Mark Christensen

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Overview

An engineer who is enthusiastic about data and software development, looking for opportunities to match my skills to the needs of an organization in which I can make a difference in the organization and its mission. I take my work seriously, but not myself.

Skills and Buzzwords

- Tableau Developer and Site Administration - 8 years of experience
- Data Integration and ETL with Pentaho Kettle (PDI) - 10 years of experience
- Database developer - MongoDB (10 years), Oracle SQL (5 years), MySQL(10 years), SQL Server (1 year)
- Language Fluency: SQL (15 years), Pentaho Kettle (10 years), PHP (6 years), Java (4 years), APIs, Python (newbie)
- Training users to become more effective with their data. I'm an evangelist for ad-hoc reporting. I enjoy creating tutorial videos and teaching users.
- Appreciates the engineering side of data and software (documentation, version control, deployment management, project management, etc)
- Eternally curious and learning about a wide range of topics, constantly reading or listening to new books and podcasts on a wide range of topics and technologies

Experience

Jostens (2015 - Present) - Senior Data Integration Developer
Business Intelligence Team (2019 - Present)

- Tableau Site Administrator
  - Responsible for site administration of on-premise servers - 180 licensed users
  - Designed and implemented
    - Site security allowing for certified and ad-hoc content
    - Active Directory based user licensing
    - Stand-alone data source strategy for ad-hoc and certified workbooks
    - Row level security for highly sensitive dashboards
    - Access to Tableau Repository (Postgres) for usage metrics and other "behind the scenes" metrics
    - A system to, on a daily basis, pull data from a 3rd party API and populate an Oracle database table so the data could be used for reporting purposes
  - Responsible for production deployment of workbooks and data sources
  - Primary "go-to" resource for all things Tableau at Jostens
- Tableau Developer
  - In addition to site admin, developed and assisted with the development of a

variety of workbooks

Integration Team (2015 - 2019)

- Assisted with development of data integration for digital marketing reporting data, creation of numerous Tableau workbooks, and assisted digital marketing team in developing ad-hoc Tableau development skills
- Implemented a system to use product order information to create customer profiles which were then uploaded to a 3rd party email Saas vendor to significantly simplify the effort to create targeted email campaigns. The system was implemented using Pentaho PDI (Kettle), Oracle databases, MongoDB databases, and plain old SFTP.

CaringBridge (2005 - 2015)

Business Intelligence Engineer (2010 - 2015)

- Responsible for the entire Pentaho based BI system (end to end) including:
  - System installation, maintenance, and administration on Linux based Pentaho BI servers
  - ETL from MongoDB, Microsoft SQL, MySQL, Excel, Saas API's, and other data sources using Pentaho PDI (Kettle) and PHP scripts. Frequently processed data sets with tens of millions of records.
  - InfiniDB (a MySQL engine) column-oriented data warehouse database
  - Ad-hoc, dashboard, and traditional reporting created with Pentaho Analyzer Reports, Report Designer, and Dashboard tools
- Created automated data cleansing tool for donation processing data
- Trained staff of the use of BI tools to permit them to use self-service, drag-and-drop reporting tools
- Created training videos to supplement staff education

Software Engineer (2005 - 2010)

- Java and PHP development for CaringBridge web application running on a Linux, Apache, MySQL stack.
- Wrote and maintained reports with Microsoft Reporting Services
- Broad range of technical "whatever needs to be done" to support the mission of the organization

Stay At Home Dad (2002 - 2005)

The "best gig ever!"

Contract Software Engineer - Encasa, Inc - President/Prime Minister

Contract software engineer creating Windows and web-based applications using primarily C, C++, and Microsoft Foundation Class (MFC). Contracts ranging from 6 months to several years for:

- Fisher-Rosemount - flow measurement
- Soffit Group - website creation
- NCS Pearson - scanned document processing
- Access Management - legal document processing
- 3M - SCSI based tape backup systems

Electrical Engineer
Variety of small electronics systems designed and manufactured for
- Datakey - portable memory devices shaped like traditional keys
- CIC Systems - prepaid electric metering systems
- Breamar - small system tape drives

Education
Bachelor of Electrical Engineering - University of Minnesota - emphasis on digital design and software - all that math has made it easier to tinker with machine learning
Licensed Professional Engineer (expired)

Interests
Dad/Husband - 4 fabulous kids and an amazing wife
Online content creation
- MarkChristensen.com - miscellaneous thoughts, comments, and blathering
- youtube.com/user/bidimensions - Pentaho Kettle (PDI) videos
- Bidimensions.teachable.com - free Pentaho Kettle (PDI) mini-course
Electronics - Maker Movement - Amateur Radio (WB0VBG)
Internet Marketing - tinkerings with helping lower the barrier of entry to technology