# Brett B. Schwab

28413 Trailriders Drive
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

(310) 570-7872
Brett@BrettSchwab.com

## Professional Summary

A hands-on IT executive with extensive experience in datacenter management, design, server operations, administration, ERP and programming, and analog and VoIP telecommunications for multi-state and worldwide operations and call centers.  Excellent contract negotiator and vendor management skills, project planning and budgeting, team leadership and management, and strategic planning and forecasting experience.  Report to senior management on project status, budgeting, forecasting and strategic planning for evolving business initiatives, disaster recovery and business continuity.  Microsoft certified, Cisco trained, with more than twelve years of IT experience working for startups, turnarounds, and established companies; building on a lifetime career in information technology, software development and telecommunications.

## Experience

**Vice President, I.T.  - Ultra·Pro Corporation**                                **2011 - Present**

Ultra-PRO, a Marlin Equity Partners Company, operates five subsidiary businesses specializing in a wide array of consumer goods manufacturing, distribution, and marketing; providing the highest quality products with nimble business relations among the top 50 mass-market and chain store suppliers including JC Penny, Kohls, Target, Wal-Mart, Petco, Petsmart, Oshkosh, Party City, Amazon, Bed Bath & Beyond, and many others.  Worldwide operations, 200+ employees with revenues exceeding $50M annually.

- Manage and support a team of IT professionals responsible for network management, strategic planning, and daily operations in support of the companies various business units including manufacturing, distribution, sales, marketing, and finance.  Report to the CFO and manage a staff of six direct and indirect reports.  Provide M&A due diligence, network design and business continuity planning and management.

Duties
- Support daily operations of the consolidated datacenter for five distinct business units.
- Direct a staff of six direct reports and 14 vendors and consultants, programmers, SQL DBA, Network Administrators, Helpdesk personnel, and telecommunications.
- Control contract negotiations for telecom providers and data services.
- Administer consolidated budget for five distinct business units including three year forecast by division.
- Provide datacenter and server design optimization while reducing cost and increasing availability including disaster recovery and business continuity readiness.
- Author network documentation of critical systems and infrastructure for disaster recovery and business continuity.
- Arbitrate hiring, firing, and annual reviews for IT staff ; including training and performance evaluations.
- Direct ERP and EDI programs in relation to manufacturing, distribution, sales, and finance
- Control software licensing of three ERP solutions, server, and productivity software for five divisions within an integrated centralized datacenter.

Accomplishments
- Reduced EDI charge-backs by 18,000 a month by identifying resource weaknesses and strengthening the team.
- Negotiated new copiers and lease agreements with Ricoh Americas.
- Designed and built a second datacenter while coordinating an office move in Minnesota including MPLS and telephone circuits.
- Installed a new Mitel phone system for two disparate divisions and integrated VoIP connection back to Los Angeles.
- Managed the consolidation of 11 websites, including three B2B and two B2C sites, to improve management and reduce costs.
- Authored a comprehensive disaster recovery plan and managed the implementation.

**ECIO  -  VIP Tone, Inc.**                                                         **October 2009 to August 2010**
   Software developer and managed services provider for California K-12 schools in the San Francisco Bay area designing and supporting data and telecommunications for multi-site educational districts; with annual sales of 10 million.

- Provide network design and datacenter design recommendations as an independent consultant to third party customers to build fault tolerant networks and datacenters with redundant resources and business continuity in conjunction with premise based VoIP telephony.  Report to the President of VoIP services with dotted line reporting to the CEO.

Duties
- Authored IP schemas for single or multiple networks including remote WAN locations.
- Designed Network infrastructures to insure fault tolerance, redundancy, and load balancing within datacenters.
- Provided datacenter and server design optimization while reducing cost and increasing availability including disaster recovery and business continuity readiness.
- Authored network documentation of critical systems and infrastructure for disaster recovery and business continuity.
- Collaborated with sales on customer presentations and concept delivery.


**Director of Information Technology  -  Storm Industries, Inc.**                    **April, 2006 to February 2009**
   Privately held parent of two manufacturing companies, one construction company, a property management company, and three investment companies with offices around the world, 300 employees, and annual sales of $75M.

- Professionally administered consolidated IT, IS, and telecommunications for five company divisions with seven locations around the world in a 24x7 high-availability datacenter, with an annual budget of $1.9M. Performed network infrastructure design for load balancing, failover, and business continuity. Reported to the CFO and three divisional presidents and managed six direct reports. Advise on strategic IT alignment with evolving business initiatives and telecommunications design including two distinct call centers. Ensured security for networks and data.

Duties
- Administered consolidated annual IT budget of 1.5 million to 1.9 million dollars for seven divisions.
- Directed a staff of six direct reports and 24 vendors and consultants; programmers, SQL DBA, Network Administrators, Helpdesk personnel, and telecommunications.
- Supported worldwide operations and remote branch offices in Torrance, Valencia, Portland, Houston, Cleveland, Australia, Denmark, and India.
- Controlled software licensing of ERP, server, and productivity software for four divisions within an integrated centralized datacenter.
- Arranged VoIP telecommunications for seven sites worldwide including two separate call centers in five locations.
- Controlled contract negotiations for telecom providers and data services.
- Arbitrated hiring, firing, and annual reviews for IT staff; including training and performance evaluations.

Accomplishments
- M&A; oversaw the successful acquisitions and integrations of competitive and complementary companies into the Storm portfolio of business units using both trusted domains and domain assimilation.
- Established IT steering committee (ITSC) with CEO, CFO, and three divisional presidents.
- Implemented hosted VoIP solution to bring all divisions under a unified communication platform and maintained independent divisional operational requirements, increasing productivity and reducing operational costs.
- Redesigned infrastructure to build in redundancy failover and eliminate single points of failure while load balancing network traffic and server availability, increasing data access and VoIP uptime to 99.98%.
- Spearheaded the successful migration of Exchange 2003 to Exchange 2007.

- Coordinated the rollout of Microsoft Office 2007 throughout four companies; including training all employees within 10 days.
- Assured compliance with Cal-OSHA seismic stability requirements by redesigning the datacenter and re-racking all servers, switches, routers and firewalls.
- Developed co-location replication schema for business continuity and disaster recovery.
- Installed a 30-kilowatt standby generator to provide datacenter continuity and ensure continued operations.
- Through talent acquisition and personnel restructuring, reduced the annual IT consulting expenses by $150,000.

**Manager, Information Technologies  -  TelASIC Communications, Inc.** **June, 2002 to April, 2006**
A startup company of 120 people, spun off from Raytheon, to develop a commercial application for use in the cellular communications industry with initial seed money over $85,000,000.

- Recruited to develop the network infrastructure, telecommunications, IT department personnel, policies and procedures necessary to be ISO Certified and Sarbanes Oxley compliant.  Reported to the VP of Operations and managed three IT personnel.  Responsible for 19 Windows servers, 20 Linux servers, nine Sun Solaris servers, 50 Ultra 10 workstations for more than 80 engineers including daily operations. Directed staff programming projects in Perl, Java, Visual Basic, Access, SQL, HTML, and DHTML. Ensured DoD compliance and network security.

Duties
- Administered annual budget of ~$490,000 covering IT and telecommunications.
- Implemented premise based 3COM VoIP telecommunications spanning two locations in California.
- Arbitrated hiring, firing, reviews and disciplinary action when necessary for IT staff; including training and performance evaluations.
- Influenced IT staff on programming projects in Perl, Java, Visual Basic, Access, SQL, HTML and DHTML to support .Net programmers during development to ensure consistency with company guidelines and development methodologies.
- Steered network and telecom security in compliance with Department of Defense (DOD) requirements.

Accomplishments
- Fabricated the network infrastructure to provide scalability and redundancy increasing to three integrated networks and increasing network uptime to 99.96%.
- Originated remote location point-to-point T1 connectivity for site and data replication as well as VoIP.
- Renegotiated telephone and data services saving the company over $35,000 a year in operating cost.
- Developed and implemented alternative to HVAC over-standard charges saving the company approximately $290,000 dollars a year in operating costs.
- Migrated from Exchange 2000 Standard to Exchange 2003 Enterprise edition providing additional email capacity.

## Education
- University of Phoenix – Pursuing BS degree in Business Management
- Gates College – MCP, MCSE
- El Camino College – Active AS CIS

## Certifications & Training
- Microsoft Certified Professional MCP 2000
- Cisco Trained CCNA
- Certified Great Plains Implementation Specialist
- Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer MCSE 2000
- Dale Carnegie – Effective Speaking and Human Relations
- Sage Certified – Crystal Reports Developer