Resume

Charles R. Cantrell Jr.   
crcjr@cantrelloffice.cloud | 843-330-6769 | New Port Richey, FL

# Summary

Certified CISSP/CCSP with 20+ years of experience in systems engineering, cloud infrastructure, Kubernetes orchestration, and Zero Trust security. Proven track record of managing cross-functional teams, driving complex projects, and delivering high-impact technical solutions. Expertise in cloud-native architectures, Infrastructure as Code (IaC), and automating deployments. Strong leadership and communication skills, with a focus on ensuring project success and alignment with organizational goals.

# Certifications

(ISC)² Certified Information System Security Professional (CISSP)  
(ISC)² Certified Cloud Security Professional (CCSP)  
Forrester Certified Adopting Zero Trust  
Certified Zscaler ZIA/ZPA Administrator  
Certified Appgate SDP Commander  
Microsoft Azure Solutions Architect Technologies (AZ-303)  
Microsoft Certified Professional

# Skills

Cloud & Identity Management: Microsoft Entra Connect & Cloud Sync, Zscaler Private & Internet Access  
Infrastructure Management: Data Center Management, Kubernetes, Helm, Terraform, and Docker  
Security: Zero Trust Architecture, STIGs, DOD Risk Management Framework  
Project Management & Leadership: Cross-functional Team Leadership, Technical Program Management, Agile/Scrum Methodology  
Tools: Azure Site Recovery, Azure Migration, GitLab CI/CD, Kubernetes, Splunk Enterprise, GitHub, Jira, Confluence

# Professional Experience

## Sr. Principal Systems Engineer

Northrop Grumman – Tampa, FL  
Dec 2024 – Present  
• Program Management & Cross-Functional Leadership: Leading the successful delivery of enterprise-level Kubernetes-based cloud-native applications by coordinating across multiple teams, including product owners, security, and infrastructure.  
• Cloud Infrastructure & Kubernetes Management: Spearheaded the design, deployment, and management of Kubernetes clusters, ensuring high availability and seamless scaling of microservices across global cloud environments.  
• Process Optimization: Introducing Infrastructure as Code (IaC) using GitLab and Helm, optimizing deployment and update workflows, significantly reducing time-to-deploy solutions.  
• Stakeholder Collaboration: Regularly engaged with vendors, product owners, and other technical teams to align development efforts with business goals and customer requirements, ensuring the accelerated delivery of mission-critical applications.  
• Risk Management: Mitigated operational risks by enforcing robust security measures and ensuring compliance with NIST and RMF standards, keeping stakeholders informed on potential risks and mitigation strategies.

## Managed Services Provider

Cantrell Cloud Enterprise Services – New Port Richey, FL  
Aug 2024 – Dec 2024  
• Proactive Program Oversight: Led IT strategy and operational planning, ensuring client infrastructure was always running optimally through 24/7 monitoring, timely updates, and seamless disaster recovery planning.  
• Leadership & Team Development: Managed a team of engineers and support staff, promoting collaboration, efficiency, and high levels of customer satisfaction.

## Network Architect / Lead Engineer

GDIT – Tampa, FL  
Apr 2024 – Aug 2024  
• Program Leadership: Led the design and engineering of a data-centric environment for U.S. Central Command’s Collaborative Partner Environment, ensuring project milestones were met and exceeded, and collaborating across multidisciplinary teams.  
• Zero Trust Implementation: Managed the deployment of Zero Trust security protocols within Kubernetes and cloud environments to meet U.S. Central Command's security requirements.

## Team Lead / Zero Trust Architecture Engineer

MindPoint Group – New Port Richey, FL  
Sep 2021 – Apr 2024  
• Program & Project Management: Managed the implementation of multi-tenant Zscaler infrastructure, coordinating efforts across security, compliance, and technical teams to ensure successful deployment for the Department of Justice.  
• Infrastructure Design & Delivery: Led the setup of a Zero Trust lab environment in Microsoft Azure, leveraging Terraform and Appgate SDP for cloud-native security, contributing to a robust project timeline and successful delivery.

## Senior Systems Engineer

K(x) Solutions, LLC – Tampa, FL  
Sep 2017 – Sep 2021  
• Cross-functional Collaboration: Managed the engineering and integration of cloud security environments with a focus on U.S. Air Force’s Mission Partner Environment program, engaging with senior stakeholders to ensure alignment with mission goals.  
• Cloud Infrastructure Implementation: Designed and deployed infrastructure to meet strict security and compliance requirements, ensuring the seamless operation of high-performance systems.

# Education

Bachelor of Science – Information Technology/Information Systems Security  
University of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ  
  
Associate of Science – Explosive Ordnance Disposal  
Community College of the Air Force, Charleston, SC

# Significant Projects

## Zero Trust Development Laboratory Demonstration Environment

MindPoint Group  
Sep 2022 – Dec 2023  
• Managed the design and deployment of a Software Defined Perimeter (SDP) lab, overseeing the project from initiation to completion, ensuring stakeholder engagement, and meeting security and compliance objectives.

## Joint Interoperability through Data Centricity (JI-DC)

Joint Test and Evaluation Branch  
Jun 2020 – Aug 2020  
• Oversaw the deployment of cloud technologies, managing teams to ensure seamless integration and successful virtual field test operations, meeting tight deadlines and security protocols.

## Pathfinder Virtual Data Center

US Central Command Integration Lab  
Mar 2016 – Sep 2017  
• Led the engineering and security testing of a virtualized infrastructure, ensuring a robust, scalable, and secure solution for U.S. Department of Defense’s global operations.