PERLA MAHANTH

Network Engineer

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SUMMARY

Network Engineer with strong expertise in Cisco ISE, SDA, and DNAC, specializing in secure access control, endpoint profiling, and migrating legacy networks to modern SDA environments. Skilled in authentication/authorization policy design, VLANs, ACLs, LAN/WAN, and wireless solutions with Cisco 9800 WLC and AP provisioning. Experienced with fiber/SFP troubleshooting, automation using Python and Flask, and monitoring tools such as Azure Sentinel, LogRhythm, LogicMonitor, and SolarWinds. Exposure to SOC operations, incident response, and security best practices (OWASP Top 10). Currently pursuing CCIE Enterprise Infrastructure certification to deepen expertise in scalable, secure enterprise networking.

EDUCATION

Masters in Information Technology and Management
Campbellsville University
📅 08/2023 - 05/2025 | 📍 Louisville, KY

Masters in Computer and Information Sciences
University of Colorado Denver
📅 08/2021 - 05/2023 | 📍 Denver, CO

Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science
Anna University
📅 05/2020 | 📍 Chennai, India

SKILLS

Technologies	:	SDAccess, SDWAN
Tools	:	DNAC, Cisco ISE, Panorama
Monitoring	:	SolarWinds, LogicMonitor, Nessus
Routing	:	OSPF, ISIS, BGP, EIGRP
Scripting	:	Python, Linux

EXPERIENCE

Network Engineer
Hoag Hospitals
📅 01/2024 - Present | 📍 Newport Beach, United States

- Migrated 1,000+ endpoints from legacy infrastructure to Cisco SDA fabric, cutting VLAN management effort by 40%, with creating anycast gateways.
- Automated provisioning using DNAC + Jinja2 templates, reducing deployment time by 35%.
- Onboarded and provisioned Cisco C9300 switches in DNAC, integrating them with IS-IS for scalable operations.
- Configured and maintained Cisco ISE for endpoint profiling and authentication/authorization policies.
- Utilized Palo Alto Panorama to monitor, filter, and analyze network traffic for secure policy enforcement.
- Managed Cisco Catalyst (C9300, C9500, C9600) and Nexus (9K) switches, IE3300 rugged switches standardizing 20+ devices.
- Strong foundation in TCP/IP, DNS, DHCP, NAT with troubleshooting of connectivity and performance issues.
- Built Python scripts to automate network device health checks and log collection, applying knowledge of control structures, loops, and data handling.
- Developed Flask-based internal web tools for quick access to device configurations.
- Collaborated with a colleague on natural-language coding projects, building Python-based apps to explore automation ideas and creative solutions.
- Delegated tasks during SDA migration, earning recognition for coordination and leadership.

CERTIFICATION

Cisco Certified Specialist - Enterprise Core

CompTIA Security+

CCIE Enterprise Infrastructure (In Progress)