Ariadna Garmendia

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Experienced IT professional with over 7 years of technical leadership at ExxonMobil, where I drove large-scale infrastructure projects as a trusted track lead and technical advisor. I'm great at tackling complex challenges, figuring out project scopes, planning implementation steps, and guiding teams to get things done. I enjoy digging into technical details, working with vendors, and spotting potential risks. Self-taught in cloud, I earned a solution architect role and was key in kicking off ExxonMobil's largest on-premises to cloud migration. With a postgraduate AI degree, I'm excited to apply AI to solve business problems and automate processes. Now in the U.S. after relocating from Argentina, I'm eager to add value with my operational experience, love for teaching, and ability to explain complex ideas simply.

KEY COMPETENCIES

IT Architecture	Hybrid cloud environments	Cross-functional collaboration
Cloud Security	Technical leadership	Building teams
Automation	Energy sector IT expertise	Customer relationships
Proof of Concepts	Consulting for non-technical audiences	Working with Agile methodologies

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ExxonMobil (Spring, Tx / Buenos Aires, Arg.)   **Sep 2021 - Nov 2024**
AWS & Specialty cloud (GCP and Alibaba) Solutions Architect

- Designed and implemented the security hardening of the ExxonMobil's AWS landing zone in preparation for Tier0 workloads such as Active Directory. Secured critical cybersecurity approval, a prerequisite for cloud migration of all on-premise workloads.
- Contributed to the business case for migrating over 5000 on-premise workloads to the cloud.
- Led workforce transformation initiatives by identifying critical cloud upskilling needs and structuring new support roles for successful on-premise team integration following migration.
- Collaborated with AWS ProServe to develop the Disaster Recovery solution for the Lift-and-shift environment.
- Implemented cloud security guardrails, configuration compliance and CSPM tools following NIST Cybersecurity framework.
- Created a structured cloud service onboarding process, enabling the secure certification and adoption of non-whitelisted offerings.
- Led the design of the cloud Cyber Vault, ensuring compliance with IT Risk Management (ITRM) standards.
- Mentored and guided a team of system architects, promoting professional growth and ensuring alignment with strategic architectural vision.
- Developed comprehensive 4-year cloud technology roadmap to achieve cost optimization and deliver self-service capabilities through integrated DevSecOps practices and automation.

ExxonMobil (Buenos Aires, Arg. / Spring, Tx)   **Sep 2019 - Aug 2021**
Infrastructure System Architect

- Defined monitoring strategy for branch sites, including standards, tools, KPIs and SLAs.
- Led wireless-first PoC and later rollout of modern wireless infrastructure, enabling WiFi6 connectivity.
- Led Edge Compute virtualization PoC including RFP preparation, response evaluation and technology selection.
- Provided technical leadership in reorganizing product teams from siloed, tower-based support to agile, skill-sharing models.

ExxonMobil (Buenos Aires, Argentina)   **Mar 2018 - Aug 2019**
Staff Development Manager

- Mentored and coached 38 individuals across three countries, fostering professional growth and career development.
- Managed comprehensive talent initiatives, including designing training programs, conducting performance appraisals and overseeing compensation planning and team administration.
- Successfully recruited new talent by conducting behavioral and technical assessments, reaching 100% of the hiring target.

ExxonMobil (Buenos Aires, Argentina)   **Oct 2011 - Feb 2018**
Network Engineer and Technical Lead - Ops and Tech. Support

- Designed and implemented network services (WAN connectivity, routing, LAN switching and wireless) for field sites (fuels & lubes terminals, refineries, offshore oil platforms).
- Led automation initiatives to enhance global standardization of network configurations and automation mechanisms to enforce compliance.
- Managed and served as technical escalation for critical P1 incidents across Data Centers and field sites.

Telefonica (Buenos Aires, Argentina)   **Dec 2007 - Sep 2011**
Pre-Sales engineer

- Collaborated with account managers to build and cultivate strategic relationships with large manufacturing clients.
- Served as technical focal point for telecommunications and datacenter services, delivering tailored designs, presentations, and expert consultancy.
- Developed and presented compelling technical-commercial proposals and responded to RFPs.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE & MACHINE LEARNING

University of Buenos Aires   **Nov 2023 - Present**

Part-time virtual course instructor and AI technical reviewer

- Designed and delivered curricula for Data Analysis in an AI postgraduate program, equipping students with advanced data preparation, dimensionality reduction, statistical validation, and visualization techniques for optimizing datasets in AI applications.
- Provided expert mentorship on AI postgraduate theses across diverse industries (e.g., AgTech, manufacturing, finance, healthcare), guiding students to strengthen project context, articulate tangible business value (e.g., cost reduction, efficiency), and ensure clear documentation.
- Mentored and provided strategic input on AI postgraduate theses (one completed, two ongoing), optimizing project scope, technical approach, and real-world impact.

EDUCATION

AI Specialist   **Feb 2022 - Oct 2023**
Postgraduate degree
University of Buenos Aires - Argentina

Electronic Engineer   **March 2000 - Oct 2007**
Bachelor's degree
UNS - Argentina

CERTIFICATIONS

- Professional Certification in MLOps (ITBA)
- AWS AI Practitioner
- AWS Data Engineer - Associate
- AWS Certified Security - Specialty
- AWS SysOps Administrator - Associate (Expired)
- AWS Developer - Associate (Expired)
- AWS Solutions Architect - Associate (Expired)
- AWS Cloud Practitioner (Expired)
- TOGAF Enterprise Architecture - Foundation
- Project Management Professional (PMP)