

David Galiata

Petaluma, CA | Galiata.com

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Director of Security Engineering at Aquia, a forward-thinking cybersecurity start-up. Currently serving as delivery stream and security lead for an enterprise-wide AI/ML project. I have a proven track record of leading high-impact initiatives in cybersecurity and cloud engineering.

Over 15 years of IT experience building and operating secure, large-scale systems, combining a strong background in network and systems consulting with cloud and cybersecurity expertise.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

AQUIA

Director, Security Engineering | *February 2025 - Present*

- Strategic security leadership managing a team of professionals to deliver security solutions for federal customers and regulated environments
- Building a culture of collaboration that bridges security, development, and operations to create integrated solutions that work for everyone
- Currently leading delivery stream and security for an enterprise-wide AI/ML project

Principal Security Engineer | *February 2024 - February 2025*

- Security and Compliance lead for an AI/ML program
- Analyzed cloud/cyber security requirements and technologies to identify potential risks or issues
- Participated in design of solutions, defenses, and mitigation approaches
- Researched, documented, and applied cyber best practices, controls, policies, procedures, and standards
- Applied cyber and information privacy approaches to systems, networks, services, and business processes
- Participated in special projects investigating specific technology issues and piloted new technologies
- Served as point of contact for engineering efforts while maintaining compliance with customer policies
- Assessed security events to drive resolution and provided timely response to security incidents

Senior Security Architect | *December 2021 - February 2024*

- Built a new Cybersecurity and Governance program within the US Government

- Supported and scaled an agency-wide SaaS Governance program designed to rapidly assess/authorize/de-authorize 3rd-party SaaS applications
- Created, validated, and documented security controls; mapped 3rd party controls to agency requirements
- Partnered with multiple teams across the agency gaining in-depth knowledge of 3rd party SaaS products
- Developed and published meaningful metrics related to SaaS product compliance
- Remained current with latest security technologies, methodologies, and best practices for cloud and SaaS services

COBALTIX

Senior Enterprise Network and Systems Consultant | *June 2021 - December 2021*

- Served as technical lead and project manager for customer IT services
- Managed IT initiatives and collaborated with in-house technical staff on various projects
- Provided strategic advice on technology services to achieve business goals
- Implemented cybersecurity best practices and conducted training with clients
- Led Microsoft 365 migrations and Azure administration including Intune and Cloud App Security
- Configured network switching, routing, firewalls, and secure remote access methods
- Prepared documentation and presented progress reports to customers

NIMS & ASSOCIATES

Senior IT Systems Engineer | *November 2017 - June 2021*

- Served as technical lead for clients throughout the Bay Area
- Implemented projects ranging from on-premises server builds to cloud deployments (AWS & Azure)
- Led Office 365 migrations and Azure administration
- Configured network infrastructure and secure remote access methods
- Performed project management on all projects, ensuring delivery within time and budget constraints
- Conducted security assessments and audits for current and prospective clients
- Developed backup and disaster recovery strategies
- Managed AWS Partnership for the entire company

KLH CONSULTING

Senior Network Engineer | *April 2013 - November 2017*

- Designed, implemented, analyzed, and maintained IT infrastructure for client environments
- Served as principal IT Engineer for clients throughout the Bay Area

- Implemented virtualization server builds, Office 365 migrations, and network infrastructure
- Performed security assessments and audits for clients
- Reviewed network and system monitoring reports to identify trends
- Managed internal and external resources to deliver client projects under demanding constraints
- Developed backup and disaster recovery strategies
- Maintained 100% billable status on time sheets

PORTOLA SYSTEMS

Engineer | *December 2010 - April 2013*

- Designed and implemented Windows server environments including Active Directory, DHCP, DNS, and Group Policy
- Configured and deployed Cisco networking technologies including switching, routing, security, and wireless
- Supported and administered VMWare server and clustered environments
- Implemented remote access solutions and administered Exchange servers
- Served as escalation point for Helpdesk staff and mentored new hires
- Managed sole support for company's largest client (200+ users)

PRIOR EXPERIENCE

Jr Systems Administrator | *Hansel Auto Group* | *April 2009 - November 2010*

- Supported over 500 users across 7 different locations
- Managed all Helpdesk/desktop tickets and server support
- Administered tape backups and deployed company's first Linux server

NOC Technician II | *MarketLive* | *September 2007 - April 2009*

- Provided website and server support for 1200+ servers for an e-commerce company
- Served as escalation point for team members handling trouble tickets and severity 1 outages
- Supported Windows and Linux servers, including administration of various services

EDUCATION

Master of Science - Information Technology & Administrative Management:
Cybersecurity Central Washington University

Bachelor of Science - Information Technology (Network Administration) *Western Governors University*

CERTIFICATIONS

- GitLab Certified CI/CD Associate (Feb 2025)
- GitLab Certified Security Specialist (Feb 2025)
- Certified Cloud Security Professional (CCSP) - ISC2 (Aug 2024)
- Certificate of Competence in Zero Trust (CCZT) - Cloud Security Alliance (Jun 2024)
- AWS Certified SysOps Administrator – Associate (Feb 2024)
- GitHub Foundations (Jan 2024)
- AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner (Aug 2023)
- Certificate of Cloud Auditing Knowledge (CCAK) - ISACA (May 2023)
- Certified in Cybersecurity (CC) - ISC2 (Apr 2023)
- Certified Information Security Manager (CISM) - ISACA (Oct 2022)
- Certificate of Cloud Security Knowledge (CCSK) - Cloud Security Alliance (Nov 2021)
- Microsoft Certified Systems Administrator: Windows Server (MCSA)
- Microsoft Certified: Azure Fundamentals
- CompTIA Network+, Project+, A+

CORE COMPETENCIES

- **Technology:** Cloud security, infrastructure design, network architecture, cybersecurity frameworks
- **Leadership:** Team management, strategic planning, project delivery, stakeholder communication
- **Communication:** Technical translation, cross-functional collaboration, documentation, training
- **Learning:** Rapid adaptation to new technologies, continuous professional development

PERSONAL STATEMENT

My superpower is learning new concepts and technologies quickly, a skill I intentionally hone to adapt to emerging challenges. Beyond my professional work, I enjoy writing blog posts that share practical insights on security, cloud architecture, and business challenges in the technology field.