

**Thomas W. Weeks**

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Updated May - 2008

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- [PDF Version of this resume is here](#)
  - For MS Word, this page can be saved and loaded directly Word, Open Office, etc
  - For raw TXT version, please contact Thomas directly
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**Professional Objective:**

Seeking a **Senior Technical** or **Technical Manager** position that can take advantage of my skill set and experience while allowing me to continue to increase my professional expertise. Enjoy working in the areas of Internet/IT, Security, Server/Networking, Training/Education, Documentation/Authoring and Technical Management.

**Professional Overview:**

Experienced **Electrical Engineer** and **Linux/UN\*X/Windows Administrator with 10+ years of experience** in both realms. **Accomplished author, lecturer, trainer and technical manager/executive liaison**. I possess a love for the technology that I've mastered, a passion for showing others how to properly apply it, and the abilities to harness them all to solve real world problems in new and creative ways.

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## **Published Papers, Lectures & Books:**

- 2008/2007 - **Lecture:** "[The State of the Linux Desktop](#)", for [SA Chapter IEEE Computer Society](#)  
(the [latest version](#) given at the [2008 San Antonio OS-Fest](#))
  - 2006 - **Article:** "[Production MySQL Backups in the Enterprise](#)", for [SysAdmin Magazine](#). [Part-I](#) and [Part-II](#)
  - 2006 - **Lecture:** "[Managed Web Hosting with Open Source](#)", for [SA Chapter IEEE Computer Society](#)
  - 2005 - **Book:** "[Linux Toys II](#)", contributing author, Wiley Publishing (more info [here](#)).
  - 2005 - **Lecture:** [Presenter at the MySQL Users Convention](#) on the topic "[Ensuring Effective MySQL Backups on Enterprise Production Systems](#)" (more up to date [HTML version is here](#)).
  - 2004 - **Book:** "[Linux Troubleshooting Bible](#)", co-author Wiley Publishing
  - 2002 - **Paper:** Host Security Paper, "[Host Hardening and Intrusion Detection - The Open Source Way](#)", written privately for [UNIX Review](#).
  - 2002 - **Paper:** Web Server Paper, [Web Server Migration Overview](#), written on behalf Rackspace for [DatacenterHub.com](#).
  - 2001 - **Paper:** Security Paper, "[Internet Server Security: The Best Things in Life Are Free, But There's No Silver Bullet](#)", written on behalf of Rackspace for [www.datacenterhub.com](#).
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## **Education:**

### **Texas A&M University**

Graduated from [Texas A&M](#) w/[Electrical Engineering Technology](#) / [Telecom](#) BS degree. Telecom portion covers: u-Wave Links, LAN, WAN, TCP/IP, Bridging, Routing, Protocol Programming, Cellular/PCS/GSM Networks, Leased Lines, VSAT, SMDS, ATM, Frame Relay, ISDN, FDDI, Optics, T1, DS3, OC-n, etc.

### **Thames Valley State Technical College**

Graduated in class of 90 with an Associates Degree of EET.

## **IT Industry Training & Certifications**

- 2008 - [Six Sigma IT business management training](#) by Rackspace University (outsourced)
  - 2008 - [Project+ project management](#) by Comptia & Momentum, working toward certification
  - 2007 - [Business Writing](#) by Rackspace U & Rice University (cert-less class)
  - 2007 - [ITIL Certified](#) after taking "[ITIL IT Service Management Essentials](#)" [Class](#) by Pink Elephant
  - 2007 - [RHCE Certified on RHEL-5](#), after assisting in training Rackspace for upcoming RHCE exam.
  - 2006 - Took the new [RH401/RHCA Class](#) on RH Enterprise Deployment and Systems Management
  - 2005 - [RHCE Certified on RHEL-4](#), after taking the [Red Hat RH300 Rapid Track](#) course for Red Hat Enterprise Linux 4.
    - Used updated OS knowledge to prepare, train and update 60 Rackspace Linux Sys-Admins on relevant material. Rackspace scored the highest group pass rate ever recorded for the RHCE exam (>92%).
  - 2003 - [RHCE Certified on Red Hat 8.0](#).
    - Used to train over 60 Sys-Admins at Rackspace in a one week crash course for relevant OS' materials on RH9 & RH-EL3.
  - 2002 - **Tripwire Certified Professional** via the Tripwire Technical Training 200
    - for [Tripwire for Servers 2.4.2](#) and [Tripwire Manager 2.4.2](#)
  - 2001 - RHCE for Red Hat 7.1 (cert available upon request) Certified Engineer (302) Exam
  - [Exhaustive IT/Training List Here](#)
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## **Experience:**

## **Rackspace: 1999 to** **Present**

### **Rackspace Positions Held:**

- ***Data Center Solutions Group Lead,*** **2006 - Present**
  - Managed remote team of four DC-Analysts (one DC-Engineer/Analyst in each DC)
  - Managed development of DC tools and automation systems such as:
    - Oversaw/PMd **mass hard drive wiping & logging system** (zero fill & DoD3 wipe).
    - Oversaw **test & Integration of a multi-data center IP-KVM system** for all data centers.
    - Project Managed the **automated mass server shutdown & monitoring of 500 servers** for DC power maintenance.
  - Created & trained a Root Cause Analysis & Problem Solving class for my people.
  - Managed my personnel's quarterly reviews, corp. travel, training, etc.
- ***Lead Systems Engineer*** on **Systems Innovation Team,** **2004 - 2006**
  - Developed mass-automation tools for large scale data center and customer server problems. Examples include:
    - Developed **push-scripting for mass server maintenance.**
    - Developed **multi-data center port scanning scripting** reports for vulnerable sendmail binaries.
    - Developed **SMART hard drive "health test" tool** (active r/w test) with mass logging & drive death statistics reporting.
  - Lead a team of two developers for creation of automation tools and reports:
    - Oversaw/PMd creation of a **mass DNS/BIND daemon**

**re-config tool** to automate thousands of remote daemon reconfigs and restarts.

- Oversaw development of **mass server daemon control and automation** & tools.
- **Product Engineer** for **Rackspace Product team**, **2003 - 2004**
  - Did initial research/feasibility recommendations for:
    - H.A. MS-Exchange clusters offering.
    - Low cost, PCI card based firewall (embedded Linux) product.
    - Created a server reset/power mux controller called "Rapid Reboot" (more further down).
- **Corp. Technical Trainer** (lone) **2001 - 2003**
  - Started the Rackspace Training Department.
  - Wrote & delivered Linux/Windows sys-admin training classes & exams for all of Support.
  - Created our own RHCE Training Boot Camp & mock 6hr exam.
  - Trained MTAs(email), DNS, FTP, Hardware/OS t-shooting.
  - Trained for tape backups, restores, and emergency data recovery techniques.
  - Maintained OS images for Windows, Linux and FreeBSD training loads.
- **Sys-Admin** for Rackspace Customer Support **1999 - 2000**
  - I was the third customer Support Sys-Admin at Rackspace (employee #11).
  - Built customer servers, loaded OS (Win/Lin), and did Sys-Admin/networking work.
  - Supported a DC environment with a 200:1 server to technician ratio.

- Functioned as a de facto, in-house R&D / T&I (Test & Integration) engineer for various projects.

### **Rackspace Inventions, Special Projects and Skills:**

- **Created automated hard drive "health check" PXE script  
2004**

- SMART statistics are known to be inherently unreliable, so I...
- Created an active-test SMART script using little known SMART r/w tests built into drives.
- Tested and logged health of every drive going into the DC from 2004-2006.
- Collected much data on drive death statistics (age, make, model, SCSI vs ATA, etc).

- **Created "Rapid Reboot" hardware reset/power mux controller  
2003**

- My reset/ATX-power mux controller can control the reset or power on thousands of servers.
- I designed, constructed, and prototyped RR, and then outsourced for mass implementation.
- RR allowed the creation of a fully automated, "in rack" data center for Server Beach
- Additional custom back end system controls the VLAN, PXE, loads the OS, & reboots.
- Currently cross licensed to Server Beach as heart of their automated system.

- **Created automated disk-to-disk bare metal backup system  
2000**

- Called "Bounce-Backup", it was composed of a special boot floppy and cron-automated system
- Worked on both Windows and Linux servers sort of like a intelligent, intermittent, off-line, "RAID-1 backup system".
- It was an off-line backup system, but backup drive could be booted

from & run on

**Other skills attained while at Rackspace:**

<b><u>Hardware:</u></b>	RAID-10 & RAID-50, Burn In Testing & Fault Replication, Firewall Scripting, Dual-Homing/NAT Routing, Hybrid Disk-to-Disk Backup Solutions, Hardware Root Cause Analysis
<b><u>Networking/Security:</u></b>	Port scan Detection & Blocking, Intrusion Detection, Packet Level Attacks, Security Audits, IP-Chains/Tables Cracker-Forensics & Post-Crack Lock downs,
<b><u>Technology:</u></b>	SSL/X509, ssh/scp, SMTP-Auth, Linux/UN*X Command & Control (c-line, kernel tweaks, process, networking, etc), UN*X Daemon Control (nice, resource throttling, task prioritizing), Highly Customized cron jobs, Windows/Linux Interoperability (LPR, SMB/SAMBA, etc.), Automating OS-Installs
<b><u>Professional:</u></b>	Personnel Management, Time Management, Project Management, R&D/Cost Analysis, Staffing Issues, Communication Skills, Employee Effort Recognition/Motivation, and Root Cause Analysis & Problem Solving Theory

**Brooks-AFB IT Contractor: 1996 -**

**1999**

**(for CSC, GTE, & General Dynamics)**

- **Brooks Air Force Base IT Contractor Positions Held:**
- ***Senior Software Engineer (GTE+GD Contract), 1997-1999***
  - Ran a lab team of two engineers in the base [Testing and Integration Center lab \(TIC/PIT\)](#)
  - Responsible for SMS/WinNT/WINS/MS-Exchange Admin/R&D work
  - Responsible for steering base technology-centric decisions--through research and implementation strategies.

• **Communications Engineer (GTE Contract), 1996-1997**

- With degree, promoted to base Solaris/UN\*X System Administrator for 27 Sun Solaris UN\*X servers (NIS+, MS-DCs & DNS).
- Functional admin for all base UN\*X systems, RAID storage systems, backups (Legato), print queues, etc
- Promoted seven months later to Systems Engineer into the TIC (above)

• **Computer Tech (CSC Contract), 1996 (3mo)**

- Started off as on-site computer tech until I completed a freshman class to complete my EET/Telecom BS degree for promotion to target UN\*X Sys-Admin position
- Did traveling PC tech work around base for desktop and laptop systems (Win95 mostly)
- PC repairs, data migrations, anti-virus/client configs, etc.

**Key technological experience attained while in TIC position(Brooks-AFB):**

<sup>I</sup>=Implemented <sup>T</sup>=Tested <sup>R</sup>=Researched

<b><u>Networking</u></b>	<b><u>Admin/Servers</u></b>	<b><u>Integration</u></b>
<u>Net-Media</u> 10/100Bx <sup>I</sup> , DS0/DS1/T1 <sup>I</sup> , FDDI <sup>T</sup> , TTY/RS-232 <sup>I</sup>	<u>Operating Systems</u> <sup>all I</sup> Sun-OS, Solaris, Linux, HP-UX, WinNT4	<u>Migrations</u> <sup>all I</sup> UNIX/Win95->NT, NT-Domain->NT-Domain, NFS->CIFS
<u>LAN Based Protocols</u> TCP/IP <sup>I</sup> , UDP <sup>I</sup> , RIP <sup>I</sup> , ATM <sup>I</sup> , DNS <sup>I</sup> , NIS+ <sup>T</sup> , WINS <sup>I</sup> , NetBIOS/BEUI <sup>I</sup> , IPX-Bridge <sup>T</sup>	<u>Storage</u> <sup>all I</sup> NAS Backup/Restores, Soft/Hard RAID 0,1,5	<u>SMS Server-&gt;Winn9x</u> <u>Pushes</u> <sup>all I</sup> Net-Centric NortonAV, MS-Office, Outlook98, Y2K Patches, IP Stack Patches
<u>Security</u> DOS Attk <sup>T</sup> , Port Scanning <sup>T</sup> , System	<u>Server Apps</u> <sup>all I</sup> Exchange, SMS/SQL, NortonAV Enterprise,	<u>Projects</u> <sup>all I</sup> Web-Email, DMS, 96 Line Modem Bank, MAN-Wide AV

Fingerprinting <sup>T</sup> , CRACK/SATAN /SAINT <sup>T/R/R</sup> , Back-Dooring <sup>T</sup> , Host Hardening <sup>I</sup> , Physical Security <sup>T</sup> , Securing Hardware <sup>I</sup> , TCP Wrappers <sup>I</sup> , Tripwire <sup>R</sup>	Net/Web-XRay	Solution, Software Auditing, User Tracking,...
<u>Net/Info-Sec Protocols</u> Kerberos <sup>R</sup> , PGP <sup>R</sup> , SSL <sup>I</sup> , VPN/PPTP <sup>I</sup> , SSH <sup>I</sup> , SHA/MD5/DES/3DES /RSA <sup>I(ssl)</sup> , etc.	<u>File Systems</u> <sup>all I</sup> FAT16/32, NTFS, EXT2/Linux, misc-UN*X, Romeo/Joliet /ISO9660, FFS, TAR, etc.	<u>Scripting</u> <sup>all I</sup> Shell Scripting (SH/csh/Korn, cron, batch, NT-Login), HTML, client batch utils
<u>Perimeter</u> Firewalls <sup>T</sup> , Proxying <sup>T</sup> , Proto-Bridging <sup>I</sup> , Filter- Lists <sup>T</sup> , Intrusion Detection/Forensics <sup>T</sup>	<u>NAS/Net FS</u> <sup>all I</sup> NFS, SBM/CIFS, Net-App(vendor)	---

### **[More Technical Experience from 1987-1996](#)**

(available from [http://theweeks.org/toms-stuff/resume/resume\\_87-96.html](http://theweeks.org/toms-stuff/resume/resume_87-96.html))

These earlier years of my engineering experiences focus more on pre-Internet/server areas such as early computer tech work, discrete electronics repair work, lab research college jobs, etc. Moved off my main resume for brevity's sake

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### **Community Involvement:**

- **1998-2006:** Started the [Gateway Church Mobile Soup Kitchen](#). Twice/month I cook food for 60-80 people, meet other volunteers at our local church, and coordinate our ministry under a downtown bridge to

feed the homeless and minister to spiritual needs.

- **1997-Present:** President of the local computer user group [XCSSA \(X-otic Computer Systems of San Antonio\)](#). We explore OS' ranging from Linux and Solaris, to BeOS and AmigaOS. We meet once/month for a high-tech show-n-tell, have lectures on subjects ranging from Home LAN DNS and firewalling/routing to RAID and crypto-file systems. Simply put, XCSSA is just a bunch of super-geeks who enjoy hanging out, sharing fun technical information, and eating pizza.
- **1997-Present:** Associated with the [San Antonio High Powered Rocketry](#) and [Hill Country Rocketeers](#) groups. Now hold my [Tripoli High Powered Rocket](#) membership (#11056) and am currently working toward my L1 HPR certification.



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