

**Michael Vancroft**

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**New Jersey**

## **Summary**

A highly seasoned and innovative Network Architect with over 18 years of experience leading the design, implementation, and optimization of highly resilient and scalable network infrastructures for Fortune 500 companies. Specializes in advanced Network Function Virtualization (NFV) and Software-Defined WAN (SD-WAN) deployments, driving significant operational efficiencies and cost reductions. Proven leader in complex technological transformations and cross-functional team collaboration.

## **Experience**

### **Chief Network Architect Stratosphere Global Technologies Jersey City, NJ 2016 - Present**

- Spearheaded the enterprise-wide adoption of SD-WAN, integrating 250+ global branch offices, resulting in a 30% reduction in MPLS costs and enhanced application performance.
- Led the design and deployment of an NFV orchestration platform utilizing OpenStack and Kubernetes, virtualizing key network services such as firewalls, load balancers, and intrusion detection systems.
- Directed a team of 15 senior network engineers and architects in strategic planning, technology evaluation, and large-scale project execution.
- Implemented advanced network automation frameworks using Python and Ansible, reducing manual configuration errors by 90% and accelerating deployment cycles.
- Designed and maintained highly secure multi-cloud connectivity (AWS, Azure, GCP) using direct connect and transit gateway architectures, ensuring robust enterprise-wide data flow.

### **Principal Network Engineer Horizon Innovations Newark, NJ 2009 - 2016**

- Led the full lifecycle management of core routing and switching infrastructure for a multi-national financial services firm, supporting over 20,000 employees.

- Implemented and managed BGP and OSPF routing protocols across complex WAN environments, ensuring high availability and optimal traffic flow.
- Designed and deployed robust network security solutions including next-generation firewalls (FortiGate, Check Point), IDS/IPS, and web application firewalls.
- Mentored junior engineers and developed training programs on advanced networking concepts and best practices.

### **Senior Network Engineer Garden State Networks Trenton, NJ 2005 - 2009**

- Configured and troubleshooted complex LAN/WAN environments, specializing in Cisco IOS and NX-OS platforms.
- Performed deep-dive packet analysis using Wireshark to diagnose and resolve elusive network performance issues.
- Participated in 24/7 on-call rotation for critical network infrastructure support, ensuring minimal downtime.

### **Education**

Master of Science in Telecommunications Management Stevens Institute of Technology  
Hoboken, NJ 2005

Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Rutgers University New Brunswick, NJ 2003

### **Certifications**

Cisco Certified Architect (CCAr) - *Niche Skill Validation* Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA) Fortinet Certified Network Security Expert (NSE 7)