Ishan Girdhar

Cyber Security Leader with 15+ years of experience

Strategic Information Security Leader with 15+ years of experience, including CISO roles at Funding Societies and Zai. Track record of securing fintech platforms processing billions in transactions annually. Expertise in implementing Zero Trust architectures, establishing successful Bug Bounty programs, and achieving multi-regional compliance (MAS TRM, PCI DSS, ISO 27001). Demonstrated success in building high-performing security teams of 15+ members while optimizing security investments and maintaining lean budgets. Known for fostering security-first cultures that enable rapid business growth.

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📍 Singapore, Singapore

🌐 www.ishangirdhar.com

in linkedin.com/in/ishangirdhar

github.com/ishangirdhar

WORK EXPERIENCE

Accenture   08/2022 - Present

Senior Manager, Security Consulting   Singapore

Accenture is an Irish-American professional services company based in Dublin, specializing in information technology services and consulting.

Achievements/Tasks

- Led security transformation programs for 5+ major financial institutions in SEA, resulting in 40% reduction in security incidents and 60% improvement in threat detection time
- Established Zero Trust Architecture frameworks for 3 major banks, reducing the attack surface by 65% and improving access control efficiency by 45%
- Developed and implemented cloud security strategies for FSI clients, achieving 100% compliance with MAS TRM guidelines while reducing security operational costs by 30%
- Built and mentored a team of 12 security consultants, delivering $15M+ in security consulting services annually

Contact: Shelesh Gupta, Managing Director, Accenture Security SEA - shelesh.gupta@accenture.com

Zai Australia Pty. Ltd.   02/2021 - 07/2022

Head of Information Security   Singapore

Zai helps customers build automated payment workflows & payment gateways through APIs.

Achievements/Tasks

- Led security strategy for B2B and B2C platforms processing over $5B in annual transactions, ensuring zero security breaches
- Achieved PCI DSS and ISO 27001 certifications in record time of 4 months, reducing audit findings by 75% year-over-year

CERTIFICATIONS

1. AWS Security Speciality SCS-C01

(06/2020 - 06/2023)

Amazon Web Services, USA (License: 31EMYHZCM21QQG59)

2. AWS Certified Developer Associate DVA-C02

(08/2020 - 08/2023)

Amazon Web Services USA (License: 6HGFNE21FJRQ1JKM)

3. AWS Certified SysOps Administrator Associate SOA-C01

(09/2020 - 09/2023)

Amazon Web Services, USA (License: 6HGFNE21FJRQ1JKM)

4. AWS Solutions Architect Associate SAAC01

(02/2020 - 02/2023)

Amazon Web Services, USA (License: 76KY3TD1HBQQ143)

5. ISC2 Certified Cloud Security Professional

(01/2023 - 12/2025)

(Certificate Number: 841568)

6. Certified Data Privacy Solutions Engineer™ (CPDSE)

(08/2022 - 07/2025)

7. Project Management Professional (PMP)®

(01/2023 - 01/2026)

(PMP Number: 3416286)

- Implemented API security governance framework reducing vulnerabilities by 60% and improving MTTR by 45%
- Established Security Champions program across 10 development teams, resulting in 40% reduction in security debt

Contact: Rimal Gokani - rgokani@assemblypayments.com

Funding Societies Pte. Ltd.
09/2019 - 02/2021

Head of Information Security
Singapore

Peer-to-peer lending, Capital Market Services operating in Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia.

Achievements/Tasks
- Built and led a 14-member InfoSec team across 3 countries, achieving 99.99% security SLA for platforms handling $1B+ in annual loans
- Implemented comprehensive security frameworks compliant with MAS TRM, Securities Commission, and OJK regulations in 6 months
- Reduced security incident response time by 70% through automation and improved threat detection capabilities
- Established DevSecOps practices resulting in 50% faster security testing cycles and 80% reduction in production security issues

Contact: Matt Lambie - matt.lambie@fundingsocieties.com

Grabtaxi Holding Pte. Ltd.
11/2016 - 07/2019

Information Security Engineering Manager (Product Security)
Singapore

Grab is Southeast Asia's #1 ride-hailing app for private cars & taxis.

Achievements/Tasks
- Built and led Grab's offensive security team (12 ICs, 2 leads), achieving 40% reduction in critical vulnerabilities within 6 months
- Managed Bug Bounty Program ranked in top 5 globally on HackerOne, with 2-hour average response time and 90% resolution within SLA
- Implemented AWS security controls across 70+ accounts, reducing misconfigurations by 85% and cloud security incidents by 60%
- Developed automated security scanning tools saving 1200+ engineering hours monthly and detecting 95% of misconfigurations

Contact: Sreekanth Narayanan - sreekanth.narayanan@grab.com

InMobi
06/2015 - 06/2016

Senior Security Engineer
Bangalore, India

Achievements/Tasks
- Strategized application security solutions, including security libraries and automated code reviews for CI/CD.
- Promoted security awareness through training sessions, documentation, and live demonstrations.

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8. Offensive Security Certified Professional

(07/2013 - 06/2015)

9. ISACA Certified Information Security Manager (CISM)

(12/2020 - 02/2023)

EDUCATION

Master of Computer Application (M.C.A.)

Sikkim Manipal University
08/2011 - 03/2013, New Delhi, India

Bachelor of Computer Applications (B.C.A)

Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University
08/2007 - 05/2010, New Delhi, India

PUBLICATIONS

Kali Linux Intrusion and Exploitation Cookbook

By Ishan Girdhar, Dhruv Shah
April 21, 2017 • Packt Publishing
Available in: Hardcopy, Paperback, Kindle
Comprehensive guide for penetration testing and security assessment using Kali Linux. Over 10,000 copies sold globally, used as reference material in multiple security training programs.

- Developed standards and policies for secure coding, data handling, networking, and cryptography.

Contact: Kartikeya Puri - kartikeya.puri@inmobi.com

eBay PayPal
11/2013 - 02/2015

Information Security Engineer - Level 3
Bangalore, India

PayPal is a safer payment method recommended by eBay.

Achievements/Tasks
- Led PayPal's Bug Bounty Program, developed security processes and internal tools to automate workflows.
- Managed web and mobile application security for PayPal and its subsidiaries.

Contact: Sumanta Dey - sudey@paypal.com

Aujas Networks Pvt Ltd
11/2012 - 11/2013

Consultant
Gurugram

Aujas specializes in building and transforming cybersecurity postures for businesses, focusing on mitigating risks through Identity and Access Management, Risk Advisory, and Managed Detection and Response services.

Achievements/Tasks
- Conducted penetration testing for web and mobile applications, delivering comprehensive security assessments for high-profile clients such as Airtel.
- Facilitated Confidentiality, Integrity, and Availability (CIA) ratings for new applications and major Change Requests (CR's) on asset registers, enhancing organizational risk management.
- Reviewed and implemented best practices for securing and hardening systems and network devices, ensuring alignment with industry standards.
- Evaluated third-party applications and maintained a security evaluation repository, assisting in formulating and executing Third-Party Security Audit calendars for vulnerability testing.
- Delivered comprehensive vulnerability assessments and security audits to align with industry best practices and improve client security postures.

Contact: narang.rishi@gmail.com - +852 6463 0505

AKS IT Services
11/2010 - 11/2012

Infosec Consultant
Noida, India

AKS IT delivers a diverse portfolio of IT security services, including Information Risk Management, Cyber Forensics, Incident Response, and SOC design and implementation. With a client base of over 110 organizations, including government and PSUs, AKS IT serves high-impact sectors such as manufacturing, banking, telecom, and pharmaceuticals.

Achievements/Tasks
- Conducted penetration testing for over 200 web applications, APIs, and mobile applications, including Android, Blackberry, and Windows platforms,

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Security Architecture
Zero Trust Architecture, Security Me
Architecture, Cloud Native Security
(AWS/Azure), Container Security
(Kubernetes/Docker)

Application & API Security
Web & Mobile Security, API Security
Governance, Secure SDLC, DevSecO
Threat Modeling (STRIDE, MITRE
ATT&CK)

Cloud Security
Multi-cloud security (AWS/Azure), C
Native Security Controls, Infrastruct
as Code Security, Serverless Securit

Identity & Access Managemen
Identity-First Security, Privileged Ac
Management, OAuth/OIDC, Zero Tru
Implementation

Security Operations
SIEM/SOAR Implementation, Incide
Response, Threat Hunting, Security
Metrics & KPIs

Governance & Compliance
MAS TRM, PCI DSS, ISO 27001, Secu
Frameworks & Controls, Risk
Assessment

ensuring robust security measures.

- Performed network penetration testing and Red Teaming exercises for critical clients such as the Government of India, Indian Army, Indian Air Force, NTPC, NIC, West Central Railways, and Delhi Police.
- Collaborated with clients to provide actionable recommendations, strengthening their defenses against evolving cybersecurity threats.

Contact: vivek.verma@aksitservices.co.in - Vivek Verma (Manager)

Innobuzz Knowledge Solutions   05/2010 - 11/2010

Security Researcher & Trainer   Delhi, India

Responsible for developing and implementing security training programs, and security education learning modules.

Achievements/Tasks

- Designed and implemented security training programs and learning modules, enhancing organizational awareness and readiness against cyber threats.
- Conducted penetration testing on web and mobile applications to support the development and delivery of hands-on training programs.

Contact: atul@innobuzz.in - Atul Gupta