Zane Minninger

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Summary

Senior systems administrator and systems engineer for hybrid Azure and VMware infrastructure, holding 99.9% uptime for 3,000+ users across 600+ virtual servers. Designed and built Azure Site Recovery disaster recovery from scratch (5-minute RPO), led the Rubrik backup build-out, rebuilt an entire environment after a ransomware attack, and cut vulnerability remediation effort about 75% with scripted, AI-assisted triage. On call in every role.

Experience

Qualia (formerly Ramquest / OP2 Solutions), Plano, TX August 2021 – Present

Systems Administrator II / Operations Analyst, OP2 Solutions / Qualia January 2024 – Present

Systems Administrator II, Ramquest August 2021 – December 2023

- **Held 99.9% uptime for 3,000+ users** across **600+ virtual servers** on Dell Compellent storage, including about 350 Citrix application servers cloned from a single unchanging gold image.
- **Protected 24 critical servers at a 5-minute RPO** (6-hour RTO target) by designing and building Azure Site Recovery disaster recovery from scratch across VMware, Hyper-V, and physical servers.
- **Kept SQL Server at high availability** on failover clusters spanning on-prem and Azure (previously two data centers), moving quorum from a file share witness to dedicated witnesses, with failover tested every year.
- **Cut the backup window by a third (24 → 16 hours)** by leading the Rubrik backup and cloud replication build-out.
- **Cut vulnerability remediation effort about 75%** with triage scripts that group Security's scattered Rapid7 tickets into shared issues, fixed at scale through SCCM, Group Policy, or PowerShell instead of machine by machine. AI drafts the scripts; each is reviewed before it runs.
- **Saved about 15 hours a week** by rebuilding SCCM patch management and lifecycle automation in PowerShell.
- **Rolled out about 300 thin clients** for a client by leading the deployment and the Citrix upgrade behind it.

The Beck Group, Dallas, TX June 2016 – August 2021

Senior Systems Administrator

- **Kept about 500 office employees and dozens of construction job sites running** as a two-person infrastructure team. Each site's server, router, and WAP replicated data home over fiber, cable, DSL, or infrared.
- **Rebuilt the company's infrastructure from the ground up after a ransomware attack** and full system compromise.
- Delivered VDI desktops for high-end graphics users on Dell Compellent SAN storage, provisioning LUNs, RAID levels, and VMware datastores.
- Rolled out MFA and hardened systems, keeping server and appliance firmware current.
- Moved development into **Azure** and completed a data center migration and an office migration.

OpenText (formerly Daegis), Irving, TX January 2014 – June 2016

Senior Systems Administrator

- **Kept Daegis running as its sole IT administrator for 6 months** before the OpenText acquisition, and documented systems that had never been recorded.
- **Moved an entire data center from California to Texas with zero hardware failures** by unracking, trucking, re-racking, and restoring every server. Then retired unused Exchange and Unix servers.

Baker Botts L.L.P., Dallas, TX March 2012 – January 2014

Network Administrator / NOC Engineer

- Patched **2,500+ Windows servers** with SCCM 2012 across ten U.S. and international offices and data centers.
- Stood up VMware and shared storage across those sites, plus Windows and CentOS servers.

Earlier experience

First Command Financial Planning, Fort Worth, TX August 2004 – March 2012

Lead, 3rd Shift Technical Support

Overnight monitoring of bank systems and backups, multi-site servers and Citrix, SQL and AS/400 client checks, and nightly status reporting for remote offices.

Linch Computer/Network Services, Plano, TX March 2003 – August 2004
Computer Engineer
Server and workstation support for small and mid-size businesses.

Just Technical Associates, Dallas, TX October 2002 – March 2003
Desktop Support and Move Coordinator
Desktop support at Children's Medical Hospital and PC move coordination.

Buchanan Associates, Irving, TX September 1998 – July 2002
Contract technician through junior project roles
Desktop support for 4,000+ PCs at Bell Helicopter and 12,000+ at TXU, a rollout to 100+ remote sites, and a technician team for 400+ TXU business moves.

Home Lab and Projects

On my own time and my own hardware.

- Home network on UniFi with IoT and guest VLANs, a WireGuard VPN, and local DNS. A Fedora rack server with a RAID-Z2 ZFS pool on SMART-tested disks and IPMI management, plus a Synology NAS.
- Monitoring and backups on systemd timers: a daily status email and failure alerts, a self-healing USB watchdog, and nightly backups with 30-day versions that halt if the source suddenly loses half its files.
- An always-on AI agent split across two hosts, with a daily copy between them and a written failover procedure. About 100 runbooks and system notes, each with an audit date and source. Code is kept in private Git repositories.
- Software projects: Android apps in Kotlin and Jetpack Compose, local-first web apps in TypeScript and Svelte, and a self-hosted multi-user Node.js service in Docker with versioned saves and encrypted backups.

Skills

Infrastructure. Windows Server, Linux (Red Hat, CentOS), Active Directory, Entra ID, Group Policy, DNS, DHCP, DFS
Virtualization and cloud. VMware vSphere (ESXi, HA), Hyper-V, Citrix (load balanced), VDI, Azure, Azure Site Recovery
Applications. Microsoft 365, Exchange Online, Exchange, SQL Server failover clustering
Endpoints and security. SCCM, Intune, patch management, vulnerability management (Rapid7), CrowdStrike, MFA
Backup, disaster recovery, and business continuity. Rubrik, Veeam, Exagrid, ransomware recovery, failover testing
Enterprise storage. Dell Compellent SAN (LUNs, RAID, VMware datastores), Dell PowerEdge; evaluated Pure Storage
Networking. TCP/IP, VLANs, switch configuration, Checkpoint, Fortinet, and Cisco ASA firewalls, VPN, WireGuard, UniFi
Automation. PowerShell, Bash, Terraform (basic infrastructure as code), AI-assisted scripting with review
Software projects. Kotlin, Jetpack Compose, TypeScript, Svelte, Node.js, Docker, Git
Monitoring and operations. Splunk, SolarWinds, performance monitoring, troubleshooting, on-call, documentation
IT service management. Change management, incident management, post-incident reviews, SOC 2, Jira, Freshservice

Education

DeVry Technical Institute, Irving, TX — Bachelor of Science, Computer Science / Technical Management
Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX — Computer Science studies and campus network support