Personal Website — AWS-Hosted Professional Portfolio

Project Overview

This document describes the design, deployment, and intent behind my personal website. The site serves as a professional portfolio and reflects how I approach IT work: with clear scope, attention to detail, and an emphasis on responsibility.

Rather than functioning as a résumé duplicate or promotional site, the website is intended to demonstrate practical cloud fundamentals, operational discipline, and security awareness through a real, working deployment.

Purpose and Design Intent

The primary purpose of this project was to build a stable, publicly accessible website using AWS services and to apply foundational cloud concepts in a realistic setting.

The site was designed to:

- Demonstrate correct use of managed cloud services
- Apply secure defaults and sensible configurations
- Present professional experience accurately and without exaggeration
- Serve as a reliable reference point for recruiters and hiring managers

Several things were intentionally avoided:

- Inflated job titles or responsibilities
- Claims of compliance ownership or authority
- Fabricated metrics or impact statements
- Overengineering beyond the project's scope

Hosting Architecture

The website is hosted using AWS managed services.

- **Static hosting:** Amazon S3
- **Content delivery:** Amazon CloudFront
- **TLS/SSL:** AWS Certificate Manager (ACM)
- **Domain registration:** Namecheap

CloudFront serves as the public access layer, while the S3 bucket is configured to prevent direct public access. The TLS certificate was issued in **us-east-1**, as required for CloudFront distributions.

Domain and DNS Configuration

The website uses the custom domain **jatinsharma.tech**.

DNS behaviour is configured as follows:

- `www.jatinsharma.tech` resolves directly to the CloudFront distribution
- The apex domain (`jatinsharma.tech`) performs a permanent 301 redirect to the `www` domain

During implementation, mobile redirect issues were identified due to overlapping redirect logic. These were resolved by removing redundant rules and enforcing a single canonical redirect. This ensured consistent behaviour across desktop and mobile devices.

Security Considerations

Security was treated as a baseline requirement throughout the project.

Controls implemented include:

- HTTPS enforced end-to-end
- TLS certificates managed through ACM
- No public write access to the S3 bucket
- CloudFront acting as the sole public-facing service

Equally important were the decisions to avoid:

- Client-side tracking or analytics
- Embedded third-party scripts
- Overly permissive access policies
- Overstating the security posture beyond what is actually implemented

These decisions were made to remain accurate, responsible, and aligned with real-world IT practices.

Professional Positioning

The website positions me as an **IT operations–focused professional** with a governance-first and security-aware mindset.

Emphasis is placed on:

- Process discipline

- Identity verification prior to access changes
- Least-privilege principles
- Clear escalation boundaries
- Experience working in privacy-sensitive environments

The site intentionally does not position me as:

- A cloud architect
- A security engineer
- A compliance authority
- A data or automation specialist

This boundary reflects my current responsibilities and experience.

Site Structure

The site is organized into the following sections:

- **Overview:** Professional mindset and approach
- **Experience:** Operational experience, clearly scoped
- **Projects:** Foundational IT and cloud work
- **Skills:** Grouped by operational relevance
- **Contact:** Minimal and professional

The tone across the site is deliberate, restrained, and process-oriented.

Experience Representation

Care was taken to present experience accurately and responsibly.

At the University of Toledo IT Help Desk:

- Progression from Level 1 to Level 2 is clearly shown
- "Student" framing is intentionally excluded
- Focus is placed on:
    - Identity verification
    - MFA, password resets, and account recovery
    - Secure workflows for Epic and MyChart
    - Escalation to networking, security, IAM, and Epic teams
    - Audit-ready documentation
    - Operating within a healthcare-adjacent environment

Other roles are framed around operational reliability, data accuracy, structured communication, and adherence to defined processes.

Deployment Process

Content updates follow a consistent deployment process:

1. Edit `index.html` locally
2. Upload updated files to the S3 bucket
3. Invalidate the CloudFront cache (`/*`)
4. Verify changes using a hard refresh or incognito session

This process helps avoid caching issues and ensures consistent behavior after updates.

Current Status

- Website is live and stable
- HTTPS is enforced
- Desktop and mobile behavior verified
- Infrastructure configuration finalized
- Professional positioning intentionally locked

Potential Enhancements

Future improvements may include:

- Adding a leadership or professional principles section
- Refining language for specific job descriptions
- Adding a small IAM-focused case example
- Conducting a recruiter-style review and refinement
- Optional migration to Route 53 for apex domain handling

These are optional and not required for the site's current purpose.

Closing Note

This project reflects how I prefer to approach systems: with clear scope, secure defaults, and accurate representation of responsibility.

The focus is not on complexity, but on clarity and trust.