**John M. Nelson**

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##### SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Extensive experience performing security, management, configuration, acquisition and integration functions for complex information technology (IT) systems and telecommunications networks. Significant experience providing specialized information assurance (IA) consulting services. Comprehensive background with National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) 800-series of Special Publications (SPs). Develop information systems security plans for large national systems. Perform IA assessments to ensure compliance with Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) requirements, Federal regulations and best security practices. Create assessment and authorization (A&A) documentation using NIST guidance, Federal and commercial guidelines. Broad range of experience, varying from hands-on technical responsibilities to administrative, planning and organizational duties. Have researched, analyzed and performed trade studies of sophisticated information technology systems. Managed multi-million dollar acquisition and directed proposal activity for ADP materiel for a Fortune 100 company. Conducted formal training for UNIX minicomputers and telecommunications applications. Have installed, tested, integrated and managed software and hardware systems in various environments, including Client-Server. Advise clients on IA issues throughout the systems development life cycle.

**EDUCATION**

MBA, The American University, Washington, DC

Diploma, Computer Programming, Computer Learning Center, Springfield, VA

B.A., Business Administration, Methodist College, Fayetteville, NC

**INDUSTRY RECOGNITION**

Certified Information System Security Professional (CISSP)

U. S. National Security Agency INFOSEC Assessment Methodology Instructor

##### EXPERIENCE

**IT Coalition** Alexandria, VA

(October 2016 – Present)

Assessment Team Lead

Lead a team of 5 security professionals performing security assessment, authorization and continuous monitoring activities for NIST internal systems. Support the Office of Information Systems Management (OISM) and the NIST internal Assessment and Authorization team. Assist NIST Information System Security Officers (ISSOs) with security reviews, risk assessments, and research activities. Assess security controls based on NIST SP 800-53. Review system security documents and provide recommendations for improvement. Perform interviews of ISSOs and technical staff members. Review and verify Plans of Action and Milestones (POA&Ms). Support ongoing authorization activities.

**Compugain,** Herndon, VA

(September 2015 – October, 2016)

Information Security Analyst

As a consultant, provided information security services to the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). Served as a member of the FINRA Application Security Engineering team. Assess and create NIST-based security documentation, including system security plans. Developed corporate and client information security policy. Performed continuous monitoring activities to ensure compliance with established security controls. Managed POA&Ms for multiple systems. Assessed scan results to determine security risk and vulnerability exposure. Created monthly report for delivery to FINRA and client management.

**ActioNet** Vienna, VA

(November 2014 –June 2015)

IT Security Analyst

Performed information security assessments for the National Weather Service (NWS) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of the CIO. Evaluated information system compliance with NIST, FISMA, and NOAA information security guidelines and requirements. Analyzed quality of information security documentation and artifacts. Interviewed system staff members (including System Owner, system and network administrators, and security SMEs) to verify that security configuration and implementation follows best security practices and OCIO guidance. Documented results of system assessment in Vulnerability Analysis Reports and Security Assessment Reports. Developed recommendations to mitigate vulnerabilities discovered during assessments. Provided briefings and reports to senior management, including system owners, authorizing officials, and the Chief Information Officer.

**QSSI Inc**. McLean, VA

(March 2014 – November 2014)

Senior Security Analyst

Provided support for both corporate and client information security initiatives. Reviewed existing policies for comprehension, clarity and accuracy, and update as necessary. Developed new policy to support compliance with Federal guidance, corporate standards, and best security practices. Assessed information security packages developed by associates and clients for thoroughness and compliance with NIST guidelines, FISMA requirements, and HIPAA safeguards. Provided recommendations for improvements and enhancements. Evaluated system security artifacts developed for accuracy, consistency, and thoroughness. Researched new technology and security solutions, including Data Loss Prevention.

**GBTI Solutions** McLean, VA

(August 2013 – March 2014)

Security Advisor Engineer

Advised and provided guidance to the Library of Congress Information Technology Services Group for the operation and maintenance of their information security program. In accordance with NIST SP 800-37, performed A&A activities for multiple systems during all life cycle phases. Established, maintained and tested security baseline controls. Evaluated and ensured the appropriate security controls defined in NIST SP 800-53 are implemented for the IT infrastructure. Performed research on various IT security and SDLC topics. Developed white papers to support the analysis and research needs of the client.

**Telophase Corporation** Arlington, VA

(January 2013 – July 2013)

Information Security Analyst/Engineer

Provided support to NASA Goddard Space Flight Center system owners and information system security officers (ISSOs) to ensure compliance with NIST guidelines, and NASA information security regulations and policies. Reviewed security packages prior to submission to Authorizing Officials (AOs). Assessed accuracy, thoroughness and compliance of system security plans, risk assessments, contingency plans, configuration management plans, incident response plans, and other information security artifacts. Provided recommendations to AOs regarding decision to grant system approval to operate (ATO). Prepared all formal documentation for the assessments, including the security assessment plan and procedures, in-brief, out-brief, and the security assessment report. Worked closely with system owners and ISSOs to manage Plans of Action and Milestones.

**CSC, Inc.** Falls Church, Virginia

(September 2002 –August 2012)

US-VISIT Security Manager

Managed the US-VISIT Security Team, a 7-person team that provides security life-cycle support for the US-VISIT program, including providing incident response, disaster recovery, POA&M management, system monitoring, C&A document development and maintenance, and account management. Worked closely with Federal counterparts to implement effective and thorough information security controls to provide a secure operating environment. Implemented best security practices in accordance with DHS 4300A, FISMA requirements, and NIST guidelines. Supported multiple systems and data centers, working with the system owners and data center managers to design and implement cost-effective and robust security solutions, in accordance with the FIPS 199 security objectives for confidentiality, integrity and availability. Delivered enhanced security during the data center migration activities and during system changes and upgrades.

VIS Security Manager

Managed the Verification Information System (VIS) Security Team. Ensured the confidentiality, integrity and availability of VIS. Provided support for certification and accreditation, risk and vulnerability assessment, intrusion detection and prevention, and security auditing. Delivered security awareness training. Performed annual FISMA assessments. Developed security policy, and created and maintained security and privacy artifacts. Worked closely with clients and management to effectively manage and resolve POAMs. Evaluated and recommended security controls to protect sensitive information, as defined in NIST SP 800-53. Configured complex system logging solutions. Provided centralized authentication and authorization solutions. Implemented security solutions in accordance with DHS 4300A and in compliance with FISMA requirements.

Sr. Engineering Consultant

Delivered IA consulting services to Federal and state government customers in support of CSC Global Security Solutions Center. Performed system security requirements analyses for diverse projects. Researched, developed, and recommended technical IA solutions to clients. Conducted assessments of Federal agencies to determine security posture and compliance with regulations and best practices. Advised clients on FISMA, HIPAA, and other Federal guidelines. Developed C&A documentation to comply with Federal regulations and NIST guidelines. Evaluated organizational IA training programs to determine effectiveness, and provided recommendations for improvements. Developed and presented proposal responses to address IA requirements.

**EDS, Inc.** Herndon, Virginia

(May 2000 – September 2002)

Sr. Information Assurance Analyst

Managed multi-function IA assessment teams for Federal/State government and commercial clients. Evaluated the security posture of customer environments and identify risks discovered. Analyzed network and system penetration test results and developed strategies to mitigate threats identified. Briefed upper-level management (CIO, CFO) on findings and recommended IA enhancements. Designed secure system architectures to protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of client systems and information. Produced guidelines for the secure configuration and operation of IT devices. Created IA Policies and Procedures to support compliance with NIST guidelines, industry best practices, client objectives, and legal requirements. Developed proposals to respond to potential new business opportunities.

**SRA International, Inc.,** Fairfax, Virginia

(June 1997 to May 2000)

Information Systems Security Engineer

Advised and guided national clients (Department of Commerce, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, Department of Health and Human Services) in the development and implementation of their Information Assurance programs. Developed security plans for complex systems, following guidance from NIST SP 800-18. Conducted risk and vulnerability analyses in support of information technology assets. Determined and recommended cost-effective mitigation strategies based on particular threats and vulnerabilities. Devised strategies for national organizations to comply with and implement directives of the National Plan for Information Systems Protection. Designed, evaluated, and implemented security awareness training programs. Analyzed and determined compliance with relevant laws and legislation, as applicable to information systems security. Created new and reviewed existing systems security documentation, including policies and procedures. Produced implementation plans for Security Incident Response Capabilities. Contributed to follow-on and new corporate business by delivering exceptional service and results to existing customers.

**Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC),** McLean, Virginia

(November 1993 - November 1995)

Systems Analyst

Provided systems engineering services to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the EPA Systems Development Center. Supported information systems modernization for multiple EPA program offices. Advised clients about network and computing issues for both current and planned configurations. Worked closely with customers to design and implement efficient and innovative solutions. Managed and administered multiple UNIX servers, workstations, and Novell token ring LANs in a client-server environment. Organized hardware and software maintenance and upgrades. Configured and managed access control and security privileges for multiple systems. Provided technical support to a team of 35 software developers. Established procedures for ADP and network operations. Developed documentation to fulfill project deliverable specifications.

**BTG Inc.,** Vienna, Virginia

(May 1993 - November 1993)

Technical Support Specialist

As a consultant, provided technical software support (UNIX, Networking, C programming, and software and hardware configuration) to end users of the Tactical Advanced Computers 3 (TAC3) contract for Hughes Data Systems. Delivered technical guidance and assisted in trouble-shooting processing problems with HP 9000 computers running HP-UX and a variety of third party hardware and software products. Researched and analyzed customer computing and networking performance issues and delivered timely and complete solutions. Assisted Marketing staff by advising clients prior to sale and ensuring proper configurations. Provided superior support to customers through dedication, concern about each customer’s needs, and enthusiasm.

**PRC Inc.,** McLean, Virginia

(March 1992 - March 1993)

Senior Systems Administrator

Managed various UNIX-based computer systems, locally and nationally, for PRC Realty Systems. Administered Intel xx86 hardware platforms and NCR minicomputers. Provided technical support to PRC-owned publishing plants that produced Multiple Listing Service books and Database Publications. Advised Computer Operations managers and ADP staff members about daily UNIX system maintenance and specific processing problems. Set up and maintained both UUCP-based communications and TCP/IP networks. Supported local programming staff with system programming issues. Created and maintained UNIX shell scripts to streamline operations. Contributed significantly to the corporate migration from a NCR minicomputer environment to a PC-based operation.

**AT&T Services Company, Inc.**, Washington, D.C.

(March 1990 - March 1992)

Training Specialist

Trained military and civilian data processing personnel in support of the Standard Multiuser Small Computer Requirements Contract (SMSCRC). Taught System Programming, System Administration and System Maintenance for AT&T 3B2 minicomputer systems and I/O peripheral devices utilizing UNIX System V. Areas of concentration included system customization, shell programming, system architecture, performance monitoring, diagnostics evaluation and system security (for both C2 and B1 environments). Instructed students in Communications applications, emphasizing TCP/IP, Remote File Sharing (RFS) and X.25 protocols. Developed networking skills regarding DDN, Internet, IEEE 802.3, LANs and WANs. Provided hands-on instruction for maintenance and repair of the system hardware components. Developed course material to complement and improve the existing documentation. Delivered exceptionally thorough and relevant training to clients, improving the readiness and efficiency of multiple clients and organizations.

**TRW, Inc.**, McLean, Virginia

(November 1987 - March 1990)

Senior Business Administrator

Directed all aspects of proposal activity relating to ADP materiel. Worked with proposal management to develop a Bill Of Materiel (BOM) compliant with the RFP and FAR requirements. Worked with proposal team engineers and potential suppliers to match ADP requirements with the best possible solutions. Ensured accuracy of the particular configuration, vendor quotations and engineering estimates generated. Resolved technical discrepancies between project requirements and vendor solutions. Maintained Materiel Proposal package through proposal submission, contract award and possible post-award DCAA audit review. Supported BAFO requirements and proposal negotiations by re-negotiating with vendors as necessary. Through computer systems knowledge and business experience, contributed to cost-effective and technically superior proposals.

Computer Systems Buyer

Managed multi-million dollar acquisition of computers (micro, mini, and mainframe), peripheral devices and software in support of TRW contractual and internal ADP requirements. Performed detailed cost/price analyses and performance studies of complex data processing system configurations. Advised clients and made recommendations to end-users based on trade studies and in-depth ADP knowledge. Prepared Requests for Quotation, evaluated different proposals received and awarded procurements. Maintained compliance with the FAR and TRW purchasing regulations. Negotiated with top-level management of various firms to establish corporate terms and conditions, pricing and delivery/production schedules in order to satisfy company and project requirements. Using negotiation skills and market familiarity produced significant cost reductions.

**Processing Research Inc. (PRI)**, Vienna, Virginia

(June 1987 - November 1987)

Technical Staff Member

Provided systems engineering support for the development of SIGINT collection, processing and reporting systems. Supplied System Engineering Technical Assistance support to national agencies for planning, program development, critical design reviews and RFP development. Maintained FORTRAN software source code. Created and maintained various spreadsheets, databases and reports using LOTUS 123, RBASE 5000, and WORDSTAR software. Responsible for corporate assessment and acquisition of computer hardware and software. Through analysis of user needs, developed criteria for data processing requirements. Conducted extensive research and evaluation, resulting in selection of most effective ADP alternatives.

**Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC)**, McLean, Virginia

(January 1985 - June 1987)

ADP Systems Analyst

Installed and tested complex C3 systems, using DEC VAX minicomputers and peripheral I/O subsystems, for the U.S. Navy. Maintained applications software, baseline programs and data files provided at system turnover. Performed daily file maintenance, system software configuration and software troubleshooting. Conducted tests to evaluate discrepancies during the System Acceptance Test and Operational Test and Evaluation. Resolved hardware configuration problems and installed new software releases. Utilized Datatrieve software to track and evaluate project discrepancies. Maintained and updated database files, designed and generated various reports relative to status of deficiencies. Performed in-depth analysis and critical evaluation of technical documents, leading to improved and more accurate documentation resources for the technical library.