

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: UAE

PROFILE

Francis has been designing and implementing complex solutions for enterprises leveraging his strong experience in multi-vendor, multi-platform and extensive breadth of experience in Data Center solutions and technologies. Francis sees his day to day role as helping customers on their path to true IT transformation towards Software Defined stack by conceptualizing, architecting, designing and implementing technologies and solutions. He participates in large scale solutions, requirement elicitation, collection and analysis and review to understand the problems customers are facing and working across business organizations to find solutions that will place customers on the path to true digital transformation and achieve targeted business outcomes.

Now, his focus is to wrap complex projects in pleasant and less intimidating front ends and for this purpose, he is presently pursuing full stack development BootCamp in Georgia Institute of Technology. Some of the technologies he is presently learning include CSS, HTML, JavaScript, Node.JS, JQUERY and he hopes to build this capacity towards REACT and eventually branch off into more customized infra services coding languages. His desire is to learn coding from bottom up and be able to communicate fluently with cross functional teams as well as get involved in product delivery in a team of core developers. This desire can be extended to his core competencies which include Data Center technologies, advanced solutions architecture, hyperscale data center solutions, multi-cloud solutions, software defined 'everything' and Project Management.

At the end of this project, I intend to build a topology mapping solution for systems diagnosis, troubleshooting and fingerprinting. This will help most of my present customers appreciate the resilience or otherwise of their on-prem infrastructure investment.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Business Level engagement of customers, partners and vendors.
- Design and implementation of advanced end to end solutions and technologies.
- Advanced SDN expertise ranging from NSX and ACI, CLOS (up to 5 layer), hyperscale solutions, VxLAN BGP EVPN, hybrid cloud connectivity.
- Enterprise, solution architecture and IT transformation using TOGAF and other reference architecture frameworks.
- Project and service management, technical presales and solution design.
- Strong can-do attitude and excellent leadership and communication skills.
- Strong exposure and presence in global technological markets, trends and drivers.
- Budding coding capability.

CERTIFICATIONS & EXPERTISE

- CCIE x 3 (R&S, DC, SP), CCDP.
- VCP-NV, VCP-DCV. (VCIX-NV, VCDX-NV)
- TOGAF9, PMP, Prince2 Foundation, ITIL Foundation, ITILv3 Foundation.
- MCITP, MCTS.
- vScale, Hyper-Scale enabled.
- Converged, Hyper-Converged and Hybrid referenced Architecture Certifications.
- AWS Solution Architect Professional
- Infrastructure as a code – Terraform, CloudFormation, Ansible, JSON, YAML, etc.
- CI/CD Pipeline – Git, Jenkins, Slack, etc.
- CSS, HTML, APIs, JavaScript, JQUERY, Node.JS.

EXPERIENCE

FAPCOM LTD Lead Consultant, Dubai, Jun 2017-Present.

Leading multi-platform, multi-technology and multi-sector solutions across business verticals ranging from top organizations, security organizations, industrial and government sectors. Executing cutting edge data center focused and service-based programs to key sectors of the society with costs running into millions of dollars.

- Led and participated in technical engagements planning, implementing, managing and onboarding converged and hyper-converged datacenter stack – network, storage, compute, automation, services redesign and virtualization.
- Implemented solutions across leading Software Defined solutions – Networking (SDN) – NSX-V, NSX-T, ACI, VMware on AWS, VMWare on GCP, Hybrid Cloud fingerprinting among others.

- API interfacing to known products with the aim of simplifying their management and operation.

Dell Converged Infra Solutions Architect, Lagos, Mar 2015 - Date.

Helped companies and governments transform the way they procure and consume IT infrastructure through deployment and implementation of vBlock, VxBlock and VxRack products across Europe, Middle East and Africa Region covering Network, Storage, Virtualization and Compute knowledge domains with a cumulative project cost of over half a billion dollars across cultural and regional lines as part of Dell EMC professional services team.

- Led and participated in technical engagements in the deployment of block and rack ranges of products in the region covering the entire converged and hyper-converged datacenter stack – network, storage, compute and virtualization.
- Implemented solutions across leading SDN solutions - VMware NSX and Cisco ACI, automation and orchestration with Cisco UCD and VCD with some python scripting experience.
- Works regularly with Solution Principals, Sales and vArchitects to review proposed solution and customize when necessary.

Technical Architect – Huawei Technologies. Lagos. Nov 2012- Feb, 2015.

Involved in requirement elicitation, aggregation and consolidation as well as solution design that aligns with customer objectives and costs across the Chinese giant's enterprise customers across African region running into billions of dollars.

- Technical sales, key customer facing presentations, interfacing extensively with back office to customize solutions as well as own the delivery.
- Responsible for communicating directly with customers, collecting and analyzing requirements as well as designing solutions that address customer needs and obtaining customer solution buy in.
- Owning multiple green and brown field solution designs including Data Center transformation (build model), IPRAN, IP-MPLS among others.

Senior Network Engineer – Huawei Technologies, Lagos (Telecommunications & Datacenter Vendor). Oct 2011 - Oct 2012.

As a key technical resource, my responsibility involves implementation of data communication solutions for a wide range of customers. Was also heavily involved in extensive knowledge transfer on the specifics of how the product delivers on customer's business requirements.

- Technical responsibility for multiple accounts including some of the vendor's biggest as well as helping customers solve escalated technical problems.
- Design, implementation and troubleshooting of customer's data communication infrastructure.

Lead Infrastructure Architect – Megatech Softwares Limited (Software Development & Integrators) Sep 2009 - Oct 2011.

As the Lead Infrastructure Architect for Megatech Softwares Limited, I was engaged to coordinate efforts aimed at building a resilient homegrown application to drive a key indigenous Insurance Company business. My role revolved around architecting, defending and implementing a Data Center Infrastructure solution (using a build model) using Cisco network and security solutions.

- Architected the end to end application profile, availability and security scores for the custom application and designing the network infrastructure to support that.
- Designed and implemented the security solution using Cisco and Bluecoat gears.
- Designed the remote office and mobile user interfaces and drove their implementation.
- Worked with application team to deliver on KPIs for applications for mobile and home users.

Data Communications Engineer – Globacom Limited (Telecommunications) Aug 2008- Oct 2009.

As a staff of the first indigenous mobile operator in Nigeria, I led the engagement for technical implementation of a key pilot project to confirm the advantages of IP MPLS in an operator environment. The success of this project was why it was eventually adopted enterprise wide.

- IP-MPLS solution implementations.
- OAM infrastructure implementation and support over IP.
- Implemented the pilot IP-MPLS solution riding on Alcatel MPLS aware nodes.
- Worked with the team that terminated the Glo-1 feed submarine cable and deployment of key PoPs for broadband service.

Network Engineer – Computer Warehouse Group – (Systems Integrator) Jan 2006- Sept 2008.

This was my first career role and involved working in multiple areas ranging from VSAT hub operations, onsite technical support engineer and ended up as a lead Cisco Network case owner for key accounts. In this role, I worked with sales and account teams and learnt firsthand the art of customer senior level engagement in the region.

- Satellite technology hub interface engineer
- Field support engineer
- Cisco network owned supporting DMVPN, IPSEC VPN and multisite customer routing in the VSAT hub involving multiple sites.

TECHNICAL SKILLS SUMMARY

A balanced set of ICT skill spanning cloud and virtualization solutions, advanced networking and network function virtualization, datacenter virtualization across vendor line and across network, compute, storage and virtualization stack, application networking and monitoring using scripting solutions, Project/Program management, enterprise architecture, service management, technical solution design, presales and a general strong drive to manage IT transformation to cost effectively address strategic business needs using reference and tailored frameworks.

NETWORK SYSTEMS & TECHNOLOGIES

SDN –NSX, ACI, traditional networking techs, VxLAN MP-BGP-EVPN, Multicast & QoS, DCIs, all modern overlay and underlay technologies, Virtual Stream fabric, CLOS, HyperScale Networking.

METHODOLOGIES & STANDARDS

TOGAF9 (Certified), SONA and Zachman architectures.

HARDWARE & PLATFORMS

DELLEMC, HP, IBM, Cisco, etc.. NSX-V, NSX-T, SDN, CI/CD

PROJECT MANAGEMENT METHODOLOGIES

PMP (Certified), Prince2 Foundation (Certified)

OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

ITILv3 Foundation Certified

RECENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- NSX Install, Configure and Deploy, NSX Design and Deploy – 2017
- VCIX –NV Bootcamp - 2018
- vScale Enablement Bootcamp - 2017
- VxLAN MP-BGP EVPN Bootcamp – 2018
- ACI Troubleshooting Bootcamp – 2018
- Amazon AWS SA Profession – 2019
- Amazon AWS Advanced Network – 2020
- Microsoft Azure Architect – 2018
- GCP Architect – 2020
- NSX-T Install, Configure and Deploy- 2020
- Kubernetes and Containerization – 2019
- Docker Containers Orchestration – 2019
- Infra Automation BootCamp - 2020