

Muhammad Lateef

Senior Network & Infrastructure Engineer

+44 7776 255537

lateef@cyberglobe.co.uk

<https://walana.tech>

Edinburgh, Scotland, EH16 4WG, UK

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Results-driven Senior Network Engineer with 14+ years of experience designing, delivering and automating complex network infrastructure across enterprise, data centre, and cloud environments. Proven track record leading large-scale transformation programmes and driving automation-first culture. SC cleared.

KEY SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

Certifications: CCNA (R&S, Security, Voice) | CCNP (Route/Switch) | VCP6-DCV | VCP6-NV

Network Platforms: Cisco Nexus & Catalyst, Arista (AVD/CVP), Juniper, Palo Alto, Checkpoint

Load Balancing: F5 BIG-IP LTM — virtual servers, pools, profiles, iRules, health monitors

Security: Palo Alto NGFW, Checkpoint (R77–R80), Cisco ASA/PIX, ISE, RADIUS, 802.1X, TACACS+, VPN (IPSec/SSL/Remote Access)

Routing & Switching: BGP (eBGP/iBGP, multi-homing), OSPF, EIGRP, VRF, VXLAN, EVPN MP-BGP, HSRP, VRRP, VSS, VPC

Cloud & Virtualisation: AWS (Direct Connect, Route 53), VMware vSphere 6.x, VMware NSX-V & NSX-T, OpenShift

Automation & DevOps: Ansible/AAP (Tower), Python 3, Bash, Jenkins, Git, NetBox, containerised pipelines

Agile: Kanban, Scrum, 5S, retrospectives, VFQ — 5+ years delivery experience

NOTABLE PROJECTS

Arista Network Automation & DC Transformation

- Architected full enterprise network replacement: Cisco multi-DC to Arista Leaf & Spine Layer 3 VXLAN/EVPN MP-BGP with Cognitive Campus Wi-Fi.
- Built AVD-based automation framework with custom NetBox API integration (Python 3) as single source of truth; container-based CI/CD pipelines (Git + Jenkins).
- Developed Ansible playbooks for eAPI and CVP API integration with automated test pipeline and assurance checks.
- Integrated AWS Direct Connect and Palo Alto firewall clustering; migrated 100+ network segments with zero unplanned outages.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Registers of Scotland

Senior Network Engineer

Edinburgh | Mar 2019 – Present

Lead network engineer within the site resilience team, owning 1 on-prem DC, 3 co-locations and 2 campus offices.

- Led Project Hydra — compute and storage platform refresh.
- Delivered Checkpoint to Palo Alto firewall migration programme.
- Procured and delivered multiple WAN links including AWS Direct Connect.
- Provided network consultancy for OpenShift platform deployment.
- Designed and implemented DNS migration from DYN to AWS Route 53.
- Mentored junior engineers; managed third-party supplier relationships.

FNZ UK Ltd

Network Engineer (Global)

Edinburgh | Sep 2018 – Mar 2019

Part of 5-person Global Network Team supporting 11 datacentres and 16 office campuses worldwide.

- DC Consolidation: scoped requirements, produced HLD/LLD, rack diagrams and migration strategy; translated Catalyst configs to Nexus.
- Firewall Upgrade: designed dual Checkpoint MDM deployment (Edinburgh EU / Wellington APAC) and migrated SmartCenter R77.30 to R80.10.
- Consolidated and improved global firewall rule base.

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Principal Network Engineer

Edinburgh | Jan 2017 – Sep 2018

Infrastructure team lead responsible for 2 datacentres and 2 campus offices.

- Led Checkpoint firewall refresh project.
- Designed and implemented BGP multi-homing for resilient internet connectivity.
- Provided OpenShift network consultancy to internal cloud team.
- Designed, procured and implemented external DNS solution.

BBC

Lead Network Engineer

Location Independent | Aug 2016 – Jan 2017

Aurora programme: migrated 76 UK sites from Vodafone to BT WAN circuits as part of BBC's next-generation digital infrastructure initiative.

- Produced per-site technical design documents (migration plan, rollback plan, configs).
- Deployed Cisco ASR 9006 routers; configured SSH, SNMP, AAA, NTP, IP SLA, NetFlow, VRF, OSPF.
- Managed Change Requests through ITSM/CAB process.
- Coordinated across BBC, BT, Vodafone and ATOS to ensure seamless cut-overs.

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Cloud Platform Network Specialist

Edinburgh | Nov 2012 – Aug 2016

Redesigned and delivered the network infrastructure underpinning RoS virtualisation journey.

- Full network redesign: redundant core (HSRP/VRRP/VSS/VPC), Nexus 5k/2k fabric extenders.
- Integrated VCE VxBlock private cloud into corporate network.
- Implemented OSPF and BGP routing domains with route filtering and redistribution.
- Deployed Cisco ISE, RSA Authentication Manager (2FA) for remote access VPN.
- Admin of HA Cisco ASA, PIX, Checkpoint and NSX firewalls.
- Implemented Cisco wireless network with PRIME integration.
- Agile delivery with Kanban/Scrum; 3rd-party tender review board member.

Coventry University

Network Engineer

Coventry | Apr 2012 – Nov 2012

- BAU and project delivery; Cisco Call Manager v8 administration.
- Deployed and maintained 200 wireless APs with detailed floor heat maps.
- Upgraded inter-site links from 1G to 10G; refreshed data cabinets.
- Full network documentation including detailed topology diagrams.

TECHNICAL COMPETENCIES

Hardware: Cisco Routers (7k/4k/3800/2800), Catalyst (6800/6500/3850/3750/2900), Nexus (9k/5k/2k), UCS; Arista; Juniper; F5 BIG-IP LTM

Firewalls: Palo Alto NGFW, Cisco ASA/PIX, Checkpoint (NGX, R77, R80)

Network Management: SNMP, Syslog, Cisco Prime, SolarWinds, Spectrum OneClick, NetBox, CVP, CloudVision

Operating Systems: Cisco IOS/NX-OS, Arista EOS, Checkpoint Gaia, PAN-OS, Linux, Windows Server 2008–2016

Virtualisation: VMware vSphere 5.1–6.5, VMware NSX-V & NSX-T, OpenShift

EDUCATION

Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Networking

Edinburgh Napier University

M.A. Business Management

Leeds Trinity University