

ARSLAN RIAZ

Data Center Management | Command & Control Room Operations | Enterprise Infrastructure | Network & Systems Engineer

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Network and Systems Engineer with 8+ years of experience designing, deploying, and managing enterprise-grade network, data center, and security infrastructure. Proven track record leading large technical teams (100+ staff) on nationally significant projects, including a Tier-3 data center and 25+ km fiber backbone for the Islamabad Orange Metro Bus. Skilled in Cisco/Huawei networking, Windows Server & Active Directory administration, VMware/Proxmox virtualization, enterprise firewalls, wireless infrastructure, and infrastructure monitoring. Strong background in network security, regulatory compliance, and cross-functional project delivery.

CORE SKILLS

Networking & Routing: Cisco & Huawei switching/routing, VLAN, VRRP, HSRP, GLBP, OSPF, NAT, PAT, ACL, STP, VTP, Inter-VLAN routing, port security, port channels

Security & Firewalls: Huawei USG6000E, Palo Alto PA-802, PFSense, Sangfor (firewall & IAM), network access control, ISO 9001:2015 lead auditing

Servers & Virtualization: Windows Server 2012R2/2022, Active Directory, DNS, DHCP (redundant), RADIUS/NPS, Hyper-V, VMware ESXi/vCenter, Proxmox, Docker, Linux (Red Hat, Debian, Ubuntu)

Data Center & Storage: Dell, HP ProLiant, IBM, H3C servers; TrueNAS/FreeNAS; SAN storage; NVMe 40G/10G fiber; Tesla P100 GPU integration for AI workloads

Wireless & Connectivity: Huawei AC6508 controller & AirEngine APs, Ubiquiti point-to-point links (LR60, PowerBeam M5, up to 10 km), multi-vendor AP configuration (Cisco, TP-Link, D-Link, Netgear, Rujie)

Monitoring & Tools: Zabbix, Observium, LibreNMS, Uptime Kuma, Grafana, JIRA

Security & AV Systems: Hikvision video wall & iVMS, IP/analog CCTV, NVR, access control, Yeastar IP telephony, IP PoE audio (SPON)

Cloud: AWS, Azure, Hybrid cloud integration, Virtual Private Cloud deployment

DevOps: Nginx, CI/CD pipelines, Git, Ansible, Bash Scripting

CERTIFICATIONS

- AZ-104: Microsoft Azure Administrator Associate — Microsoft, Aug 2026
- AZ-900: Microsoft Azure Fundamentals — Microsoft, Oct 2025
- Career Essentials in System Administration — Microsoft and LinkedIn, Oct 2025
- Cisco Network Administrator — Prime Minister's Hunarmand Program (NAVTTTC), Jun 2021 – Dec 2021
- Lead Auditor, ISO 9001:2015 — DAS Pakistan, Sep 2018

EDUCATION

- **Master of Information Technology (MIT)** — BIIT, PMAS Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi | 2016 – 2018 | CGPA 3.87
- **Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (BSc)** — Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan | 2014 – 2016

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Data Center / Control Center Manager *Jan 2025 – Present*

Trade & Projects (TAP) — Islamabad, Pakistan

- Lead deployment of a Tier-3 Data Center for the Islamabad Orange Metro Bus project; manage a team of 100+ network engineers, system administrators, and support staff.
- Install, configure, and administer Dell enterprise servers running Windows Server 2022 Standard with Hyper-V, DHCP, DNS, Active Directory, an Additional Domain Controller, and RADIUS authentication for wireless devices.
- Deploy and manage virtual machines across Ubuntu, Red Hat, and Windows environments.
- Architect and deploy a Hikvision video wall system with iVMS server integration, supporting 350+ CCTV cameras for the project's Command and Control Center (DS-6916UDI(B) decoders, DS-C30S wall controller, DS-A82024D SAN storage).
- Roll out Yeastar IP telephony and SPON-controlled IP PoE audio systems organization-wide.
- Configure Huawei CloudEngine switches (S5731-S48P4X, S6730-H24X6C, S5735-L48T4X-A1) including VLAN segmentation, VRRP redundancy, and protocol management.
- Manage Huawei USG6000E firewalls to secure enterprise network perimeter.
- Design and deploy a fiber-optic backbone spanning 9 stations and 25+ km using OSPF routing.
- Administer a centralized Huawei Wi-Fi network (AC6508 controller with AirEngine 5761-11 access points).
- Implement an NMS monitoring stack (LibreNMS, Uptime Kuma, Observium, and Zabbix) for real-time infrastructure visibility and executive-level reporting.

Network & System Team Lead *Sep 2022 – Aug 2025*

Cowlar Inc. — Islamabad, Pakistan

- Designed, implemented, and maintained enterprise network infrastructure; troubleshoot complex issues to minimize downtime.
- Managed virtualization via VMware ESXi/vCenter and Proxmox, including VM creation, migration, and deployment.
- Deployed Docker containers for streamlined application deployment and management.
- Developed hybrid cloud solutions integrating on-premises infrastructure with cloud services.
- Implemented VRRP redundancy and Windows Server 2022 with Active Directory, DNS, redundant DHCP, and RADIUS.
- Configured PFSense firewalls and WAN link aggregation, achieving 4.0 Gbps internet throughput.
- Installed point-to-point wireless links (Ubiquiti LR60, Mini Mosa, PowerBeam M5) providing connectivity up to 10 km.
- Configured multi-vendor access points (Netgear, TP-Link, D-Link, Rujie, Huawei, Cisco).
- Built 40G/10G fiber LAN infrastructure for high-speed AI rendering machines; integrated Tesla P100 GPUs into Dell R740/R720 servers for AI virtual machines.
- Deployed TrueNAS storage on 40G/10G NVMe drives; deployed IP camera/NVR, access control, and attendance systems.

Network & System Engineer *Jun 2023 – Jan 2025*

NITB — Islamabad, Pakistan

- Designed, implemented, and maintained enterprise network infrastructure; troubleshoot complex issues to minimize downtime.
- Configured and managed Palo Alto PA-802 and Sangfor firewalls, plus Sangfor IAM, for network access and security.
- Configured VLANs, STP, VTP, port security, and network security protocols.
- Managed VMware ESXi/vCenter for VM creation, migration, and deployment.
- Deployed and managed a Virtual Private Cloud within NTC.
- Implemented Windows Server 2012 R2, Active Directory, and network file sharing.
- Managed a centralized Huawei Wi-Fi controller (AC6508) with AirEngine 5761-11 access points.
- Configured TP-Link, D-Link, Huawei, and Cisco access points.
- Deployed IP camera/NVR, access control, and attendance management systems.

IT Supervisor Jan 2018 – Aug 2022

Shaqurri International Private Ltd — Islamabad, Pakistan

- Managed Cisco 1814 routers and Cisco 3560/2960/2950 switches, configuring VLANs, spanning-tree protocol, and port security for reliable connectivity.
- Implemented Layer 2/3 features including inter-VLAN routing and port channel configuration for a scalable, resilient network.
- Administered HP ProLiant DL360 and IBM servers running Windows Server; performed firmware updates, hardware diagnostics, and backup/recovery.
- Installed and maintained attendance management, PBX, and door access card reader systems.
- Administered JIRA for customer ticketing and employee performance tracking.
- Managed WordPress websites and IP/analog security camera systems.

LANGUAGES

English (B2 – Independent User) | Urdu (Native) | Punjabi (Native)