

CURRICULUM VITAE [EXTENDED] – IAN COWLEY

Ian Cowley

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Business Role: IT Network & Security Consultant
Higher Education: BSc Hons Chemical Engineering 1981
Tech. certifications: Jul 2008 GIAC Cutting Edge Hacking Techniques (SANS517)
Oct 2008 GIAC Security Essentials (GSEC) (SANS401)
Apr 2009 GIAC Certified Firewall Analyst (GCFW) (SANS502)
Apr 2010 GIAC Certified Penetration Tester (GPEN) (SANS560)
Oct 2012 ITIL 2011 Foundation
Security certifications: Dec 2010 Basic Disclosure 110 I00094669526
Industry Memberships: British Computer Society #990468127
IEEE
LinkedIn: <https://uk.linkedin.com/pub/ian-cowley/7/960/b8b>
Interests: Motor racing & engineering; 1981 Group 1 Mazda RX7, Golf, Mountain Bike

Overview

I am a highly experienced and versatile IT professional with 25 years in IT networking and security, providing IT consultancy, project management and engineering for infrastructure environments to a variety of business sectors and especially the financial SME sector.

My skills are based around Network and Security infrastructures and primarily Cisco, Checkpoint and Riverbed products. I strive to match the IT solutions to the business requirements and have the flexibility and willingness to undertake a wide variety of tasks from architecture design to 'hands-on' implementations.

I am comfortable working in high pressure environments, as found in the SME Financial sector.

Confident with the ability to communicate and negotiate at all levels.

I have a track record of delivering IT projects including over 150 successful start-up businesses business

Strong relationships with stakeholders, colleagues, partners and vendors

I am prepared to travel and have been engaged in projects in London, Channel Isles, Geneva, Zurich, Paris, Frankfurt, Rome, Milan, Stockholm, Tel Aviv, San Jose, Singapore and Hong Kong.

Key Achievements

- Prepared, designed and managed the tender process for an EMEA WAN upgrade for a global Travel corporation.
- Architect for a Managed Service Virtualised Hosting environment targeted at the Hedge Fund community with a target revenue stream of £1million. Key technical decision maker for technology platforms.
- Implemented a Dot1X and AAA solution using a 3 node Cisco Identity Services. As a consequence of this experience I was also asked to a recover a badly implemented ISE solution for a Local Council.
- Designed and implemented an infrastructure to support a business growth from £80million to £200million.
- Key member of a London Hedge Fund Integrator to some of the world's best known Hedge Funds.
- Architected and implemented the network and security solution for a major pan-European Private Equity firm.
- Built, operated and maintained an IPSwitch WhatsUp network management system monitoring over 1500 nodes.
- Designed a rapid database driven deployment of over 200 Cisco routers as a SOHO firewall solution; VLAN/VPN/CBAC. This was more cost effective than deploying cheaper Retail products.
- Developed the very first Structured Cabling, LAN/WAN infrastructure and standards for the Royal Bank of Scotland

Product Experience Summary:

CISCO Nexus, Catalyst, ISE, ASA , PIX	Checkpoint Firewall-1 IPSO/SPLAT/Gaia to R77
Fortinet/FortiManager v5	IPSwitch WhatsUp, NAGIOS, SolarWinds Orion
LAN & WAN media; OSPF, EIGRP, BGP	MPLS BT/MDNX/Verizon/AT&T/Exponential-e
HP Blade Chassis/Virtualisation(VMware)	Dealing Info Systems: Bloomberg, Reuters
SAN – NetApp, Compellent, Equallogic	Riverbed Steelheads, SMC, Pilot & Cascade, Shark
GNS3 Cisco Simulation	F5 LTM, APM, GTM
Bluecoat IronPort Websense Blackspider	VoIP Avaya, Cisco CME, Asterisk
Juniper SSG & SA & EX Switches	Speakerbus iTurret & Gateways
SkyBox Change Manager	ServiceNow

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1995 – To date Consultant/Contractor – YNC Ltd

Aug – Nov 2016 – ECS

Providing consultancy to an IT service provider.

Undertook an independent review of a Data Centre upgrade proposal from a major service provider for a major Healthcare Trust. Their proposal was analysed to verify the understanding of the previous infrastructure and its recommendations for the upgrade. The service was based around 2 Data Centres and HP Fabric switches, with 3 major sites. The report was produced and presented to the CEO and CTO of the Trust.

Provided a short term resource, for the Firewall engineering team at a major UK bank. Business As Usual change management (ServiceNow), preparation (SkyBox) and implementation (either direct or 3rd party scheduling). Checkpoint (Provider1, Nokia and Gaia) and Fortinet (FortiManager),

Provided the technical assessment for a Firewall Assurance program, for a major UK bank. Undertook an analysis of the Change Management process, in an attempt to reduce the number of delays and resource over spend caused by firewall rule implementation issues. Used information from Packeteer traces and from Skybox. The report for this Firewall Assurance program was presented to the senior IT management of the bank.

Jun2015 – Aug2016 The Travel Corporation

TTC are a global company of some 4000 staff. I had been supporting the IT Manager (EMEA) on an adhoc basis since 2011 and had helped them fill the role of a network engineer, with an ex colleague. From June 2015 I worked full time on site to help develop the EMEA network infrastructure strategy and to provide BAU support to the network engineer.

The main Strategy development centred around Security, EMEA WAN and EMEA wireless services.

A detailed fully costs analysis was undertaken of the EMEA component of a global MPLS service provided by a US carrier. A very detailed Vendor selection was undertaken and reduced down to 3; the Incumbent and 2 others.

The proposal to replace this with a Euro-centric service integrated with the incumbent was presented to the Board. It offered 10 to 100 times the bandwidth at a global saving of US\$250,000pa.

The Security strategy addressed the difficulties of managing numerous discreet offices and companies with 3rd party access. PKI responsibilities and audit points were also reviewed.

The Wireless strategy addressed the issue that the staff regularly moved between sites and countries within EMEA. Having a Social Media presence meant that employees and guests needed a reliable consistence service. Cloud and traditional Enterprise solutions were considered. The recommended solution was based around Ruckus products. I also attempted to engage the Business into the IT Strategy as there was a significant disconnect between departments and their perceived objectives.

BAU support within the network team (2 of us) involved with:-

Checkpoint management, upgrades and implementation with 13500, 4400 and 1100 series appliances (R77.30 and R77.30) with most modules active (IPS/AV/BOT/SPAM/VPN/APP)

The core network infrastructure was based around Juniper EX and Cisco Catalyst switches. Day to day network tasks included VLANs, Trunking, DHCP relay, and routing.

Cisco ASAs and IOS routers provided inter site VPNs and VPN3000s for client access.

Cisco ACS for RADIUS and TACACS+ authentication (ISE was under consideration)

Ruckes ZoneDirector and WAPs management across UK/EU.

Enterasys Dragon/Qradar SIEM development in support of both the BAU infrastructure (Checkpoint, Juniper, Cisco) and PKI audit.

Global MPLS eVPN WAN

Development and operation of SolarWinds Orion network management and monitoring of the all above, using SNMP v2,v3 and Netflow where available.

Feb2015 – Jun2015 Coleman Bennett – Arthur J Gallagher, et al

Project Manager for CBI client AJG's Disaster Recovery Test Plan for SOX applications.

Undertook application reviews and helped prepare the test plans so that Applications could be accepted into the AJG Disaster Recovery Schedule process. This involved Application and Development team interviews and dependency matrices. Many systems involved 3rd party interfaces for which decisions around testing or simulation where required. This DR Plan was required for their Compliance Audit. This whole process is a live project that is part of a continual cycle of review, test and reporting to the Board.

During the AJG project I was also available for other pre-sales activities especially around network & security architectures for other CBI clients.

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Dec 2014 – Jan 2015 Empower/Worthing Council

I was engaged on a short-term consultancy to assist Worthing Council to recover a failed implementation of a Cisco ISE v1.2 deployment. Due to contractual disputes this had been left undocumented and unsupported. Over a period of 2 weeks man time on site, I assessed the requirements; primarily supporting Wireless access for staff and guests, and rebuilt the units. Created the redundant pair of ISE appliances; created the AAA policies and fully documented the solution. I also created a few example RADIUS profiles and the document demonstrated how the IT team could add more devices and accounts to the system.

The system was integrated with Microsoft AD and with the Cisco WAPs and WLCs.

Oct 2013 – Oct 2014 Jupiter Asset Manager – Infrastructure Analyst (Network)

I was contracted to the Infrastructure team to provide Design, Implementation and 3rd level global support to Cisco (Nexus, Catalyst, ASA, ISE), Checkpoint, F5 and Riverbed.

I picked up on an orphaned Cisco ISE based AAA and Dot1x PKI NAC solution. Over a period of about 6 months I constructed the policies, working with the IT Security team, to cover all networking equipment. The 3 node system was distributed across 3 sites and was fully integrated with Microsoft AD and CA services. All devices attaching to the infrastructure were provided with certificates where possible and MAB where not.

I developed the management of the network, firewall and ISE infrastructure into the SolarWinds Orion network management.

I managed the Riverbed WAN accelerators; design, implementation and troubleshooting.

I helped design and install the Honk Kong office using Cisco, Checkpoint and Riverbed products in support of a 2 node VM platform.

2009 - 2013 Choice Pharma / Western Oriental Ltd

Ad Hoc consultancy for Events Agency based in London with global satellite offices reporting to the IT Director.

I worked with the IT Director to create a Strategy document to provide an infrastructure to support the business growth from £80million to a projected £200million.

The strategy was accepted and was divided into 3 parts: Virtualisation, WAN and Business Continuity.

Virtualisation: Local resources had experience with VMWare and DELL servers so this was expanded on and a review of SAN technologies resulted in Compellent equipment using iSCSI being deployed. The Business Continuity plan enabled asynchronous replication off site.

WAN: The company had been using a mixture of VPN and dial-in facilities. A review was undertaken and a UK based MPLS style service was deployed with ADSL connectivity to this for smaller sites.

Business Continuity: One of the larger offices outside of London was used for Business Continuity with replication and backups being sent there. Tests were undertaken and documented to prove the company could operate from the DR site and that there was spare capacity for core staff to relocate if required.

I also created a NAGIOS based company wide monitoring system.

2012 – 2013 Etonbridge Consultancy

Provided general Network & security consultancy to their SME Financial services clients in London and Europe.

Supporting their Cisco, Juniper, HP, Checkpoint, Riverbed and SilverPeak deployments.

Set up a remote office in Malaga for one of the clients involving Cisco based VPNs and Cisco Call Express.

Built WhatsUp, SolarWinds, NAGIOS and ManageEngine monitoring systems.

2013 – Wipro Consultancy Services

Part of a 6 man team providing an ITIL audit of Lloyds TSB network operations, working with various technology teams.

Involved interviews and documentation reviews to audit the processes in reference to the Service Levels and ITIL Framework.

2011 – 2012 Bluecrest Capital Management LLP

The role was both project and BAU support at a major global hedge fund, with over US\$ 25 million Assets under Management.

I had originally designed and implemented the Cisco and Checkpoint infrastructure in 2004 and it was due for an upgrade. I provided technical leadership in the re-engineering of the global WAN supporting distributed and systematic trading, involving high speed links in London and to New York and Geneva.

Significant Riverbed deployment using high-end devices in London and Geneva.

I also resurrected my original WhatsUp network monitoring system.

Managed Speaker Bus trading phone system and its integration with the Avaya platform

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2000 – 2011 Moffat Communications Ltd

I spent over 10 years with this small company of 30 staff as the lead consultant providing project management, infrastructure design, security policies and firewall implementations to 150 companies, mainly in the Hedge Fund sector in London.

This normally involved working with start-ups and bare shell office space. The business was largely instigated at the request of the Prime Brokers to support Nascent Hedge Funds whose founders were not used to managing the IT, etc. We would prepare costed proposals for our, 3rd party and vendor services and products and then manage the process and budgets through to hand over.

Eventually, the Prime Brokers persuaded us to offer the on-going support package too.

Typical IT infrastructure deployments consisted of structure cabling, Cisco catalyst switches, Checkpoint firewalls and Internet connections supporting HP servers running Windows servers. Larger clients would have clustered firewalls, dual ISPs and WAN accelerators.

The voice platforms would be Avaya, Cisco, Nortel or Siemens with larger clients opting for trader systems too; such as IPC, BT or Speaker Bus

I developed an Open Source Asterisk based phone system to support every handset typically in use by our clients so that clients could test the handsets before committing. It also was a useful training tool in VoIP for our engineers.

I developed a WhatsUp network management system from scratch to monitor all are own and our client infrastructures. It started on v6 that came with Cisco Works for Windows and ended up on v14. IPSwitch were quite impressed though persuaded us to modify the single site licensing! It ended up with over 2000 devices and was integrated with RRDTTool and PRTG.

Myself and one other created a Strategy Proposal in the early 2000s to create an hosted service so we could get our clients up and trading before their offices were ready. At that time it was not cost effective and couldn't be financed. By 2006 it was revisited and progressed.

I was the Principle Architect of a Virtualised Hosted platform to support Hedge Fund clients using VMWare and Compellent SANs.

The LAN infrastructures consisted of 2 data centres with Cisco 3750s, Checkpoint Gaia clusters, Juniper SAs and Riverbed Steelhead WAN optimization.

The WAN was designed to be highly adaptable primarily around MPLS style service but with the option of point to point links if required.

I helped Grant Thornton, who were in the same building, to troubleshoot a WAN routing issue. I created a Dynamips GNS3 simulation of their network and was able to help their team resolve the issue.

Main Projects:

- Grant Thornton UK Network Review, MPLS, P2P, BGP, OSPF GNS3 Simulation
- Moffat Main Consultant and Architect for Virtualised Hosted solution.
- Oriel Securities Relocation, LAN, global WAN design/implementation, Checkpoint Firewalls
- Cinven Relocation, LAN, global WAN design/implementation, Checkpoint Firewalls
- Polygon Relocation, LAN/WAN, Juniper Firewalls and Network Monitoring,
- Tisbury Capital Relocation – LAN/WAN and global Checkpoint Firewall,
- Sloane Robinson Infrastructure, LAN/WAN and Checkpoint Firewalls,
- GLG Partners Ltd Relocation, LAN/WAN and Checkpoint Firewalls
- Cheyne Capital Partners Relocation, LAN/WAN and Checkpoint Firewalls
- Ferox Capital Partners Relocation, LAN/WAN and Checkpoint Firewalls
- Blue Crest Management Relocation, LAN/WAN and Checkpoint Firewalls

Other engagements 1996-2000:

2000 - Cable & Wireless Communications Ltd - Network Team	1997 - Banque Paribas – Network Team – IBM/Fore ATM
1999 - Siemens Network Services Ltd – CSFB – Cisco 8500	1997 - NatWest Markets – Network Team
1999 - Siemens Network Services Ltd – Diageo – Euro WAN	1996 - Electronic Data Systems (Schweis) AG – GMI Network
1997 - 1998 - LSI Logic – Global ATM WAN	1996 - Swiss Private Bank – New IT infrastructure
1997 - Swedish FFA, Bremma – Secure Optical Network	1996 - Standard Chartered Bank, Treasury IT, London, Asia

Sept 1986 - Jul 1995 Royal Bank Of Scotland

Developed the first LAN/WAN infrastructure for mainframes, AS/400s, DEC VAX, DG and Novell Netware.

Architect for cabling and LAN/WAN for a 130,000 sq ft project in London, including the Treasury Dealing Room.