Philip Akekudaga, Security+

Albany, NY, 12203 | (929) 685-9890 | akekulip@gmail.com | [LinkedIn](#) | [Kaggle](#) | [GitHub](#)

SUMMARY

A cybersecurity analyst with experience in the end-to-end vulnerability lifecycle, from discovery and prioritization to remediation and validation. Proven expertise in administering and maintaining VM platforms (Nessus, Qualys) across corporate and cloud environments. Strong automation skills using Python and PowerShell to integrate with APIs and automate reporting. Experience aligning technical vulnerability data with risk frameworks (FAIR) and coordinating remediation efforts with IT, infrastructure, and application teams to mature security posture.

Technical and Soft Skills

Cybersecurity Frameworks & Policy: Vendor and third-party assessments, ISO 27001, HIPAA, NIST (CSF, 800-53), PCI-DSS, SOC2, GDPR. Supply chain risk quantification.

Exposure Management Vulnerability Management (VM): Web Application Scanning (WAS), Cloud Security Posture Management (CSPM), External Attack Surface Management (EASM)

VM & Scanning Tools: Nessus, Qualys TruRisk, Nmap, Metasploit, Burp Suite (Concepts)

Scripting & Automation: Python (Pandas, Requests), PowerShell, Power Automate, REST API Integration

Cloud & SIEM: Microsoft Azure, Microsoft Sentinel (KQL), Splunk, Cloud Security Concepts

OS & Network: Windows, Linux (Ubuntu, Kali), macOS, TCP/IP, Routers, Firewalls

Risk & Frameworks: FAIR/FAIR-CAM Risk Quantification, NIST CSF, MITRE ATT&CK

Business Analyst: BPM, BIA, BPA, requirement gathering, process optimization, and process automation.

CRM and ERP: Jira, Mambu, Microsoft Dynamics NAV 365, EbizFrame, SAP, Freshworks Suite, ServiceNow.

Soft Skills: Strategic Thinking and Execution, Process Efficiency and Continuous Improvement Mindset, Excellent oral and Written Communication.

Relevant Experience

New York State – Department of Health   Albany, New York
Cybersecurity Analyst   **May 2025 - Present**

- **Technology Controls & Risk Assessment: Conducted** vulnerability assessments, mapping findings to NIST CSF 2.0. Supported the remediation and governance process by tracking risks using Archer for internal GRC reporting to stakeholders.
- **Defining and Implementing Policy:** Drafted and developed Incident Response Plans (IRP), internal policies, and playbooks for multiple agencies, a key function in creating Process Control Documents that define roles and responsibilities (RACI-aligned) for detection, containment, and recovery procedures.
- **Security Solutions & Analysis:** Investigated and responded to security alerts from Microsoft Sentinel (KQL) by performing detailed log analysis and fine-tuning detection rules to enhance the security program.
- **Education & Awareness:** Published cybersecurity awareness content and participated in phishing simulations to improve organizational security posture.

Research Foundation for SUNY   Albany, New York
Senior Research Aide- UAlbany Innovation Center   **October 2024 - May 2025**

- Developed machine learning models to analyze complex datasets, gaining exposure to AI/ML techniques applicable to anomaly detection and predictive security analytics.
- Gathered requirements, data, and ideas needed by industry to collaborate with students and academia.

Fido Microcredit Limited - FINTECH Accra, Ghana
Business and Systems Analyst - Lead **Feb 2023 – Aug 2024**

- **Process Automation & API Integration:** Engineered security automation solutions using Python to streamline manual VM processes. Developed scripts to integrate with REST APIs for extracting scanner data, enriching it with asset info, and pushing high-priority vulnerabilities into ticketing systems (Jira, ServiceNow).
- **Control Automation and Process Efficiency:** Engineered security automation solutions using Python to streamline manual processes, such as user access reviews, which improved security KPIs by 13%
- **Scanning & Remediation:** Directed the deployment and optimization of CrowdStrike EDR across 200+ endpoints, using its vulnerability module to identify exposures and coordinating remediation efforts, which contributed to a 25%+ reduction in security incidents.
- **Web Application Scanning (WAS):** Defined system requirements with a "secure-by-design" focus; performed web application vulnerability scanning (WAS) against internal and public-facing applications to identify security misconfigurations and support development teams.

Coca-Cola Beverages Africa-Voltic GH Accra, Ghana
Business Analyst **Jan 2022 – Feb 2023**

- Created Power BI and Excel dashboards for sales and logistics, enabling data-driven decisions and saving 120+ man-hours per month by reducing report preparation time by 20%.
- Audited 1,000+ outlets and vendors in the supply chain, resulting in a 17% increase in compliance and a 6% reduction in risk through improved forecasting and risk analysis.

Ghana Water Company LTD. Kumasi, Ghana
IT Officer/MIS Officer **Sept 2014 – Jan 2022**

- **Vulnerability Scanning & Patch Management:** Implemented and managed a monthly patch management cycle for 650+ assets (600 endpoints, 50+ servers).
- Administered the vulnerability management platform (Nessus) and performed validation scanning, achieving and maintaining a 98% patch compliance rate.
- **Remediation Coordination:** Coordinated technical teams to deploy and configure over 150 new workstations, implementing system hardening baselines that reduced common vulnerabilities by over 90% and troubleshooting credentialed scan issues on Windows, Linux, and network devices.

Education

SUNY, University at Albany New York, USA
M.S. in Digital Forensics and Cybersecurity, Risk, Policy, and Compliance. **Expected Dec 2025**
GPA: 3.9

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology Kumasi, Ghana
  B.Sc. Computer Engineering

Certification and Training

- Cyber Risk Analysis Using FAIR **Nov 2025**
- CompTIA Security+ (SY0-701) **-** GKTN8XPS42FQCYL2 **Aug 2025**
- Black Hills Information Security SOC Training

Affiliations

- National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) – Collegiate Member
- ISACA – Student Membership
- The Fair Institute