



## Michael Sullivan

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[Distributed Thinking Systems](#), [GitHub](#), [LinkedIn](#)

### Profile

Experienced IT professional with over 30 years in the technology industry, specializing in Unix/Linux systems, distributed computing, AI, and digital forensics. With 15 years of managerial experience in the financial sector, I have a deep understanding of IT financial transactions operations, regulatory compliance, budget management, and vendor relations. My expertise extends to systems architecture, project management, and implementation for distributed UNIX/Linux and Oracle database systems, along with client engagement, technology solution development, strategic planning, and risk management.

### Experience

#### **FOUNDER AND PRINCIPAL, DISTRIBUTED THINKING SYSTEMS LLC, MEMPHIS, TN- JUN 2023 - PRESENT**

- Leading the development of AI-based solutions and open-source projects.
- Implementing machine learning models and tools on macOS.
- Collaborating with clients to deliver custom AI solutions tailored to their needs.
- Managing project timelines, resources, and deliverables to ensure high-quality outcomes.
- Conducting digital forensics investigations, including data recovery and analysis from Apple devices.
- Developing Python-based tools for digital audio restoration and transcription using iZotope RX and Reaper DAW.

#### **UNIX SOLUTIONS ARCHITECT, ECS FEDERAL, MEMPHIS, TN – NOV 2020 - JUN 2023**

- Managed the applications release process in an Agile environment from development to production, ensuring quick and efficient delivery with contingency plans.
- Troubleshoot logistics systems and applications issues across all environments for the US Postal Service.
- Provided Unix Systems Support for 900 Unix/Linux servers in development, test, QA, and production.
- Supported operating systems issues arising from applications, including performance tuning and permissions alignment..

#### **PRINCIPAL, CONSULTING SERVICES, DCS, LLC, NASHVILLE, TN – MAY 2009 - NOV 2020**

- Designed and implemented VPN and firewall services using pfSense, Snort, IPSec, and OpenVPN.
- Led an international team to create an IaaS appliance, managing storage, compute, and control components in a single rack.
- Designed a small/medium-sized business NAS storage appliance with data encryption, compression, and deduplication.
- Developed a backup service for DaaS cloud-based storage.

#### **MANAGER - PRODUCTION DIV., AOZORA INFORMATION SYSTEMS, TOKYO – FEB 2006 - MAY 2009**

- Managed a \$33M budget and prepared reports for senior executives.
- Reduced costs through consolidation using VMware on Linux, achieving a 15% year-over-year savings for two years.
- Co-managed a team of 25 administrators and led project work.
- Built a CMDB for cataloging datacenter and desktop hardware, and implemented a cost allocation model for IT services.

#### **PRINCIPAL, CONSULTING SERVICES, DCS, LLC, TOKYO – MAY 2005 - FEB 2006**

- Managed the migration of internet services, including software upgrades and system configuration for a data center relocation.
- Created a proprietary online trading system for a private hedge fund in Tokyo.

#### **ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR - HEAD OF SYSTEMS, KBC SECURITIES JAPAN, TOKYO – MAY 2002 - MAY 2005**

- Managed a team of 5 employees and provided daily systems operations support.
- Supported global standardization of systems architecture and infrastructure.
- Managed market data support for Bloomberg and Reuters platforms.

#### **MANAGER OF DISTRIBUTED UNIX SYSTEMS, CABLEVISION, LONG ISLAND, NY – OCT 2001 - APR 2002**

- Managed a team of 15 UNIX Systems Administrators providing 24/7 support for critical operations.
- Oversaw a \$1.5M annual budget and provided mentorship to junior staff.

**PRINCIPAL, CONSULTING SERVICES, DCS, LLC, NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA – OCT 1994 - OCT 2001**

- Managed teams of 4 to 15 UNIX Systems and Database Administrators.
- Designed and implemented strategic information system architecture for internet commerce applications.
- Developed and managed backup and recovery plans for client data centers.
- Clients: NYNEX, Sun Microsystems, SkyMall.com, Recollections Inc. (Zing), InsureMyTrip.com.

**VICE PRESIDENT/SYSTEMS ARCHITECT, MERRILL LYNCH, NEW YORK, NY – APR 1992 - OCT 1994**

- Led the development and implementation of applications and systems architecture for a financial systems migration project.
- Provided development support and training to a staff of 200 developers.

**Awards:**

- Merrill Lynch President's Award for Excellence - First Quarter 1993

**PROJECT MANAGER, SALOMON BROTHERS INC., NEW YORK, NY – AUG 1987 - APR 1992**

- Designed, implemented, and supported a national network infrastructure for investment banking.
- Managed a staff of 12 administrators and developers, and successfully managed the relocation of the investment banking group to a new headquarters.

**Awards:**

- Business Technology Organization Communications Award – Feb 1991
- Business Technology Organization Communications Award – Feb 1990.

**Technical Skills**

**Software:** iZotope RX, Reaper DAW, Visual Studio Code, ServiceNow, X Window System, ZFS, GFS, Veritas, Sun Disk Suite, Apache, Tomcat, LDAP, DNS, NIS, Sendmail, Git/GitHub, Subversion, CVS, NFS, CIFS, Secure Shell (SSH), Tripwire, NMAP, Snort

**Database:** Oracle 10g, 9i, 8i, 8.x, 7.x, PostgreSQL, MySQL, SQLite, Redis, Berkeley DB

**Programming:** Bourne/Korn/Bash Shell, Python, Perl, C, SQL, Ruby, HTML, XML, UML, JavaScript, PL/SQL

**Systems:** OpenSolaris, Solaris, Linux, macOS, OS X Server, VMWare, VirtualBox, Windows, MVS (z/OS), TSO

**Network Infrastructure:** TCP/IP, PPP, NTP, HTTP, SMTP, POP3, IMAP, SNMP, NNTP, NAT, Cisco Router Configuration, Firewalls, IPSec, OpenVPN, pfSense, SSH Tunneling, Oracle SQL\*Net, FIX, Bloomberg, Reuters, F5

**Applications:** Microsoft Office, iWork, Omni Graffle, Omni Plan

**Hardware:** Apple Silicon, Sun SPARC, Intel x86, EMC

**Education**

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN - Post Graduate (PhD work), Neuroscience/.Psychiatry, 2014 - 2016

University of Texas, Arlington, TX - BBA, Information Systems, 1987

**Languages**

**English:** Native

**Japanese:** Basic

**Licenses and Clearances**

- USPS Public Trust Clearance - valid through November 2025
- FAA License: Private Pilot, Airplane Single/Multi Engine Land - Instrument Airplane

**Professional Involvement**

**GitHub Repositories:** Active in maintaining and contributing to various open-source projects on GitHub.

**Professional Memberships:** Member of USENIX, ACM, The Open Group, and the Apple Developer Network.

**Community Engagement:** Founder and active participant in the New York Systems Administrators group, the Tokyo OpenSolaris Users Group, and the Tokyo Linux Users Group (TLUG).