

# Benjamin Charles Peter Smithurst

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**Date of Birth:** *not available online*

**Nationality:** British

## Profile

I am hard working, well organized, and work well in a team situation as well as individually. I have a strong personal interest in many aspects of IT, which makes me enthusiastic about securing a challenging and rewarding career in this field.

## Professional Qualifications

- **VMware Certified Professional (VCP)** on Virtual Infrastructure 3

## Education

### 2000-2003: School of Computing, University of Leeds

BSc (Hons) Computer Science (result: first)

Topics covered: Programming (including Object-Oriented), Databases, Internet Systems Technologies, Network Computing, Networks, Operating Systems, Computer Architecture, Professional Development, Software Project Management, Systems Specification and Design, Artificial Intelligence, Distributed and Concurrent Systems, Compiler Design, Data Structures, Human Computer Interaction, Computer Graphics, Linear Programming, Mathematics for Computing, Parallel Programming, Programming Language Semantics, Algorithms and Complexity, Finite State Machines, Functional Programming, Theory of Computation.

Final year project: *A Web-Based Sports Booking System*. This was written in PHP with a MySQL database.

### 1993-2000: High Storrs School, Sheffield

A-Levels: Mathematics (B), Computing (C), General Studies (C), Physics (D), Further Maths (E)

GCSEs: 8 at grade A-C including Mathematics (A\*) and English Language (C)

## Employment

### November 2003 – present: Systems Developer, gradwell dot com

In this role I am the main developer and system administrator for a large UK based ISP, providing Web & Email Hosting, and Voice over IP services. The development is mostly PHP and Perl, and the system administration is mostly FreeBSD & Linux servers.

I was the primary developer of the company's voice over IP services, which we now sell to end users and to many resellers. This has made us one of the UK's leading suppliers of VoIP services. As such my focus recently has been towards developing clustered and resilient VoIP services based on Asterisk and OpenSER.

Additionally, I created our current email SMTP server software from scratch, as a more flexible replacement for standard mail servers we have tried before, such as qmail and Exim.

### June 2003 – November 2003: Software Engineer, Blitz Bookings, Sheffield

The primary responsibility was configuring an online booking system to meet client's specifications. However, the role also included management of the LAN, telephone system, and website.

### November 1999 – June 2003: Consultant, gradwell dot com (part-time)

Work including writing an email forwarding system in Perl, an SQL based DNS management system with a web front-end, Direct Debit integration, and numerous other smaller projects related to Internet hosting services.

### 1997, 1999: Work Experience and Work Shadow, Royal Armouries Museum, Leeds

For these placements I was involved in helping to design the museum's website, amongst other things, including general computer related problem solving.

## Positions of Responsibility

### April 2001 – June 2003: Head of Web Development, Leeds Student Radio

This improved my team-working skills, as well as technical skills required for maintaining the site ([www.lsrfm.com](http://www.lsrfm.com)), which was mostly developing and enhancing the active content on the site, such as CGI scripts.

### July 2000 – 2006 (approx): Developer, FreeBSD Project

Being a member of this team improved my knowledge of the operating system, and how the project works. This also shows I can work effectively in a large team, and that I can be trusted with access to their central development server and source repository.

## Skills

I have experience in, though not limited to, the following:

### Applications

- Mail Servers: good knowledge of qmail and Exim, and excellent knowledge of mail systems in general to allow development from scratch.
- Web Servers: good knowledge of Apache.
- DNS Servers: good knowledge of djbdns, some experience with BIND 8.
- Internet Telephony (*Voice over IP*): good knowledge of Asterisk PBX, SER (SIP Express Router), OpenSER, and good knowledge of the SIP protocol itself.

### Operating Systems

- FreeBSD: 9 years' use and administration.
- Linux: good system administration knowledge of RedHat and CentOS distributions.

### Software Development

- Excellent knowledge of C, PHP, Perl, and Unix shell scripts. Programming experience includes writing Unix daemons, CGI programs, and networking software.
- Good knowledge of C++, Java, and JavaScript.
- Writing programs and scripts to automate common administration and user tasks.
- Experience with CVS version control system.

### Miscellaneous

- Networking: knowledge of TCP/IP, IPv6, and Ethernet technologies.
- Voice over IP: familiarity with voice over IP issues and good knowledge of one of the common protocols, SIP.
- SQL: familiar with the language itself, and use and administration of the MySQL DBMS package.
- Internet Services: good knowledge of many common Internet protocols and services, including, but not limited to: DNS, HTTP, NNTP, ODMR, POP3, SMTP, TCP/IP.

## Other Interests

I have a strong interest in IT, both personally and at work. In the summer of 2001, my housemate and I started creating a website for the 2002 World Cup in our spare time. Within a few months we had created an impressive and fully functional website.

As well as socializing with friends, I enjoy cycling and travelling around the country when time permits.

## References

References available upon request.