Shell Scripts.

## **Hobbies**

I have a passion for technology both at work and at home. I enjoy some gaming but also trying out new technologies in my lab. I often contribute to open-source projects on GitHub and I once released an open-source LDAP client written in Java called Phuzby. I enjoy relaxing with my family and friends, watching movies and exploring the outdoors.

## **Updates**

Grab the latest version from my website:

<http://cv.gibbsoft.com>