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Hey now!

My name is Dan Ward and I'm looking for DevOps work – either contracting or full-time, onsite (Boston area) or remote. But before I tell you where I think I can provide the most value to your organization, it might actually save you and me a lot of time by first telling you what *I'm not*.

- I'm not an IT admin, neither Windows nor Linux. My background is software engineering but I've done a lot of DevOps-related work.
- I'm not a manager. If you are looking for someone to come in, take over and build up your DevOps group and turn it into a well-oiled machine... that's not me.
- I'm not a cloud guru. I've scripted all the basics but have not managed a serious cloud production environment before.
- I'm not even a DevOps guru! I can't wax poetic about the pros and cons of Jenkins pipelines vs. TeamCity pipelines. And there are a lot of utilities I haven't had the chance to work with yet - but I love the opportunity to learn anything new.

By now you are probably wondering where I can provide value. The answer: awesome automation, outside-of-the-box thinking, integrating systems that can't be integrated, creating clever forward-thinking utilities. And more. Let me give you two examples: one is from the earliest DevOps work I've done and the other is the most recent.

1. In 2006 I started doing DevOps work - back before that term existed. My first major creation was a complete build and deployment system, written from scratch in Windows PowerShell. It supported many different types of applications and had *continuous integration* and *continuous deployment* - back before *those* terms ever existed.
2. Most recently I released a set of open source utilities for Octopus Deploy that allows a user to easily export some or all of the configuration data. From there the utilities allow you to see all changes to the system over time, search across the entire configuration, perform **any** type of reporting on it and, most importantly, perform unit testing on the configuration. Octopus Deploy is one of those tools that hides all its information behind a web interface and as a result you might not know how something will work on production until you actually deploy it. My utilities can help you can test your configuration **before** deploying!

By the way, both of these examples above illustrate writing code to solve a problem. Does that mean that's the *only* type of work I want to do? No, not at all! I want to work with all sorts of products and services and I love learning new tech – but if I encounter a dead-end or limitation, I can usually script my way around it. Having a background as a software engineer makes me a unique DevOps engineer.

Interested in learning more? Then please contact me: dtward@gmail.com