

# Santosh Pande

**Technology & Delivery Leader | Cloud, DevOps, Infra, Security, AI | AWS, GCP, Azure**

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## Core Competencies

- Technology Leadership & Strategy
- Cloud Migrations & digital transformation
- Design and build cloud native solutions.
- DevOps & Automation
- Datacenter, Virtualization
- Integration
- Distributed Computing
- Networks and Security
- AI-Driven Transformation
- Data Engineering (Intermediate)
- Team Building & Delivery Management

## Leadership & Delivery Highlights

- Built & led 15+ member team.
- Delivered 5+ enterprise digital transformations and Migrations.
- Designed and implemented critical federal projects.
- Trusted advisor to senior stakeholders

## Education & Certifications

- **Bachelor of Engineering – Computer Science:** Karnataka University, India (1996 – 2000)
- Google Cloud Certified – Professional Cloud Architect
- Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA)
- AWS Certified – Solutions Architect professional.

## Summary

Principal Solution Architect with 24 years' experience leading complex digital transformations & cloud migrations across Multi cloud. Specialises in cloud technologies, Datacenter, integration, DevOps, AI solution integration, security, virtualisation, secure gateways for Federal agencies, networks, distributed systems, and e-commerce infrastructure. Proven track record in building modern and scalable solutions, reducing infrastructure costs through optimisation, accelerating deployment times, and delivering large-scale transformation projects across mining, Federal Government, telecom, insurance, banking, and service provider sectors. Trusted advisor to senior stakeholders, with hands-on expertise in GCP, AWS, Azure, Kubernetes etc. Experienced in building and scaling high-performing technical teams from 4 to 15+ members.

## Professional Experience

### Cognizant | Principal Solutions Architect

*Sydney | July 2021 – Present*

**Multi-Agent Security solution – POC:** As part of the Cognizant vibe-coding event, designed and developed intelligent AI agents solutions on GCP for automating core Security Operations functions.

- Multi-agent system integrates advanced automation into the Security Operations Center (SOC), with each agent specialized for specific security tasks.
- Agents perform targeted operations: scanning repositories and cloud infrastructure, penetration testing, and generating comprehensive security reports.
- Designed to augment human analysts by handling routine tasks, accelerating threat detection, and improving response time and accuracy.
- Link to the [Security Agent solution](#)

**AirNZ – Lead Architect and Technical Delivery lead - VMware VMC on AWS Migration:** Design and build of VMC on AWS for a Airline customer, helped in migrating the VMware workloads from datacenter to VMC on AWS cloud and helped customer in DC exit programme.

- Led 10-person technical team to successfully migrate 700+ VMware workloads to VMC AWS cloud, resulting in 30% cost reduction and zero downtime (Outside migration Window

- Azure Solutions Architect Expert
- AWS Certified Advanced Networking – Specialty
- AWS Certified Security – Specialty
- AWS Educate Machine Learning Foundations
- Generative AI with AWS
- Microsoft Certified: Azure DevOps Engineer Expert (AZ-400)
- Microsoft Certified: Azure Networking Solutions (AZ-700)
- Microsoft Certified: Azure Security Technologies (AZ-500)
- VMware vSphere Certified Professional (VCP 310/410/510)

## Technology Expertise

- **Cloud:**  
AWS (Compute, Networking, Storage, Serverless, ECS, EKS, AI Integration)  
  
Microsoft Azure (Compute, Networking, Storage, App Service, AKS, Azure AD)  
  
Google Cloud Platform (Compute, Networking, Security, Storage, Serverless, GKE)
- **Infrastructure as Code & DevOps**  
Terraform, CloudFormation, ARM Templates  
  
GitLab, GitHub CI/CD, Azure DevOps  
  
Docker, Kubernetes (CKA Certified)  
  
Shell/Bash, AWS CLI, Python (Intermediate)
- **AI and Agents**  
Generative AI, AI Agents, Crew AI, AWS Bedrock, Ollama etc
- **Security & Compliance**  
AWS Security Hub, GuardDuty, WAF, Firewall Manager, Shield, SSO  
  
Cloud IAM, Armour, KMS,

- Completed project on schedule.
- Implemented automated disaster recovery for critical applications reducing RTO from 24 hours to 4 hours.

**Big Red Group - Lead Architect and Technical Delivery lead - Cloud Migration and modernization:** I worked as an architect and lead a team to help a retail customer in Cloud design, build & implementation, and then migrate their critical business application from a third party datacenter on to the AWS Cloud.

- Lift and Shift of the application on to AWS
- Build Multiple environments and a stable DevOPS environment for build and release.
- Modernize the application by converting it to microservices running on ECS fargate.
- From No DR to Design and build DR solution in the cloud.

## BHP Billiton: Principal Architect (Multi Cloud) - Digital transformation:

As the Principal Architect and Technical Delivery Lead for a leading mining company, I spearheaded their digital transformation initiative by designing and implementing a robust multi-cloud architecture (AWS and Azure). This included:

- Designed and built the cloud landing zone on AWS (Organization, Accounts, Hub-Spoke Network, Centralized Ingress & Egress, IAM Security, Guardrails)
- Reducing deployment times by 60% through the establishment of standardized DevOps practices, covering both infrastructure provisioning and application deployment (Terraform, Python, Gitlab etc).
- Achieving 99.9% uptime for critical workloads by optimizing cloud resource allocation and automating scaling processes.
- Cutting operational costs by 25% by leveraging cloud-native services and eliminating redundant on-premises infrastructure.
- Additionally, I led cross-functional teams to ensure seamless adoption of cloud technologies, resulting in a 40% improvement in development velocity and a 50% reduction in manual intervention for deployments.

## PWC | Senior Manager – Cloud and Platform Engineering

*Sydney | Jan 2017 – Jul 2021*

As an early member of PwC's newly formed Platform Engineering team, I played a pivotal role in building and scaling a niche technical team capable of delivering cutting-edge cloud solutions to clients.

**Large Scale Govt Digital Transformation Project on AWS** – This initiative stands as one of PwC's largest federal government transformation projects, executed in partnership with AWS to meet the agency's unprecedented scale and security

Azure Security Center, Key Vault

Palo Alto Prisma, Cloudflare,  
container security

Federal compliance frameworks

- **Networking**

Hub-and-Spoke, VPCs, Transit  
Gateway, Cloud Router,  
VirtualWAN

Direct Connect, ExpressRoute,  
Interconnect

LAN/WAN, VPN, routing &  
switching (Cisco), F5 GTM/LTM,  
DNS, DHCP

Firewalls, Proxies, Load balancers

- **Virtualisation, Storage & Backup**

VMware vSphere, vCloud

SAN/NAS (EMC, NetApp), zoning &  
masking, fibre channel switches

Backups, DR, Site Recovery Mgr

- **Other Technologies**

Microsoft Clustering, Red Hat  
Clustering

SQL Server, PostgreSQL, Active  
Directory

Nginx, Red Hat Satellite

EMC Ionix, Nagios monitoring

## Industry Experience

- Financial Services
- Insurance
- Public Sector / Government
- Mining
- Retail & Consumer
- Telecom

requirements—setting a benchmark for Australia’s public sector. As the Solution Architect and Technical Lead, my contributions included:

- Designing and implementing a scalable, secure cloud architecture, achieving 99.99% uptime for mission-critical workloads while ensuring compliance with stringent federal security standards.
  - Reducing operational costs by 30% through optimized cloud resource utilization and automation, enabling the agency to reallocate funds to citizen-facing services.
  - Leading a cross-functional team of 10+ experts to deliver the project on schedule, resulting in a 40% acceleration in deployment timelines compared to traditional approaches.
  - The project not only modernized the agency’s IT infrastructure but also established a replicable framework for future government cloud transformations.
- **NSW DCJ – GCP Data Platform:** Helped the data platform team in their secure analytics project with domain-based access and external reporting capabilities. Designed and built the platform for the Solution on GCP
  - **Cloud Security Audits –** Led comprehensive cloud security audits for multiple clients, aligning their environments with the Well-Architected Framework’s Security Pillar to enhance resilience and compliance. Key contributions included:
    - **Identity & Access Management (IAM):** Designed and deployed SSO solutions (AWS IAM Identity Center / Azure AD) with least-privilege role assignments, reducing unauthorized access.
    - **Threat Detection & Response:** Configured AWS GuardDuty and AWS Config with custom rulesets, enabling real-time threat detection and automated remediation, cutting mean time-to-resolution
    - **Infrastructure Hardening:** Enforced CIS Benchmark compliance via automated machine hardening, shrinking the organization’s attack surface.
  - **Other Projects –** Delivered cloud security audits, SAP S/4HANA on AWS/Azure, and multi-sector cloud solutions.

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## Macquarie Telecom - Government | Sr Gateway & Cloud Engineer Sydney | Aug 2014 – dec 2016

As a Senior Secure Cloud and Gateway Consultant with Macquarie Telecom Government, I spearheaded the onboarding of Australian

Federal and State Government agencies onto Macquarie Telecom's Secure Internet Gateway (SIG) and Secure Cloud solutions.

My role encompassed:

- Guiding agencies through seamless migration to secure, compliant cloud environments, ensuring alignment with stringent government security standards.
- Designing and implementing tailored gateway architectures to enhance network security, visibility, and threat protection for critical government workloads.
- Collaborating with cross-functional teams to deliver scalable, high-availability solutions that met the unique needs of public sector clients.

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#### **Senior Consultant – Cloud & Automation – Nextgen Cloud Service**

*Jan 2013 – Mar 2014*

- Architected and implemented data centre automation using BMC BladeLogic.
- Integrated automation with VMware, UCS, and vCloud for end-to-end provisioning.

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#### **Senior Consultant – Cloud & Automation – BMC Software**

*Apr 2011 – Dec 2012*

- Delivered automation and cloud solutions for APAC clients including NBN, Westpac, and Telstra.
- Integrated AWS with BMC Cloud Lifecycle Management.

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#### **Infrastructure Architect – Vodafone Hutchison Australia (via TCS)**

*Mar 2009 – Feb 2011*

- Designed and delivered virtualization platforms, storage solutions, and DR environments.
- Hosted live streaming services on AWS public cloud.

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#### **Earlier Roles**

- **IT Infrastructure Designer** – Aviva, United Kingdom (2006–2009)
- **Security & Systems Engineer** – Aviva, United Kingdom (2005–2006)
- **ODC Infrastructure Engineer** – TCS India (2003–2005)
- **Senior Systems Engineer** – IMRB, India (2001–2003)

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#### **References**

Available on request.