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| **Roles and Responsibilities**Valdis Filks is a Research Director for Storage Technologies and Strategies in Gartner Research.https://www.gartner.com/0_admin/images/x.gif**Previous Experience**Before joining Gartner, Mr. Filks worked as an EMEA chief storage architect, enterprise systems manager, storage practice manager and professional services storage practice manager in Central and Northern Europe. He has firsthand experience in being a storage administrator - managing and being responsible for a storage department in real-life practice. Mr. Filks has experience from being an end user, selecting storage and server vendors, implementing storage solutions, and supporting and designing systems, to being responsible for consultants and sales for storage and high-end servers. His technical knowledge spans a wide range, from databases, security systems and operating systems, to high- and low-level programming. He has worked throughout EMEA as a PS storage architect. Mr. Filks is fluent in Latvian and English.https://www.gartner.com/0_admin/images/x.gif**Professional Background**https://www.gartner.com/0_admin/images/x.gif

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| https://www.gartner.com/0_admin/images/analystbio/sq_gray_bullet.gif | Sun Microsystems, Business Development Manager, 9 years |
| https://www.gartner.com/0_admin/images/analystbio/sq_gray_bullet.gif | Royal Bank of Scotland, Senior Technical Analyst, 11 year |
| https://www.gartner.com/0_admin/images/analystbio/sq_gray_bullet.gif | Central Electricity Generating Board, MVS Systems Programmer, 3 years |

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| https://www.gartner.com/0_admin/images/analystbio/sq_gray_bullet.gif | B.A., Management and Computer Science, Open University |
| https://www.gartner.com/0_admin/images/analystbio/sq_gray_bullet.gif | H.N.D., Computer Science, University of Westminster, London |

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