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**Summary**  
Accomplished **Network Architect** with over 20 years of experience designing and implementing secure, scalable global network infrastructures. Proven track record of leading enterprise-level projects utilizing **Cisco**, **FortiGate**, **Palo Alto**, and **Juniper** technologies. Expert in **Azure cloud services**, specializing in virtual network architecture, security enhancement, and **ExpressRoute** management for high-demand, low-latency applications. Skilled in configuring secure protocols like **TCP/IP**, **BGP**, and **OSPF** to ensure resilient global communications. Demonstrated success in delivering innovative, compliant solutions that reduce downtime, strengthen security posture, and meet organizational goals..

### **EXPERIENCE**

#### **Senior Network Engineer**

**Leggett & Platt**2021–2024

**Key Achievements and Responsibilities**

* **FortiGate & Cisco Deployment**: Led the deployment of FortiGate infrastructure across 15+ sites, standardizing security protocols, implementing segmentation, and reducing unauthorized access incidents by 30%.
* **Network Design & Architecture**: Designed scalable network solutions using **Meraki full stack** (MX firewalls, MS switches, MR access points), including VLAN-segmented subnet architectures, VPN concentrators for **Azure**, and **ExpressRoute** configurations to integrate cloud environments seamlessly.
* **Cisco ASA & Data Center Security**: Directed a 10-firewall Cisco ASA migration across three data centers, enhancing compliance and reducing response times by 20% through advanced segmentation and controls.
* **Azure Network Management**: Managed over 150 Azure VNets, integrating elastic routing with **Meraki** and **FortiGate**, reducing latency by 40%, and improving secure access to organizational resources.
* **OT Security**: Replaced Check Point OT firewalls with FortiGate, cutting vulnerabilities by 25% and strengthening compliance protocols for critical operational devices.
* **Wireless Network Optimization**: Conducted RF surveys with **Ekahau AI Pro**, optimizing wireless coverage by 20% with **Cisco** and **Aruba access points**, enhancing connectivity across the organization.
* **Designed and Architected Azure IoT Hub for OT Segmentation**:  
  Developed and implemented an **Azure IoT Hub** solution for **Leggett & Platt**, integrating with **FortiGate firewalls** to enable secure **OT (Operational Technology) segmentation**. Designed a scalable architecture to protect critical IoT assets, ensuring secure communication between devices and centralized cloud resources. Configured firewall policies and segmentation to isolate OT traffic, enhancing security posture and minimizing risks associated with unauthorized access or lateral movement. Delivered a resilient, scalable IoT infrastructure aligned with organizational objectives and operational efficiency.
* **Network Design & Architecture – Global FortiGate Deployment**:  
  Designed and implemented a comprehensive **FortiGate network architecture** for **Leggett & Platt** across all global locations, including branch offices. Led the end-to-end deployment process, standardizing configurations, optimizing security protocols, and implementing segmentation to enhance network resilience. Coordinated with cross-functional teams to ensure seamless integration with existing infrastructure, minimizing downtime while meeting organizational objectives. This global initiative improved security posture, streamlined policy management, and provided a scalable framework for future growth.
* **MPLS to SD-WAN Migration**: Led the transition for 84+ locations, improving scalability, reducing costs by 15%, and establishing best practices for SD-WAN configurations to ensure seamless migration with minimal downtime.
* **Access Control & Security Policy Development**: Deployed **Cisco ISE** and **Aruba ClearPass** to enhance access control and visibility, reducing unauthorized access incidents by 20% and improving compliance with security standards.
* **Endpoint Protection**: Deployed and configured **CrowdStrike** and **SentinelOne** for endpoint protection, reducing incident response times by 40% and fortifying defenses against advanced threats through tailored policies and real-time threat intelligence.
* **FortiSASE Implementation**: Implemented **FortiSASE** to extend zero-trust security across distributed locations, improving remote access and reducing exposure to external threats.
* **Aruba Wireless Management**: Optimized Aruba wireless networks, enhancing connectivity by 20% through centralized management, RF tuning, and troubleshooting policies.
* **DMZ Security Architecture**: Designed and implemented secure **DMZ architectures** with **firewalls (Cisco ASA, Palo Alto)**, VLAN segmentation, and **IPS** for real-time threat detection. Leveraged tools like **SolarWinds** and **CrowdStrike** for monitoring and compliance.
* **Web Filtering**: Managed organization-wide web filtering with **Cisco Umbrella**, blocking malicious sites and ensuring compliance while improving productivity.
* **Advanced Configurations**: Engineered **VLAN over IPsec VPN with VXLAN**, enabling secure multi-site resource sharing, and developed dedicated VLAN subnets for newly acquired entities, improving integration processes during mergers.
* **Automation & Monitoring**: Streamlined operations through **Python scripting**, **API integration**, and tools like **Tanium** for patching, reducing manual tasks, and enhancing operational efficiency.
* **Set Up and Troubleshot BGP on FortiGate for Data Center and Azure Migration**:  
  Configured and managed **BGP on FortiGate** devices during the migration of **Leggett & Platt’s data center infrastructure to Azure**. Established dynamic routing to optimize connectivity between on-premises resources and the cloud environment, ensuring seamless integration and minimal downtime. Performed troubleshooting to resolve routing issues, fine-tuned **BGP attributes**, and validated configurations to enhance performance and reliability. This migration strengthened the organization’s hybrid cloud infrastructure and improved network scalability.
* **Innovative Solutions**: Developed a **network kill switch** for intrusion response, ensuring rapid shutdown of critical segments, and deployed **Uplogix (Lantronix)** devices for secure console access during outages.
* **Setup BGP on FortiGate, Cisco, and Palo Alto**: Configured and optimized **Border Gateway Protocol (BGP)** across **FortiGate**, **Cisco**, and **Palo Alto** devices to enable dynamic routing and ensure efficient communication between autonomous systems. Established **BGP neighbor relationships**, implemented **route advertisements**, and applied **route maps** to control and filter traffic based on organizational requirements. Leveraged platform-specific features to optimize routing paths, ensure redundancy with multiple peer connections, and enhance network resilience. Conducted thorough **routing table analysis** and testing to verify functionality, improving scalability and connectivity across diverse network environments.
* **Led IoT Network Engineering Team**: Directed the **IoT Network Engineering team** in designing and executing production deployments for the replacement of **Check Point firewalls with FortiGate solutions** across all **Leggett & Platt locations**, including branch sites. Developed scalable network designs, coordinated deployment schedules, and ensured seamless transitions with minimal downtime. Streamlined security policies and configurations to enhance network performance, standardize infrastructure, and improve overall security posture across the enterprise.
* **Developed and Managed Datto Solutions**:  
  Designed and implemented **Datto solutions** at **Leggett & Platt**, ensuring reliable data backup, disaster recovery, and business continuity for critical systems. Configured custom backup schedules, performed routine recovery tests, and optimized storage utilization to align with organizational needs. Proactively monitored and troubleshot issues to ensure seamless operation and minimize downtime. Delivered tailored, scalable solutions that enhanced data security, reduced recovery times, and supported organizational resilience against potential disruptions.
* **Deployed and Managed FortiGate Firewalls in Azure and AWS**:  
  Designed and implemented **FortiGate firewalls** in **Azure** and **AWS**, ensuring secure and scalable cloud infrastructure. Configured **redundant firewalls** for high availability, integrating with Azure **VNets** and AWS **VPCs** to enhance network resilience. Established **VPN tunnels** and **ExpressRoute** connections to enable secure hybrid cloud connectivity while optimizing traffic flow and reducing latency. Proactively managed security policies and redundancy configurations to ensure uninterrupted operations and compliance with organizational standards.

#### **Senior Network Engineer & Network Systems Engineer**

**Modern IT Solutions | Managed IT Services**2013–2021

**Key Achievements and Technical Expertise**

* **Disaster Recovery & Network Security**: Developed and implemented disaster recovery plans, reducing recovery times by 40%, and authored ISO 27001-compliant security policies, improving audit compliance by 30%.
* **Advanced Network Infrastructure**: Configured **Cisco Nexus switches** and **F5 Load Balancers**, achieving a 30% improvement in traffic distribution. Deployed **Cisco Viptela SD-WAN**, enhancing performance and scalability while ensuring zero-trust principles with end-to-end encryption.
* **Vulnerability Management**: Led a team to execute **Vulnerability Detection Coverage**, using **CrowdStrike** and **SentinelOne** to improve security posture. Conducted data validation and thought leadership in **Risk-Based Vulnerability Management**, aligning efforts across multi-functional teams.
* **Cloud & Virtualization**: Designed scalable data center environments by deploying **Cisco UCS**, integrating **VMware** and **Nexus switches** to optimize resources and support enterprise applications. Configured **Azure ExpressRoute** for hybrid cloud connectivity.
* **Micro-Segmentation & Zero-Trust**: Implemented **micro-segmentation** using **Cisco ACI** and **VMware NSX**, isolating workloads and minimizing lateral threats. Developed granular policies for compliance and visibility across sensitive environments.
* **Wireless & Location Analytics**: Designed wireless networks using **Cisco Spaces** and **Meraki MR access points** for real-time location services and actionable insights. Improved security and operational efficiency through proximity-based user engagement and activity monitoring.
* **Automation & Scripting**: Utilized **Python scripting** and **API integrations** to streamline security processes, automate network tasks, and enhance operational efficiency. Applied tools like **Tanium** and **Axonius** to ensure consistent patch management and cybersecurity asset tracking.
* **VoIP Systems & Communication**: Designed and managed VoIP systems for 12+ international branches, reducing latency by 20% and enhancing communication efficiency using **Cisco Call Manager** and SIP trunking.
* **Cisco DNA**: Deployed **Cisco DNA Center** to automate network management and analytics. Implemented **SD-Access** solutions for secure segmentation across LAN/WLAN environments, improving scalability and performance.
* **Network Protocols & Security**: Proficient in **BGP, OSPF, and IPsec**, ensuring secure routing and VPN configurations. Conducted vulnerability assessments using **CVSS v3**, prioritizing remediation efforts for critical assets.
* **Vendor & Team Collaboration**: Partnered with vendors and cross-functional teams to optimize network performance, increasing uptime by 25%. Mentored junior engineers to strengthen team capabilities and maintain project excellence.
* **Setup BGP on FortiGate for Multiple Clients**: Configured and optimized **Border Gateway Protocol (BGP)** on FortiGate devices for diverse client environments, enabling dynamic routing and efficient communication between autonomous systems. Established **BGP neighbor relationships**, defined **route advertisements** for internal and external networks, and applied **route maps** to control traffic flow based on client-specific requirements. Implemented redundancy by configuring multiple peer connections and fine-tuned BGP attributes to optimize routing paths. Conducted thorough testing and **real-time routing table analysis** to ensure seamless integration and improved network scalability for all clients.
* **Palo Alto ION 1200 Implementation**:  
  Experienced in deploying and managing **Palo Alto ION 1200** devices for SD-WAN solutions, ensuring secure and optimized connectivity across distributed enterprise locations. Configured ION 1200 appliances for **dynamic path selection**, application prioritization, and seamless failover to enhance performance and reliability. Integrated the solution with existing network infrastructure to streamline traffic routing, reduce latency, and improve end-user experience. Leveraged **Palo Alto’s centralized management platform** for policy enforcement, monitoring, and troubleshooting, ensuring consistency and scalability across the network.
* **Managed and Configured Datto Solutions**:  
  Implemented and managed **Datto solutions** for clients, ensuring robust data backup, disaster recovery, and business continuity. Configured backup schedules, tested recovery processes, and optimized storage utilization to meet client-specific needs. Provided proactive monitoring and troubleshooting to ensure seamless operation and minimal downtime. Delivered tailored solutions that enhanced data security, streamlined recovery times, and aligned with organizational objectives.
* **Designed and Architected Azure Managed Edge Firewalls for Diverse Industries**:  
  Developed and implemented secure, scalable **Azure-managed edge firewall solutions** for over 200 clients across various industries. Expertise includes configuring and deploying **Cisco**, **Palo Alto**, **Check Point**, **Sophos**, **Fortinet ,** **Meraki**, and **Zscaler** firewalls to meet diverse client needs. Created tailored architectures to enhance security posture, optimize traffic flow, and ensure compliance with industry standards. Delivered robust firewall solutions aligned with business goals, supporting secure hybrid cloud environments and enabling seamless connectivity for mission-critical applications.

#### **Senior Network Engineer/Network Engineer Architect**

**Team Work Ready**2012–2013

* **Network Systems Analysis**: Performed comprehensive systems analysis to identify vulnerabilities, successfully reducing network security risks by 30% across critical business units.
* **Router & Switch Configuration**: Installed and configured **Cisco routers, switches, and controllers**, ensuring a **99.5% network uptime** to support reliable data transmission for essential operations.
* **Scalable Infrastructure Development**: Partnered with vendors to design and implement scalable voice and data infrastructure, increasing network capacity by 40% to accommodate future growth and business demands.
* **Nationwide Infrastructure Migration**: Led the migration of **Check Point firewalls and Avaya systems to Cisco Call Manager** across all satellite offices and branches in North America. Oversaw planning, deployment, and testing phases to ensure minimal downtime and compliance with security protocols. Additionally, established **on-premises infrastructure**, including **domain controllers**, **Active Directory**, and **file servers**, centralizing authentication and enhancing system reliability and accessibility organization-wide.
* **Migrated Check Point Firewalls to Meraki**: Successfully transitioned the corporate and 20+ satellite offices across the U.S. to Meraki firewalls, enhancing network performance and simplifying management.
* **Restructured and Deployed Full Meraki Stack**: Designed and implemented a comprehensive Meraki solution, including switches, access points, and edge firewalls, replacing legacy Check Point systems, resulting in streamlined operations and improved security.
* **Built Cloud-Based VoIP Solution**: Designed and deployed a global VoIP solution using 8x8 cloud services, delivering a unified communication platform and reducing operational costs.
* **Ensured Network Redundancy**: Implemented failover systems and redundancy across all satellite offices, ensuring 99.9% uptime and business continuity.
* **Developed Segmentation Policies**: Designed and implemented VLAN and segmentation policies to improve network security and isolate sensitive data traffic, aligning with best practices and compliance standards.

#### **Network Administrator**

**NCO/RMH WORLDCOM MCI | Managed IT Services**2009–2012

#### **IT Technician / Desktop Support Technician**

* **Windows Server & Active Directory Administration**: Managed **Windows Server environments** and configured **Group Policies**, enhancing security, stability, and operational efficiency across multiple departments. Proactively addressed server issues to maintain uptime and compliance.
* **Disaster Recovery Planning**: Collaborated with department managers to design, implement, and test **disaster recovery solutions**, improving organizational preparedness and reducing recovery times in the event of outages.
* **MS Exchange Server Deployment**: Successfully deployed **MS Exchange** and **Windows 2000 Servers**, ensuring compliance with organizational standards and optimizing communication infrastructure to support seamless email and collaboration services.

**Kroger Houston Division**2001–2009

* **Help Desk & Network Connectivity**: Delivered daily network administration, including **fabrication of patch cables** and configuration of patch panels, ensuring seamless connectivity and supporting infrastructure scalability. Proactively addressed connectivity issues, improving network reliability for end-users.
* **Hardware Installation & Maintenance**: Installed, repaired, and upgraded over **300–400 user PCs**, ensuring optimal performance and minimizing downtime. Provided timely technical support to enhance end-user productivity and hardware reliability.

**Education**  
**Bachelor of Science in Computer Science**  
University of Texas at Austin, 1998–2001

**Technical Skills**

* **Managed Service Provider (MSP) Software**: SolarWinds RMM, ConnectWise Automate, Kaseya VSA, Auvik, IT Glue, Network Detective
* **Network Security & Protocols**: TCP/IP, BGP, OSPF, VLANs, IPSEC, Access Control Lists (ACL)
* **Networking Equipment**: Cisco ASA, FortiGate, Palo Alto, Juniper SRX, F5 Load Balancers, Aruba, Cisco Nexus Switches
* **Cloud & Virtualization**: Microsoft Azure, Virtual Networks (VNet), ExpressRoute, Virtual Machines (VMs)
* **Firewall & VPN Management**: Check Point, Cisco ASA, FortiGate, Palo Alto, Meraki
* **Communication Systems**: Cisco Call Manager, VOIP Configuration

**Certifications**

* **Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP)**