

Leonardo D. Vargas

ldvargas@leonsnet.cc | 609-234-4857 | <https://leonsnet.cc>

Summary / Professional Profile

Highly motivated IT professional with 7 years of progressive experience. Focused on ensuring security, availability, and reliability stemming from a strong foundation in cyber security and systems engineering. Passionate about leveraging emerging technologies to solve functional problems, challenge the status quo, and drive innovation.

Experience

Systems Engineer | Ellucian | Mar 2022 – Present

- Led the migration from Google Workspaces & Onelogin to Microsoft 365 & Entra including migrating users, SSO, and functional processes such as onboarding within 6 months. Created a project outline and kept stakeholders informed on the status of the project.
- Created a real time data warehouse from our ERP database, creating API endpoints to pull data from multiple platforms and aggregating within a Postgres database cluster for reporting use by Administrative staff.
- Planned out and performed in-place OS upgrade from RHEL 7 to RHEL 8 for our ERP server containing critical data, ensuring no software conflicts and that all previously added repositories were migrated successfully. This was done after hours to minimize downtime and mitigated the End of Life for RHEL 7.
- Led the migration from VMware to Hyper-V including the deployment and configuration of two highly available, all flash, virtualization clusters using Dell hardware consisting of 10 compute nodes and two redundant storage nodes on a 25GbE network.
- Developed an automated workflow tool in Python to manage user accounts across 3 different platforms. Used APIs from each platform to extract user data, make changes to the user, and then load the data back to each platform. This streamlined the previous manual process and reduced the average account reset ticket time from 10 minutes to 3-5 minutes.
- Implemented a new logging solution consisting of Elasticsearch and Wazuh (SIEM) to provide a cost-effective solution to log aggregation, replacing a static syslog server. This system collected logs from all our servers (Windows & Linux) as well as from our switches and firewalls and greatly improved our security posture, reducing our incident response time.

Systems Administrator | Strategic Micro Systems | Mar 2021 – Mar 2022

- Provided IT and software support to a diverse client base, spanning industries from financial trading to healthcare across the tri-state area. Consistently exceeded service level agreements with an average response time of under 2 hours for assigned clients.
- Deployed and upgraded backup and disaster recovery plans for at least 10 clients. Setting up new hardware and safeguarding their critical servers with scheduled backup jobs using Veeam and/or Datto. These backup jobs were then tested bi-weekly during onsite visits.
- Streamlined the mobile device provisioning process for a healthcare client by setting up Jamf, reducing the onboarding time and cutting down on help desk tickets to set up their new device. This also prevented unauthorized app installations, enforcing security policies, and made sure the devices followed the company's user agreements.
- Deployed and configured network infrastructure for multiple clients consisting of switches, firewalls, patch panels, and access points. This included device upgrades to replace EOL hardware and ensuring optimal network coverage for each client.

Systems Administrator | Passaic County Community College | May 2020 – Mar 2021

- Administered and maintained IT environment including Active Directory, Windows servers, and VDI services supporting over 10,000 students and faculty.
 - Configured dual highly available internal virtual firewalls (pfSense), segmenting our VLANs and creating explicit rules for network traffic. This improved our security between VLANs and prevented lateral movement.
 - Re-built VMware Horizon infrastructure from the ground up due to misconfiguration and technical debt, standing up new gateway servers, configuring firewall rules, and deploying new template VMs.
 - Created automated tasks using Ansible to take backups of Cisco switch configs, run Windows updates, and install agents and software on newly provisioned servers.
 - Performed in-place OS upgrades for critical VMs moving from Windows Server 2012 to Windows Server 2019, including domain controllers, file servers, and ADFS servers.
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Technologies & Tools

Operating Systems: Windows Server (2019, 2022, 2025), Linux (Ubuntu, RHEL, CentOS)

Cloud Platforms: Azure (Entra, Arc, Enterprise Apps), Google Cloud (GAM, Workspace, Firebase), AWS (EC2, S3)

Virtualization: VMware vSphere, Hyper-V, Nutanix, KVM

Scripting & Programming Languages: Python, Javascript, Powershell, Bash

Monitoring & Logging Tools: Elasticsearch, ADAudit, PRTG, Grafana, Netdata

Automation Tools: Ansible, Terraform, Vagrant, Github Actions, Power Automate, Cron

Education

Bachelor of Science, Information Technology, Cyber Security | Western Governors University | Jan 2020 – Jan 2022

Associate of Applied Science, Information Technology, Network Administration | Passaic County Community College | Sept 2017 – Dec 2019

Certifications

- CompTIA PenTest+
- CompTIA Security+
- CompTIA Network+
- CompTIA A+
- AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner