BALAMURUGAN SIVARAMAN

ENTERPRISE SECURITY | CLOUD & INFRASTRUCTURE GOVERNANCE

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PROFILE

Cloud & Cyber Security Architect with 14+ years of progression from core network engineering to multi-cloud security architecture and enterprise risk governance leadership.

Designs and governs secure-by-default cloud ecosystems across AWS and Azure environments, integrating Zero Trust access models, SASE architectures, DevSecOps guardrails, and enterprise risk controls aligned to NIST CSF, ISO 27001, and CIS benchmarks.

Operates at the intersection of architecture authority and governance enforcement — defining secure landing zones, institutionalizing policy-as-code, rationalizing distributed firewall estates, and embedding preventive controls into cloud-native pipelines.

Leads large-scale transformation programs across 5,000+ users and multi-region infrastructure landscapes, translating complex technical risk into measurable control maturity and operational resilience.

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATES

B.E-ELECTRONICS AND COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING | DHANALAKSHMI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY, CHENNAI 2006 – 2010

- **Palo Alto Networks** Micro Credentials
- **Azure** - Fundamentals / Security Engineer Associate
- **Aviatrix** Multi-cloud Network Associate – 2020-8020
- ·**Cisco** Certified Network Associate (CCNA) – CSCO12347394
- **Zscaler** Certified Cloud Administrator – Internet / Private Access
- **Redhat Certified Engineer (RHCE)** – 8050119687588000

SKILLS

CLOUD SECURITY ARCHITECTURE – AWS (IAM, SCP, Control Tower, GuardDuty, Security Hub, Network Firewall), Azure (Entra ID, Defender for Cloud, Sentinel, Azure Firewall), Secure Landing Zones, Multi-Account / Multi-Subscription Design

SASE & ZERO TRUST – Palo Alto Prisma Access, Zscaler ZIA/ZPA, Conditional Access, Identity-Centric Segmentation, Remote Access Transformation

FIREWALL & PERIMETER SECURITY – Palo Alto (PAN-OS), Cisco ASA/Firepower, Check Point, Policy Optimization, Rule Lifecycle Governance, NAT & Segmentation Design

DEVSECOPS & AUTOMATION – Terraform (Modular Baselines), Ansible, OPA / Sentinel (Policy-as-Code), GitHub Actions, Azure DevOps, CI/CD Security Enforcement, Drift Detection

CONTAINER & WORKLOAD SECURITY – EKS, AKS, RBAC, OPA Gatekeeper, Network Policies, Image Governance

SIEM & THREAT VISIBILITY – Azure Sentinel, Cloud-native Logging, Hybrid Telemetry Architecture, Cross-layer Correlation

RISK & GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORKS – NIST CSF, ISO 27001, CIS Benchmarks, Threat Modeling (STRIDE), Audit & Control Validation

SD-WAN & HYBRID CONNECTIVITY – Cisco Viptela, Meraki MX, Aviatrix Transit, MPLS to DIA Migration, Branch-to-Cloud Segmentation

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Cloud Security Governance
Standardized AWS and Azure security baselines across 200+ workloads spanning multi-account and multi-subscription environments.
Implemented SCP and Azure Policy guardrails with embedded encryption, IAM boundaries, and logging controls.
Reduced misconfiguration findings by 35% by enforcing preventive policy validation within CI/CD pipelines and eliminating post-deployment remediation cycles.

Zero Trust Workforce Transformation
Modernized legacy VPN-centric access into identity-driven SASE architecture using Prisma Access, Zscaler ZPA, and Conditional Access controls.
Secured 5,000+ users across 70+ global sites while eliminating implicit trust zones and centralized perimeter dependencies.
Unified user-to-application visibility and standardized policy enforcement across branch, remote, and cloud environments.

Firewall Risk Rationalization
Led architectural review and optimization of 1,000+ firewall rules across on-prem and cloud estates.
Reduced redundant and shadowed policies by 38% and implemented standardized rule lifecycle governance.
Improved audit readiness, policy traceability, and attack surface visibility through structured review workflows.

DevSecOps Control-by-Design
Engineered reusable Terraform modules embedding preventive security controls aligned with enterprise standards.
Integrated policy-as-code validation within CI/CD pipelines, eliminating insecure deployments at source.
Reduced infrastructure provisioning time by 60–70% while removing manual security approval bottlenecks and minimizing configuration drift.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ASSOCIATE CONSULTANT | HCL TECHNOLOGIES PVT. LTD. | AUG 2021 – PRESENT
Domain: Enterprise Security Risk Advisory | Cloud & Infrastructure Governance
- Defined secure cloud reference architecture adopted across multi-region AWS & Azure environments.
- Led global SASE transformation securing 5,000+ users.
- Institutionalized Terraform guardrails embedded into DevSecOps pipelines.
- Established Kubernetes security standards across managed clusters.
- Designed centralized telemetry architecture improving hybrid visibility.
- Conducted architecture risk reviews influencing executive security decisions.
- Mentored cross-functional engineering teams on Zero Trust and segmentation strategy.

TECHNICAL LEAD | COGNIZANT TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS PVT. LTD. | AUG 2018 – AUG 2021

Domain: Security Modernization & Control Governance

- Architected segmentation strategy for large-scale AWS migration (150+ workloads).
- Led firewall rationalization across distributed data centers.
- Automated compliance enforcement using Terraform & Ansible.
- Extended SIEM telemetry across hybrid environments.
- Introduced DevSecOps security validation reducing vulnerability propagation.
- Mentored L2/L3 engineers, improving operational maturity.

IT ANALYST | TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES PVT. LTD. | MAY 2015 – AUG 2018

Domain: Data Center Security Operations & Risk Control

- Oversaw firewall and network security operations within large-scale enterprise environments.
- Performed root cause analysis to uncover systemic control weaknesses and recurring risk patterns.
- Reinforced change governance practices, reducing configuration drift and post-change incidents.
- Partnered with audit teams to provide structured control validation evidence.
- Supported early-stage cloud transition initiatives while preserving segmentation integrity.

NETWORK ENGINEER | QUADSEL SYSTEMS PVT. LTD. | OCT 2013 – MAR 2015

Domain: Enterprise Network & Security Deployment

- Delivered WAN and firewall implementations with secure configuration validation.
- Supported BFSI clients with compliance-driven network deployments.
- Ensured secure connectivity across distributed branch infrastructure.

EARLIER ROLES (2011 – 2013)

System & Support Engineer – 3i Infotech / InfoServices / Care IT Solutions

- Provided enterprise network troubleshooting and secure access support.
- Developed foundational expertise in routing, access control, and change governance.

Key Client Environments

Western Digital | Sandisk Technologies | Sainsbury's | Pearson Global | Hasbro | John Lewis | PwC | Zoho | Standard Chartered Bank | Lakshmi Vilas Bank | MRF | Sundaram Clayton