

# TRAVIS BEST

System Administrator/ Programmer

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## Highlight of Qualifications

- Understanding of VFX production environment and cross-platform issues
- Extensive knowledge of both hardware and software pertaining to VFX
- Experience working with multiple in-house departments and offices internationally, including establishing and maintaining temporary offices for on-set purposes
- Experience in successfully relocating, rebuilding and maintaining company render farm, work stations and network at Prime Focus Visual Effects Vancouver's new studio
- 10+ years programming of C/C++, experience with javascript, and VB
- Ability to communicate effectively and patiently with users on both technical and policy issues
- Strong analytical and time management skills, attention to detail, and works well under pressure

## Skillset

### *Computer Attributes*

- C++, C#, Flash 8, Visual Basic, JavaScript, HTML, Python, Perl
- Visual Studio 2003/2005, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Access, Outlook, Visio)
- Installation, troubleshooting, networking, and network maintenance
- Extensive knowledge of DOS, Windows 3.1 – 7, Mac OS 9 & X, Novel 5.0, Solaris, Linux/Unix, FreeBSD, and Open BSD

### *Programming*

- Graphics (DirectX 9 including checking card caps, viewports, loading/viewing/texturing models, and shader programming), Visual Studio 2003/2005, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Access, Outlook, Visio)
- Data Processing (prototyping, sort methods, proxy). Extensive knowledge of DOS, Windows 3.1 – 7, Mac OS 9 & X, Novel 5.0, Solaris, Linux/Unix, FreeBSD, and Open BSD
- AI (path prediction, obstacle detection)
- Networking (client-server, error handling)
- Game Engines (Source: camera, weapons; Unreal 2: game modes, vehicles, weapons; Neverwinter Nights/Warcraft – mapping tools/scripting; Phoenix – mission scripts)
- Tools (Maya 7 directX, .x format importer/exporter, XML-based tile map builder)

## **Networking**

- Network cabling and trouble shooting (transmission line theory, LAN system types and topology, installation guides. Focus on Ethernet)
- Data Communications (data link concepts, character codes, transfer protocols, error detection and correction, modulation techniques)
- Wide Area Networking (OSI model; focused on TCP/IP. Developed WAN networks, programmed Cisco routers)

## **Operating Systems**

- Novell 5.0 (NDS structure for the network, user script files, security rights on files and directories, print services, console commands and establishing TCPIIP within network)
- Windows 3.1 - Windows 7 (installation, network configuration, create users/groups rights and shares, create scripts and profiles, set up print services, install active directory services and RAID systems.)
- Mac OS 9 & X (installation, network configuration, user rights/shares)
- UNIX/Linux FreeBSD/OpenBSD/Solaris (installation, system commands, mail utility, VI, child/parent processes, disk storage, rights, security, printing, and communication between users covered.)
- CompTIA's A+ certification - part of the Cisco Academy series of "Sponsored Curriculum"

## **Education**

04.06 - 09.07	<b>Visual And Game Programming:</b> Diploma Arts Institute Of Vancouver; Burnaby, B.C.
09.01 - 12.03	<b>Computer Engineering Technology:</b> Diploma Red River College; Winnipeg, Manitoba
09.97 - 06.00	<b>Computer Science, Networking:</b> High School River East Collegiate; Winnipeg, Manitoba

## **Work Experience**

01.08 – Present	<b>Prime Focus VFX:</b> Vancouver, BC <i>VFX Systems Administrator;</i> Render farm maintenance/management, system maintenance/rebuilding, networking, system distribution/update development, system tool development, login and server security maintenance and distribution for 80+ staff Configuring Fusion/Max/Photoshop/Nuke & related plug-ins, license and FTP servers, process documentation, remote site administration
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- 08.07 - 12.07  
01.07 - 05.07      **John Gajdecki Productions:** North Vancouver, BC  
*VFX Systems Administrator;*  
Configuring Fusion/Maya license server, FTP server, system maintenance including rebuilds, networking for 15+ staff
- 06.05 - 03.06      **Convergys:** Winnipeg, Manitoba  
*Customer Support Representative;*  
Password resets, troubleshooting internet connection/speed, e-mail issues
- 09.04 - 03.05      **Great West Life:** Winnipeg, Manitoba  
*IT Help Desk;*  
Password resets, program & network troubleshooting
- 12.03 - 04.04      **Diversions Entertainment:** Panama City Beach, FL  
*Tech Support (remote);*  
Game play, installation issues, bugs, online support
- 01.02 - 12.03      Beta Tester; bug tracking, error reporting, stress tests, team organization

## References

Available upon request