

# Kurt Pires

Computer Scientist at CSC and Internet Consultant

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## Summary

Expert knowledge of the UNIX operating system at both user and kernel level. I have developed applications, system and kernel software for systems running BSD UNIX (4.1a through 4.3), DEC Ultrix, Sequent UNIX, SunOS, DEC OSF/1.0, BSDI (1.1 through 4.0), RedHat Linux, FreeBSD (4 through 6), Solaris (8 through 10) and AIX (5.2 and 5.3); I have also acted as a system administrator for all of those systems. Core-level knowledge of: Sendmail, Apache, GIF & JPEG image formats. Working knowledge of ClearCase, CVS, RCS & SCCS source code control systems as well as Bugzilla and ClearQuest bug tracking tools. Programming languages include: C, C++, Lex, Yacc, Perl (including OO modules), awk, sed, sh, csh, HTML, PHP, PostScript, Java, DB2, Oracle, MySQL and sendmail.cf.

## Specialties

Network Monitoring, Perl, Protocol Design, Automated System Administration

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## Experience

### **Computer Scientist Consultant at Computer Sciences Corporation**

October 2003 - Present (3 years 9 months)

I work for Integrated Payments (under Banking of the Financial Services Group (FSG)) in Oakland. I test and install CheckVision which is a check image repository for banks and related applications (image statement, CD output, etc.).

CheckVision was ported from Solaris/Oracle to AIX/DB2 and I tested, benchmarked and rolled it out to the first two customers. My work included modification/creation of the OS/DB-specific support scripts to manage the product and the database. We've also ported it to Linux on both IBM p-Series and z-Series (mainframe).

My job includes daily interaction with customers during installation, training the customers on the day-to-day operation of the product and support them during their rollout and occasionally thereafter.

I'm working on a new development project writing glueware, database update scripts and DDL in Perl as well as a series of tools to help maintain CheckVision.

I also troubleshoot network, database, OS, Perl and performance issues.

*6 recommendations available upon request*

## **Consultant and Service Operator at Kurt Pires Consulting**

July 2001 - Present (6 years)

Network and Monitoring Consulting

Hosting Service

*2 recommendations available upon request*

## **Consultant at Tanis Consulting**

January 2003 - October 2003 (10 months)

Stabilized company's network and computing infrastructure including a MySQL/InnoDB database that contained more than 600,000,000 rows in a single table where they were exporting up to 100 million rows daily as well as a network infrastructure that included between 50 and 90 Mbps of constant Internet traffic.

*4 recommendations available upon request*

## **Director of Network Services and Co-Founder at Information Access Technologies, Inc.**

October 1990 - September 2003 (13 years)

IAT was an early adopter of the commercial Internet pioneering a wide-array of innovative business services. As co-founder, I utilized technological advances that I identified or created as the Internet market developed for the company's products and services. I was responsible for design, implementation and maintenance of all our early services including network infrastructure, system administration and security. Also responsible for:

# Design and develop advanced Internet and networking technology solutions

# Architect, install and maintain UNIX systems

# Developed high speed networking systems

# Designed remote administration of unmanned web server installations

# Designed and implemented custom Internet firewalls

# Simulated browser interactions for automated systems

# Enterprise-wide troubleshooting

# Kernel modifications for bandwidth control and better TCP/IP performance during adverse network conditions

*4 recommendations available upon request*

## **Consultant (Corp-to-Corp) at Macrotron Systems**

July 2001 - August 2001 (2 months)

Performed a security audit of external Internet servers and implemented proposed changes.

Educated staff on how to maintain their security systems for future growth.

## **Consultant (Corp-to-Corp) at Teknekron Communications Systems**

March 1992 - May 1992 (3 months)

Performed a security audit and implemented proposed changes in conjunction with existing staff.

Educated staff on how to maintain their security systems for future growth. Reworked sendmail.cf

and UUCP configurations.

### **Consultant (Corp-to-Corp) at Optical Media International**

September 1991 - November 1991 (3 months)

Created an optimized ISO 9660 CD-ROM formatter with RockRidge and Mac extensions.

### **Consultant at Teknekron Communications Systems**

May 1989 - August 1989 (4 months)

Designed and implemented low-level X.25 drivers and a control language to manage telecommunications switching equipment used in at least two different projects.

### **Consultant at Teknekron Communications Systems**

December 1988 - January 1989 (2 months)

Designed and implemented a hypertext help system (prior to hypertext being popular) with my own easy-to-use mark-up language.

### **System Administrator for Cory Hall CAD Group at University of California at Berkeley**

January 1984 - October 1988 (4 years 10 months)

Much of my early UNIX experience comes from this job and from my involvement with the UCF and XCF at UC Berkeley. During the time I worked for the CAD Group, we received more than \$1M of equipment each year from DEC alone. Along with my boss and sometime another junior administrator, we installed and maintained all the systems for the CAD Group's four professors and their research graduate students.

### **Sales Consultant at Software Centre Int'l**

January 1983 - January 1984 (1 year 1 month)

The Software Centre was an early provider for software to the public. We had in-house over-the-counter software as well as resources to find software customers needed. By mid-summer, I was the lead sales person at the Rockridge Oakland office.

### **Systems Analyst at United Computer Management Corp.**

January 1980 - August 1982 (2 years 8 months)

Sold hardware and software to businesses. Provided glue-ware in Basic to interconnect various pieces of software as well as output reports and fill-in forms.

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## Education

### **UC Berkeley**

EECS/Computer Science, August 1982 - May 1990

**Activities and Societies:** Undergraduate Computing Facility, UCF, UCF Chairman, Computer Science Undergraduate Association, CSUA, CSUA President, Experimental Computing Facility, XCF, XCF Founder, XCF Director

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## Honors and Awards

IBM Beacon Award: Best Use of IBM Technology in an On Demand Business Solution by a Global or Major Consultant and Integrator Business Partner, 2006 [Port Testing and Rollout of first two customer installations](<http://www.csc.com/industries/banking/news/5688.shtml>)

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## 16 people have recommended Kurt

"Hard working, professional and gets the job done - good combination !!"

— **Vikram Sridharan**, *Engineer, CSC*, worked directly with Kurt at Computer Sciences Corporation

"Kurt has consistently provided high quality services and support as a CSC consultant assigned to projects for one of the bank's check image archives. Kurt's unselfish and substantial contributions to the different projects we worked on are invaluable, and I both commend and recommend him."

— **Leo Marcelo**, *Development Engineer, Citigroup*, was with another company when working with Kurt at Computer Sciences Corporation

"I would hire Kurt in an instant. He has fabulous people skills and I've heard very positive feedback from the clients he's worked with as well as his co-workers. He is the one you want to put in front of a client. He is very thorough and highly focused. His technical skills are exceptional and he keeps up with new technology. Kurt is a stellar individual and would be a great asset to any company. It was a real pleasure working with him at CSC."

— **Leslie Jordan**, *Senior Recruiter, Riverbed Technology*, worked with Kurt at Computer Sciences Corporation

"Kurt is one of the best people I have ever worked with. He shows technical excellence and knowledge in everything he does. His deep grasp and understanding of technology allows him to learn new tools, languages, and techniques extremely fast. Kurt gets things done on time, and his genuine desire to help coworkers shines throughout and has been the basis for many successful projects at CSC. Everyone at CSC highly respects Kurt, and I believe he'd be an excellent resource in most any company."

— **Bernt Habermeier**, *Senior Software Developer, Computer Sciences Corporation*, worked directly with Kurt at Computer Sciences Corporation

"Kurt is an exceptional technical resource asset. For several fix price projects, Kurt was the lead resource for installing enterprise level, complex, mission critical, software applications that required integration to customer's host and third party systems. Done with high quality, on schedule, on budget. Kurt received customer senior management recognition and appreciation."

— **Larry Woon**, *Director of Operations, Computer Sciences Corporation*, managed Kurt indirectly at Computer Sciences Corporation

"It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to give a recommendation to Kurt Pires. Kurt is very knowledgeable in all facets of computer science with added detail for program languages, UNIX OS, and Systems/Network Administration. The PERL programming language is a very strong attribute to Kurt's knowledge base. Technically, Kurt is very competent and succeeds on the projects assigned to him. Kurt is a team player who shares his knowledge and helps other team players to be successful. Kurt recently put together PERL classes at CSC Oakland which benefited all students that attended. On a personal level, Kurt is easily approachable and fields any topic pertaining to business unit projects extremely well. Kurt communication skills are excellent. I have enjoyed working with Kurt since he began at CSC Integrated Payments. He truly is a valued co-worker."

— **Mike McKinnon**, *UNIX/Network Administrator, CSC*, worked directly with Kurt at Computer Sciences Corporation

"My company (Codemonks Consulting) contracts with Kurt Pires Consulting for network bandwidth for dozens of small and several large web sites and web services. Kurt has always been courteous, responsive, and knowledgeable and is willing to go the extra mile to ensure we're taken care of. It's been great doing business with him."

— **Roland Bevan**, was Kurt's client

"Kurt was instrumental in helping IAT develop one of the most cutting edge ISPs of its day. I was privileged to work with and learn from him. Extremely smart, adept at technical problem-solving and personable to boot, I would welcome the opportunity to work with Kurt again and recommend him highly."

— **Maritess (Marie) A. Hoy**, *Technical Support Representative, Information Access Technologies, Inc.*, worked with Kurt at Information Access Technologies, Inc.

"... at IAT, Inc., we have been very pleased with Kurt's responsiveness. Kurt is a fast study and able to demonstrate his talents in a difficult environment. He has both the capability to have a "global" view and to be detail-oriented when required. He is a very #hands-on# collaborator who can lead by example. Kurt's positive and enthusiastic attitude makes him a welcome asset to any project."

— **Fred C. Wagner**, was Kurt's client

"I recommend Kurt highly, he has an exceptional ability to find innovative solutions to complex problems."

— **Kimon Papahadjopoulos**, *Manager of HP-ILM System Engineering, Data Management and*

*Protocols groups, Hewlett Packard, worked directly with Kurt at Information Access Technologies, Inc.*

"Kurt did a great job of keeping our application up and running. The application in question was large distributed, and complex, written in perl and sad to say, mostly undocumented. Kurt put together a system management console, wrote, re-wrote and debugged a most of our sys admin. He also handled a lot of our colo issues. I can say anyone who hires him is going to get a superstar!"

— **Jon Gettinger**, managed Kurt indirectly at Tanis Consulting

"#As a co-founder of IAT, I have worked closely with Kurt during the last 15 years. He is a conscientious and extremely skilled senior technical manager. He has keen insight into the business process, and is an expert in needs analysis, project management and technical problem resolution. Kurt has incredible energies for finding the best technical solution within stated business constraints.#"

— **Fred C. Wagner**, *Chief Operating Officer, IAT, Inc.*, managed Kurt indirectly at Information Access Technologies, Inc.

"Kurt is a talented network administrator, a skilled programmer, and a creative problem solver. At IAT, he has been invaluable in resolving complicated system issues as well as taking projects from the concept phase all the way to launch. When the going gets rough, the wise call Kurt Pires."

— **Benjamin Carroll**, *General Operations Manager, Information Access Technologies*, worked indirectly for Kurt at Information Access Technologies, Inc.

"While at Tanis, Kurt always went above and beyond the call of duty to not only fix what was broken but create excellent tools to prevent it from happening again. He was always diplomatic and was very good at creating consensus on the direction of the company as well"

— **Camille Riddle**, worked directly with Kurt at Tanis Consulting

"Kurt is a brilliant sysadmin. I was working at Tanis Consulting for nearly a year before he arrived, and at that point our systems were barely holding together. His obvious extensive experience and expertise were vital in keeping the company alive. He is dedicated and helpful and has an extraordinary amount of obscure, useful systems knowledge."

— **Colin Anderson**, *Software Engineer, Tanis Consulting*, worked directly with Kurt at Tanis Consulting

"In the I.T. community, you would have to look hard to find an individual with the drive and commitment that Kurt has." -- John W. Horn PhD. CEO, Interstate Software"

— **John W. Horn PhD**, was with another company when working with Kurt at Tanis Consulting

[Contact Kurt on LinkedIn](#)