

MENDEL GRABSKI

Seattle, WA • 206-379-6597 • mendel@mendelg.tech • LinkedIn: Mendel G.

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Accomplished Cloud Engineer and Security Specialist with over four years of progressive experience in designing, implementing, and optimizing cloud-based solutions across various platforms, including Azure and AWS. Demonstrated expertise in enhancing cloud architectures, deploying robust security frameworks, and leading high-impact projects that improve efficiency, scalability, and security. Possesses a proven managerial track record of leading cross-functional teams to exceed organizational goals through strategic planning, innovation, and meticulous execution. Adept at driving the adoption of cutting-edge technologies, fostering a culture of continuous improvement, and maintaining stringent security measures to protect against evolving threats. Eager to leverage extensive cloud engineering and security expertise in a senior role to lead transformative projects and contribute to the strategic growth of a forward-thinking organization.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Coding: Python • HTML • Bash • PowerShell • **Cloud Platforms:** Azure • AWS • GCP • Tencent • **Infrastructure as Code:** Terraform • Terragrunt • Atlantis • CI/CD **Tools:** Azure DevOps • GitHub Actions • CircleCI • JFrog • Rancher • Kubernetes • Docker • Helm • **Monitoring:** Grafana • Prometheus • Splunk • DataDog • SolarWinds • **Security Tools:** Azure Sentinel • HashiCorp Vault • SonarQube • Cloudflare • Orca Security • SentinelOne • CrowdStrike • DarkTrace • **Networking & Routing Protocols:** DNS • DHCP • LAN • VOIP • OSI Model • OSPF • BGP • TCP/IP • Static & Dynamic Routing.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DevSecOps Engineer

April 2023 – Present

Space and Time

Remote

- Conceptualize cross-environment network infrastructures, incorporating VPNs, ingress mechanisms, and APIs while consolidating the operational optimization of cloud platforms to ensure elastic system scalability.
- Deploy IaC through Terraform, Terragrunt, and Atlantis while enhancing infrastructure provisioning to reduce deployment cycles and enhance feature and service rollout agility.
- Create and manage CI/CD pipelines using Kubernetes, Docker, and Helm to reduce deployment frequency errors and accelerate delivery cycles across multiple cloud environments.
- Develop modular and version-controlled IaC setups that reduced deployment times and improved environmental parity across development, staging, and production.
- Design and implement software solutions by determining and designing system specifications, standards, and programming, collaborating with others to create a vivid picture of operations and their fit with the mechanisms.
- Improve workflow processes by eliminating bottlenecks, implementing controls, and liaising between the project team and internal departments to resolve issues and initiate corrective actions to meet evolving business objectives.
- Provide expert-level 24x7 support for high-availability, multi-tenant architectures in demanding environments, including government and private sectors, focusing on IaaS platforms to ensure operational excellence.

Technical Accomplishments Highlights:

- Utilized cost analytics tools to provide actionable insights, leading to optimized spending, enhanced financial accountability without compromising infrastructure performance, and a 50% cloud spending on a \$3M budget.
- Developed automated signup and service hook mechanisms and configured APIs for dynamic interaction with Web3 platforms, enhancing operational throughput and user engagement and streamlining enterprise-scale cloud ops.
- Formulated and enforced security policy frameworks compliant with CSA, NIST, and SOC2 standards and developed Azure Security Center policies and automated compliance checks to fortify security postures and reduce risks.
- Identified and mitigated security vulnerabilities and drafted detailed remediation and enhancement strategies to strengthen the organization's system defenses and cybersecurity awareness.
- Integrated security measures in CI/CD pipelines and Kubernetes environments using dynamic secrets management and automated code security scans to safeguard against evolving cybersecurity threats.
- Created multi-stage build, test, and deployment processes, automated artifact storage in JFrog Artifactory, and ADO pipelines configuration, resulting in a 40% uplift in deployment frequency and operational agility.

Azure Network Security Engineer

July 2022 – April 2023

Conduent

Remote

- Experienced in configuring Azure Express Routes, IPSEC VPN tunnels, Azure Firewall, VMs, Availability Sets/Zones, Scaling, Storage, Private Endpoints, Private-Links, Key Vaults, Load Balancers, App Gateways, AKS pools, and SSL configuration.
- Skilled in configuring and deploying Azure, Cisco, Palo Alto, Sophos, pfSense firewalls, setting up VLANs, V-NETs, peering, UDRs, P2S, and S2S VPN. Well-versed in operating and maintaining Cisco, Palo Alto, and other industry-leading network vendor NVA's, conducting security audits, identifying vulnerabilities, and implementing remediation plans.

- Expertise in designing, implementing and leading Azure Identity Management solutions, with a strong understanding of AIM concepts and technologies such as MFA, SSO, PIM, with a focus on SAML and OAuth authentication methods.
- Developed and implemented Azure Security policies and procedures for a range of clients, ensuring compliance with government frameworks including CSA and NIST Controls, as well as SOC2 requirements. Highly versed with enforcing custom policies.
- Proficient in DevOps lifecycle tools, such as ADO pipelines, CircleCI, JFrog Artifactory, Git, Github, Docker, and Rancher. Experienced in designing, testing, migrating, documenting, and deploying complex cloud-based CI/CD solutions.
- Led and supported the penetration testing of large-scale systems, identified critical vulnerabilities, created remediation plans, and authored comprehensive guidelines for internal members and external clients.
- Experienced in providing support to a large production multi-tenant architecture in government and private sector, including 24x7 support for production Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS).

Technical Accomplishments Highlights:

- Configured and managed Azure, Cisco, Palo Alto, Sophos, and pfSense firewall systems and engineered VLANs, V-NETs, peering arrangements, User Defined Routes (UDRs), and P2S and S2S VPN architectures.
- Enhanced scaling, storage solutions, and network security through Private Endpoints, Private Links, Key Vaults, Load Balancers, Application Gateways, AKS pools, and SSL configurations, ensuring high availability.
- Configured and managed a complex Azure IaaS environment, including Azure Express Routes, IPSEC VPN tunnels, Azure Firewalls, and VM deployments across Availability Sets and Zones.
- Executed comprehensive system audits to identify and rectify inefficiencies, boosting Azure infrastructure's security posture and achieving higher operation and data governance standards.
- Applied backend scripts to automate redundant tasks, streamline software installation processes, and automate user onboarding for 6 major clients using PowerShell, which enhanced their operational efficiency.

Senior Cloud Engineer

Agiliant

Mar 2020 – May 2022

Bellevue, WA - Remote

- Fostered an environment of open communication and continuous learning by sharing technical insights and best practices with team members and senior management.
- Managed IT escalations, maintaining high levels of support across various organizational tiers while collaborating with vendors and IT teams to facilitate rapid issue resolution, achieving and often exceeding a 95% resolution SLA.
- Conducted in-depth performance analyses to identify system bottlenecks and collaborated with development teams to design and implement effective optimizations.
- Implemented and maintained various operating systems and application software, optimizing system management tools to ensure continuous availability.

Project Manager

Walgreens

Jan 2016 – Mar 2020

Various Locations

- Orchestrated the integration of advanced IT systems and modern retail fixtures for 15 locations, culminating in project completion that not only met but exceeded operational benchmarks and financial expectations.
- Coordinated comprehensive project proposals, integrating detailed methodologies, cost estimations, and technical specifications, thus improving proposal win rates and client confidence in project feasibility.
- Managed all project phases from inception to completion by allocating resources, scheduling and coordinating teams, and ensuring projects were completed timely, within budget, and to the highest standards.
- Implemented cost-saving strategies and resource allocation to deliver projects within financial constraints without compromising quality while maintaining strict control over project budgets and timelines.

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION

- Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, Minor in Cyber Crime – University of Phoenix
- Microsoft Certified: Azure Fundamentals (AZ-900) • Azure Administrator Associate (AZ-104)
- Microsoft Certified: Azure Security Engineer Associate (AZ-500) • Azure Network Engineer Associate (AZ-700)
- Microsoft Certified: Security, Compliance, and Identity Fundamentals (SC-900)