AIJAZ A SIDDIQUI

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Results-driven professional with over 18 years of extensive expertise in designing, implementing, and managing scalable infrastructure and cloud solutions. Skilled in optimizing performance, ensuring high availability, and mitigating risks. Proven expertise in managing stakeholder relationships, monitoring emerging technologies, and aligning business and technology strategies to drive organisational transformation.

CORE EXPERTISE

Cloud & Enterprise Architecture: AWS, Azure, System Architecture, Application Modernisation & Migration, High Availability, Disaster Recovery, TOGAF Framework.
DevOps & Infrastructure as Code (IaC): Azure DevOps (ADO), CI/CD Pipelines, Automation, Configuration Management, Terraform, CloudFormation, ARM Templates.
Security Architecture, Governance & Compliance: Zero-Trust Reference Architecture, ISO 27001, NIST Frameworks, Cyber Essentials Plus, Data Privacy, Risk Analysis, Enterprise Firewalls.
Core Networking: TCP/IP, DNS, Load Balancing, Static & Dynamic Routing, Network Traffic Analysis.
Project Delivery: Agile Methodologies, Scrum, Kanban, Waterfall, Team Building, Vendor Management.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Cloud Security – Infrastructure April 2024 – Present

Spire Healthcare

- Engineered and scaled enterprise-wide Microsoft Security frameworks, optimizing Azure M365 infrastructure and advanced E5 tools for threat detection and compliance.
- Managed end-to-end threat and vulnerability mitigation, coordinating closely with cloud infrastructure teams and a third-party managed SOC.
- Facilitated organisational compliance with security policies and standards by delivering expert guidance to cross-functional teams and supporting key audit programmes, including ISO 27001, NIST, and Cyber Essentials Plus.
- Optimised organisational security posture by updating policies, procedures, and guidelines, while implementing technical processes to deliver more efficient and secure workflows.
- Engineered an automated alert pipeline using KQL, Azure Log Analytics, and Logic Apps to detect Conditional Access blocks on high-risk users, accelerating incident routing to the InfoSec and Service Desk teams for rapid remediation.
- Authored and successfully implemented an enterprise Privileged Identity Management (PIM) strategy to secure Microsoft Entra ID (Azure AD) roles across the organisation.
- Classified administrative roles into risk tiers (high/medium/low), defining granular enforcement controls including custom activation windows, mandatory MFA, approval workflows, and Conditional Access authentication contexts.
- Refactored legacy IaC repositories into a structured subscription-to-resource Terraform hierarchy, successfully migrating around 75% of our environment to bring core networking, NSGs, Web Apps, firewalls, Logic Apps, Storage Accounts, and Private Endpoints alongside Conditional Access policies under strict version and state control.
- Developed and maintained security policies, procedures, and documentation for Azure based PaaS and IaaS deployments.

Senior Technology Consultant June 2023 – Mar 2024

ABYTESHIFT (ABS) - Contract

- Translated the business strategic plans and requirements into supporting enterprise-wide strategies. I understand the business and technology estate, the strategic direction, and developing supporting roadmaps focusing on re-use, rationalization, simplification, and decommissioning.

- Developed methodologies for cloud migration, implemented best practices and helped to develop backup and recovery techniques for applications and database on virtualization platform.
- Utilized AWS/Azure Well-Architected Framework to assess cloud workloads and ensure they are designed and operated in a secure, efficient, and cost-effective manner, while also leveraging Cloud Adoption Framework for smooth cloud migrations and deployments.
- Successfully led a cybersecurity enhancement project, implementing advanced threat detection and response mechanisms, reducing incidents by 30%. This strengthened security posture ensured compliance with industry standards.

Specialist Application Architect - Consultant April 2020 – June 2023

British Telecom (BT)

- Provided mentorship and facilitation and acted as a conduit between business, product management and technical leadership with a hands-on approach to writing business cases and developing business/IT architectures.
- Orchestrated end-to-end support to clients throughout the project lifecycle, including discovery, requirements gathering, solution design build end-to-end testing, and go-live.
- Demonstrated expertise in developing high-quality designs that align with industry standards and best practices.
- Conducted architecture reviews as a security and voice specialist initiative for the organization, producing high-quality HLDs that identify risks associated with networks and cloud environments.
- Led the design and implementation of MS Teams with direct routing and created and managed custom Zoom Contact Center and Zoom Phone solutions.
- Maintained technology and product artefacts (Roadmaps, Build Docs, Standards) and deliverables as part of the Technology adoption process to validate the architecture against requirements and assumptions with technical and business stakeholders.

Lead TDA - Cloud & Voice July 2017 – April 2020

British Telecom (BT)

- Technical Design Authority in business-to-business strategy, transformation programs, and platform development focuses on hybrid cloud solutions positioned in enterprise segment to deliver bespoke services and applications offering rich user experience and increasing brand value.
- Successfully led the adoption of agile methodologies, cutting time-to-market by 25% and boosting project delivery efficiency. This strategic shift enhanced competitiveness and accelerated revenue, generating an additional £1 million from faster product launches.
- Successfully Completed the Governance/Adoption of Global Voice Recording Remediation and PCI-DSS Project (Sycurio), Upgraded Trader Voice Platform for a highly regarded Financial Institution (NatWest Bank).
- Successfully analysed, designed, implemented, and deployed cloud infrastructure for scalability within a hybrid IT environment, specifically AZURE and AWS.
- Responsible for designing and deploying IaaS and PaaS solutions based on Agile and Scrum methodologies for both AWS and Azure platforms, while also supporting sales and product teams by responding to commercial bids and requests for information/proposals.

Senior Lead System Engineer March 2015 – June 2017

IPC Information Systems

- Led the engineering team in system integration and network migration projects. Provide continuous support and professional services for Unified Trading System in fault finding and resolving issues and detailed analysis of logs and alarms.
- Followed escalation procedures and communicated information and specific issue development to all relevant parties: Change Control, Incident Management, Site Documentation and Fault Documentation; Implementing ITIL practices.
- Provided third-line support for the front room (Dealer-board and Pulse devices), Soft clients (Omni and Sync) and Backroom Servers (Converged Communication Manager, Media Manager and Media Gateways).

System Engineer February 2011 – March 2015

IPC Information Systems

- Collaborated with technical/business teams, assessed requirements, and recommended resolutions to security engineering team members. Worked with global and EMEA teams on IPC Trading Solutions and Nice Voice Recording systems.
- Applied various measures (Encryption of data, limiting privileged user access and using controls on call recording system) ·
- Worked on multiple projects, from minor focused security enhancements to large infrastructural projects. Dealt with SEV1+ faults, attending customer sites, and undiagnosed faults, often in high-pressure situations.

Network Engineer July 2008 – Dec 2010

Technology Distribution Limited

- Performed network security monitoring, network traffic analysis, log analysis, static and dynamic routing, routing protocols, risk analysis, server and network administration, and malware analysis.
- Proactively responded to resolved incidents and change requests using Service-Now. Installed monitored, and managed security devices, including firewalls, data encryption and other security products and procedures.

CERTIFICATIONS

TOGAF Enterprise Architecture

PRINCE2 Foundation

ITIL v3

Microsoft Azure Security Engineer – AZ500

Microsoft Security Operation Analyst – SC200

Certified in Cybersecurity (ISC2)

AWS Solutions Architect Associate

Microsoft 365 Security Administration – MS500

Microsoft Teams Voice Engineer Expert – MS720

CCNA - Security

CCNA – Routing & Switching

CompTIA Server+ Certification

CompTIA Network Infra Professional

EDUCATION

MSc **London South Bank University, London** 2008
Telecommunications and Computer Networks Engineering

REFERENCES

Available upon request