MENDEL GRABSKI

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HEAD OF SECURITY | DEV-SEC-OPS ENGINEER | CLOUD ARCHITECT

Experienced Security Architect with 5+ years securing Linux, macOS, and Windows environments and public clouds (GCP, Azure) at global scale. Expert in automating security infrastructure and tooling deployments using Terraform, Python, Kubernetes and ArgoCD, and in partnering closely with engineering, IT, and compliance teams to ensure robust, compliant networks. Skilled at translating complex security requirements into scalable, clear solutions and driving risk reduction in ambiguous environments.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Space and Time | Remote

Head of Security & DevOps   10/2022 - present

- **Architectural Design:** Skilled in designing complex cross-cloud and on-premises networking architectures, including VPNs, ingress controllers, and APIs, while proficiently managing and integrating multi-cloud environments such as Azure, AWS, GCP, and Tencent for optimal performance and reliability.
- **Infrastructure as Code (IaC):** Architected and automated secure, multi-region IaC deployments (Terraform, Terragrunt, Atlantis) with built-in security guardrails and drift detection.
- **CI/CD - DevOps Lifecycle:** Skilled in creating and managing CI/CD pipelines with tools like Rancher, Fleet, Kubernetes, Docker, Helm, Maven, Git, private registries, GitHub Actions, ADO pipelines, CircleCI, and JFrog Artifactory. Experienced in designing, testing, migrating, documenting, and deploying complex cross-cloud CI/CD solutions for streamlined application delivery.
- **Cost Management**: Implemented centralized cloud cost management strategies, empowering infrastructure owners to make efficient decisions and successfully reducing cloud spend by 50% within three months on a $3M annual cloud budget.
- **Cloud Operations & Integration**: Coordinated and implemented cloud operations, integrating with cloud marketplaces (Azure, AWS, GCP) to streamline pipeline processes, signup pages, hooks, and APIs for enhanced operational efficiency in Web3 ecosystems.
- **Security Policies**: Deployed global security stack (Cloudflare WAF/DDoS, Orca Security, CrowdStrike) and secrets management for Kubernetes, CI/CD and endpoints, ensuring compliance with government frameworks including CSA and NIST Controls, as well as SOC2 requirements, with strong proficiency in enforcing custom policies.
- **Security Management**: Specialized in implementing advanced security measures using Cloudflare, Orca Security, vulnerability management tools, code coverage, and secrets management for Kubernetes and pipelines, ensuring robust protection against on-chain and off-chain threats.
- **Penetration Testing & Vulnerability Management**: Led and supported the penetration testing of large-scale systems, identified critical vulnerabilities, created remediation plans, and authored comprehensive guidelines for internal and external members.
- **Production Support**: Experienced in providing 24x7 support to large production multi-tenant architectures in both government and private sectors, including Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS).

Conduent | Remote

Cloud Network Engineer   7/2022 - 10/2022

- **Networking & Connectivity**: Design and implement hybrid connectivity with Azure ExpressRoute, Site-to-Site and Point-to-Site (IPsec) VPNs, VNet peering, custom UDRs, and Azure Virtual WAN for global reach.
- **Security & Firewall**: Deploy and manage Azure Firewall, DDoS Protection, NSGs/ASGs, and third-party NVAs (Cisco, Palo Alto, Sophos); configure Private Link and Azure Bastion for secure access.
- **Compute & Scaling**: Provision and scale Azure VMs (Availability Sets/Zones, VM Scale Sets), AKS node pools, and App Service Environments; architect high-availability and auto-scaling strategies.
- **Storage & Data Services:** Manage Storage Accounts (Blobs, Files), Private Endpoints, Azure Files Sync, and Key Vault; enforce encryption at rest/in transit, backups, and geo-replication.

- **Application Delivery & SSL**: Configure Load Balancers and Application Gateways (WAF, SSL termination), traffic routing, and hybrid application gateways to seamlessly expose on-prem and cloud apps.

Agiliant | Remote

Identity & Systems Engineer   **3/2020 - 6/2022**

- **Azure Identity Management**: Designed and implemented a comprehensive zero-trust access framework using Azure AD and Okta (SAML/OAuth) for SSO, MFA and PIM; integrated Cloudflare Zero Trust—deploying Access and Gateway controls, Argo Tunnels, and granular Access Policies to secure both internal applications and external services.
- **Network Security**: Acted as security administrator across all client environments. Skilled in configuring and deploying Azure, Cisco, Palo Alto, Sophos, and pfSense firewalls, setting up VLANs, V-NETs, peering, UDRs, P2S, and S2S VPNs. Well-versed in operating and maintaining industry-leading network vendor NVAs, conducting security audits, identifying vulnerabilities, and implementing remediation plans.
- **System Management**: Installed, configured, and maintained operating systems, application software, and system management tools. Ensured the highest levels of systems and infrastructure availability.
- **Automation & Scripting**: Developed backend scripts for redundant tasks and software download/install requests. Trained team members on leveraging automation to increase efficiency. Automated user onboarding processes for six clients using PowerShell.
- **Performance Monitoring**: Monitored and tested application performance to identify potential bottlenecks, proposed solutions, and collaborated with developers to implement fixes. Maintained robust security, backup, and redundancy strategies.
- **Escalation Management**: Managed escalations from 1st, 2nd, and 3rd level support. Coordinated with vendors and other IT personnel for swift resolution and achieved a resolution Service Level Agreement (SLA) of 95% over a six-month period.

Walgreens | Various locations

Project Manager   **01/2016 – 03/2020**

- **Store Conversion Project Leadership**: Led the conversion of 15 Rite-Aid stores to Walgreens. Managed deadlines, budgets, and change management, ensuring successful installation of new IT equipment and fixtures.
- **Marketing Strategy Development**: Developed and implemented marketing strategies that achieved the "go empty" stockroom goal within six months. Increased customer satisfaction from 58.6% to 74.4% in the fiscal year 2018.
- **Staff Performance Management**: Oversaw staff performance, provided feedback, conducted performance appraisals, and developed career paths. Enhanced team productivity and customer service standards.
- **Vendor Coordination & Process Optimization**: Coordinated with third-party vendors to streamline processes, converting stores in under five workdays. Identified and leveraged opportunities for operational improvements.
- **Training & Technical Support**: Provided specialized training and ongoing technical support for new IT systems and software. Troubleshot and maintained all computer hardware and software.

EDUCATION

- **Certifications:** AZ-900, AZ-104, AZ-500, AZ-700, SC-900
- **University of Phoenix | Bachelor of Science: Criminal Justice, Minor in Cyber Crime**

TECHNICAL SKILLS

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: 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