CURRICULUM VITAE

ROB WALTON – M365 Messaging Architect

Date of Birth:	01.05.1971	Nationality:	New Zealand Citizen &
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EDUCATION

1989 - 1993	**Bradford University, West Yorkshire, United Kingdom**
	Upper Second Class Bsc (Honours) Degree in Computer Science
	Included a 12 Month Industrial Placement at ICL .
1982 - 1989	**Cheadle Hulme School**, Stockport, Cheshire, United Kingdom.

CERTIFICATIONS

NZDF Security Cleared (Level 1 - Confidential)
NZ Police Security Clearance

Quest Certified for:
GroupWise to Exchange Migrator Tools
Lotus Notes Migrator to Exchange Tools

Microsoft MCP Exchange

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior **Messaging Architect** with 25+ years of experience designing, building, and leading large-scale enterprise messaging environments across NZ, Australia, USA and APAC. Specialist in **Microsoft Exchange (2003–2019), Exchange Online, hybrid coexistence, cross-platform migrations, SMTP routing, troubleshooting, messaging automation, and mail authentication**.

Widely recognised as a **global migration expert**, particularly for complex Domino, Lotus Notes, GroupWise, and multi-forest Exchange environments. Trusted by government, financial, healthcare, and enterprise organisations to stabilise high-risk messaging systems, deliver seamless coexistence, and lead end-to-end migration programmes for tens of thousands of users.

Proven technical leadership across full project lifecycles: assessment, design, coexistence, migration waves, cutover, and operational handover. Known for solving difficult mail flow problems quickly and for producing clear, reliable, enterprise-grade designs.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- **Exchange On-Prem / Online Architecture (2010–2019, Exchange Online)**
- **Hybrid Messaging Design & Coexistence**
- **Large-Scale Migration Leadership (5,000–40,000+ mailboxes)**

- **Cross-Platform Migrations: Lotus Notes, Domino, GroupWise, Exchange**
- **SMTP Routing & Message Flow Diagnostics**
- **Transport Rules, Connectors, Anti-Spam Architecture**
- **High Availability & Disaster Recovery Design**
- **Public Folders, Archive Migration & Legacy Platform Decommissioning**
- **Quest Migration Suite Expertise**
- **Mail Authentication: SPF, DKIM, DMARC, MTA-STS**
- **Automation: PowerShell, migration workflow scripting, reporting**
- **Troubleshooting: Transport failures, queue behaviour, routing loops, hybrid issues**

EXPERIENCE

2024 – now

M365 Messaging Lead, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Wellington.

- Lead architect for major migration and coexistence programme from Exchange 2016/2019 to M365 for 3,000+ users.
- Designed hybrid messaging architecture, coexistence mail flow, authentication, and directory synchronisation patterns.
- Led design and rollout of **M365 Purview classification, DLP, and governance** across multiple platforms.
- Delivered improvements to the organisation's M365 messaging architecture, Teams/Exchange integration, and modern collaboration approach.
- Key contributor to tenancy governance, future-state roadmaps, and Microsoft 365 adoption strategy.

2024

Expert Witness – SMTP & Forensics | Crown Law, Wellington

- Provided expert consultancy on mail routing, messaging architecture, and metadata behaviour in complex SMTP environments.
- Produced technical reports explaining message flow, routing logic, and architectural dependencies for legal proceedings.

2023 – 2024

Messaging Architect for Figure8, Auckland

- Designed M365 and Azure AD architecture for enterprise clients transitioning to cloud-based collaboration platforms.
- Delivered Teams and Exchange Online architecture frameworks, governance models, lifecycle strategies, and identity integration.
- Provided technical leadership for secure tenant build-outs, collaboration enablement, and Microsoft 365 adoption planning.

2020 – 2023

Senior M365/Messaging/Security Consultant for DEFEND NZ, Auckland

- Lead architect across 20+ M365 and Azure AD modernisation projects.
- Designed hybrid identity architectures, SSO/SSPR/MFA adoption models, cross-forest integration, and modern authentication uplift.
- Delivered Exchange Online transformations, coexistence solutions, and cloud governance frameworks for NZ enterprise clients.
- Created detailed technical designs, operational handover packages, and future-state architectures to guide long-term M365 adoption.

2019 – 2020	**M365 Messaging Technical Lead (Security & Identity) – Ministry of Health**

- Designed secure migration/coexistence from Lotus Notes to M365 for 2,000 users.
- Ensured secure identity, authentication, and mail routing configurations throughout project lifecycle.

2014 – 2019	**Solutions Architect (Messaging & Cloud Security) - Dimension Data in NZ/Australia**

Various long term contract roles for different Dimension Data offices throughout NZ & Australia.   Regarded as a trusted senior resource and called upon to help with complex projects.

- Domino to M365 Exchange Online for Credit Union of Australia, in Brisbane.   Led the successful migration project from Domino to Exchange Online using the Quest toolset.

- Migration Technical Lead for multiple Sydney based email migration projects. Federal Courts of Australia, Toyota Finance, NBN Australia.   Lotus Notes migrations, and Exchange/O365 migrations.   Technical and People Leader – combining technical and social skills to ensure success. Managed technical teams in all aspects of project lifecycle to ensure projects delivered on time, and on budget.

- Migration Technical Lead for an Exchange Migration Project for IAG/Lumley Insurance merger.   Complex intra-Forest Exchange migration involving multiple AD Forests, with complex identity and automation solutioning required.

- Messaging Architect: Onsite at Health Alliance responsible for producing the Exchange High Level Solution Design for the merger of the four Northern Region District Health Boards onto a central Exchange 2010 platform – for 40,000 mailboxes.   Working with key technical resources, and to a tight timeframe

Technologies: Office 365 | Azure AD | Azure AD Connect | Domino | Outlook | Quest

2014 to present	**Lead Consultant at office365migrate.com**

Owner of consulting website that has led to 20+ migrations involving messaging and Office 365, for companies around the world.   Examples are listed here:
- Phillipscorp, Maryland, USA – Exchange 2013 Hybrid to Office 365
- Trust for Public Land, USA – GroupWise to Office 365
- WMKO, Hawaii, USA – Exchange 2010/2016 Hybrid to Office 365
- Greek Catholic Union, USA – Domino to Office 365

Technologies: Office 365 | Exchange | Security | Lotus | Domino | Outlook | Quest

2012 – 2014	**Messaging Solutions Architect at Hewlett Packard Enterprise Services**

A member of the Australian Messaging Team covering the APJ region, working on a wide range of messaging solutions across multiple email platforms, and customers.

- Messaging Lead for Fonterra technology refresh, with multiple parallel email migrations off various platforms (GroupWise,Domino,Exchange) onto a centralised new Exchange platform.
  This encompasses all of Fonterra's international offices, totalling approximately 15,000 users. Responsible for producing detailed design documentation, server builds, implementation plans, migration plans, liasing with other teams, support

during migrations.

- Technical Lead for NZ's largest Domino to Exchange email migration project for NZ Police for 14,000 users.   Highly complex project delivered on time and on budget. Designed, built, and implemented the new messaging platform, and led the mailbox migrations.

2010 – 2018

Messaging Consultant for Quest Software, Melbourne

Part time consultant for Quest Software on email migrations involving GroupWise/Lotus Notes to Exchange, using the Quest Software migration products – Quest Notes Migrator, Quest Notes Coexistence Manager, Quest GroupWise Migrator, Quest GroupWise Coexistence Manager.   Numerous lead consulting engagements at customer sites throughout Australia/NZ.   Worked on 20+ engagements for various APAC organisations including Ausgrid, Aspen Pharma, World Vision.

KEY CYBER SKILLS

- M365 Defender, MDO, Defender for Endpoint
- Azure AD Security, Conditional Access, Identity Protection
- Purview DLP, Sensitivity Labels, Insider Risk
- DMARC/SPF/DKIM/MTA-STS/ARC
- SIEM: Microsoft Sentinel
- SMTP forensics & email header analysis
- eDiscovery, audit log analysis, message trace reconstruction
- Secure architecture design & governance
- Threat modelling, risk remediation, least privilege design

KEY SOFT SKILLS & CHARACTERISTICS

- Teamwork
- Work under pressure to meet deadline
- Good sense of humour
- Likeable
- Mentoring junior team members
- Provide technical leadership
- Problem solving
- Responsible

INTERESTS

- Keeping fit
- Skiing
- Team sports
- Outdoors
- Sailing
- Puzzles