

# Mikel King

## SUMMARY

Hands on technical leader with 10+ years of experience managing diverse environments in the global market space. Agile change agent with experience managing sophisticated projects across vast geographical boundaries negotiating support from all business and operations stake holders. Expert at maximizing resource, planning and leveraging a broad base of skills to solve the most vexing infrastructure issues, while enhancing and efficiently overseeing mission critical projects.

## EXPERIENCE

### **Director of WordPress Development, Trusted Media Brands, INC**

2013-Present

I lead a geographically dispersed team of 12 WordPress developers, 3 DevOps, 4 QA engineers and 5 Product owners, who maintain all of the company's online magazine web properties, services and mobile apps. The team has successfully converted the remaining high profile .Net sites including [tasteofhome.com](http://tasteofhome.com) and [familyhandyman.com](http://familyhandyman.com) to WordPress and relaunched our flagship site [rd.com](http://rd.com). In addition the team migrated the company's international sites from the legacy Drupal systems into our WordPress MultiSite cluster. Together these sites account for over 3 billion page views annually.

- Implemented a Jenkins CI based development process loosely based on gitflow requiring peer code review and build processing with phpcs and unit testing
- Designed and launch a new premium DFP/GPT ad stack solution for ALL properties
- Launched a mid-tier QA deployment stage to allow the efficient vetting of new code prior to production release
- Developed numerous custom RSS, MRSS, ANP and JSON content feeds for strategic partnerships
- Designed a new caching directive layer to better utilize and fine tune CDN caching
- Implemented rabbitMQ based micro-services to decouple WordPress from internal web services and systems achieving an nearly a 85% improvement in form processing
- Created new social sharing functionality by developing a custom plugin utilizing the Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Pinterest and Google APIs
- Implemented ElasticSearch as both a replacement for the builtin WordPress site search and web server log analysis
- Designed and implemented an optimized ad stack improving the efficiency of our ad systems by 30%
- Integrated Blackfire to monitor the page load performance
- Improved page load times by reorganizing the loading sequence of JavaScript assets
- Integrated with the Adobe Analytics and Google Analytics
- Aggressively grew to the current team of 19 from the original 2 developers in the last 11 months

### **WordPress Project Manager/Lead Developer, Etsy, INC**

2012-2013

Led the extensive year long project overhauling Ety's LAMP stack based WordPress blogs in an extreme Agile/Scrum hands on continuous deployment environment using git, chef and custom scripting. Ultimately this series of projects resulted in many improvements including enhanced site reliability and a greatly improved user experience.

- Improved performance with Memcached and APC caching
- Increased international reach to 8 new languages by coding a custom WordPress plugin to support content sharing across our hosted sites
- Managed the company's Google Analytics systems
- Refactored the WordPress theme and plugins to work with the companies new HTTPS only user requirements as well as coded the necessary support for SSL caching
- Added two new CDNs to the WordPress store schema
- Created a system for tracking deployed installed and activated plugins to ensure the integrity of our security systems.

## **VP of Systems Engineering, Walker Digital Table Systems, LLC**

2010-2011

Built a talented team to work on the company's embedded RFID based gaming solution. Work closely with all stake holders to deploy the backend Linux server tier 2 months ahead of schedule as well as the subsequent round of embedded Linux table systems. Led my team to overcome the challenges associated with a customer supplied infrastructure.

- Designed custom open source system monitoring solutions with advanced BASH & PHP scripting combined with MySql and PostgreSql backends.
- Designed and implemented a data synchronization system on top of AWS to enable faster product deployments
- Consulted with vendors and equipment suppliers to provide highly specialized hardware for the embedded table systems
- Minimized international support personnel by driving extreme cost cutting initiatives through the utilization system automation solutions like puppet and custom monitoring applications
- Directed and managed the company's installation efforts throughout Malaysia & China
- Negotiated strategic partnerships with international manufacturers and vendors
- Led a highly skilled team to develop high security embedded UNIX solutions for the Casino and Gaming industry

## **Owner & President, Olivent Technologies, LLC**

2008-Present

Founded this professional services consulting firm setting the general company direction delivering unique solutions to a diverse client base. Maintained profitability every year since the company's launch by negotiating strategic partnerships with key vendors and leveraging existing alliances.

- Designed and deployed customer facing WordPress sites with custom options written in PHP
- Reduced expenses by 50%, consolidating colocation services and corporate infrastructure resources
- Lowered server hosting and energy costs 25% by deploying virtualization solutions
- Sarbanes-Oxley and HIPAA Compliancy at applicable client sites
- Cut client travel costs by 80% through the implementation of video conferencing solutions
- Improved client satisfaction 30% through the use of social networking and marketing technologies like Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook using sound SEO & SEM practices
- Deployed sophisticated network switching core on 10G fiber optic backbone
- Implemented a sophisticated centralized logging solution for monitoring network attached devices
- Built complex networks of unifying Microsoft ActiveDirectory and Mac OS X OpenDirectory for seamless single sign-on
- Deployed Nagios, establishing consistent equipment monitoring throughout the client base.

## **Chief Information and Technology Officer, Tech Alliance, INC.**

1998-2009

Led a highly skilled technical team of infrastructure engineers, software designers and support technicians as well as al ISP operations. Delivered a wide range of services to our 400 plus business client in the NYC metro area. Cutting costs through strategic COLO consolidations, VOIP phone initiatives and custom hosted LAMP stack SAAS projects written in PHP.

- Directed all network operations personnel, equipment and the application development teams including off shore outsourcing while presiding over the \$15,000,000 budget.
- Turned underperforming hosting enterprise into a profitable service
- Cut operating costs and improved operating efficiencies through equipment consolidations
- Improved response time, reliability and customer satisfaction by implementing an in house training program
- Successfully guided the company through three colocation facility relocations and migrations on time and under budget

## **CERTIFICATIONS**

Panasonic Security Systems, Adtran Firewall and VPN Admin, Adtran Routing and Switching Systems, 3Com NBX VOIP Phone Systems, Cisco Routing and Switching Systems, Cisco Firewall and VPN Concentrator Implementation, Netware System Administration, Certified HP/Compaq Systems Field Engineer, A+ Certified Windows Technician, C Programming

USCG- Senior Officer Leadership and Management, Hazardous Waste Operator Management 40 hour US CFR 19 HAZWOPR, Lighthouse Engineering Systems and Maintenance, Prime Programmer Debugging for FORTRAN and C, Systems Management Training, Electronics Technical Training

BSA- Cub Master, Unit Commissioner, Bachelors Commission Leadership, Youth Protection, Hazardous Weather Safety

## **MEMBERSHIPS AND ORGANIZATIONS**

- FIRST Robotics Team 329 - Mentor 3 years
- WordCamp NYC - Lead Organizer 2 years and Sponsorship Liaison 1 year
- WordPress NYC MeetUp - Organizer
- WordPress LI MeetUp - Organizer
- American Legion - Served as the Adjutant Officer of the Medford Post
- Member of the Moose Lodge
- Boy Scouts of America - Unit Commissioner overseeing 3 Cub Scout packs and 1 Boy Scout troop.
- BSD Certification Group- Serving as Secretary for nearly 4 years as well as a SME (Subject Matter Expert) on the examination board

## **AWARDS AND CITATIONS**

While on active duty I earned several citations. The following is a brief overview of two;

- Received the US Coast Guard Commandants Letter of Commendation for saving three other service members' lives after a helicopter crash aboard a Ambrose Lighthouse seven miles off the shore of NY and NJ.
- Awarded the US Coast Guard Commendation Medal for outstanding project management of the Lighthouse Maintenance program at the Aids to Navigation Team in NY.

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Created the BASH Library Project: <https://github.com/mikelking/blp>

Created the BACON Framework: <https://github.com/mikelking/bacon>

Author of technical How To posts: <http://jafdip.com>

Curator for: <http://BSDNews.net>