Steve Stout

Senior Network Architect & Cloud Infrastructure Engineer

Accomplished, top-performing, and results-driven network and infrastructure professional with over 30 years of substantial experience in designing, implementing, and managing complex network infrastructures across various industries/sectors.

Expert in configuring and deploying cutting-edge technologies, including Cisco Routing and Switching, Palo Alto Firewalls, and Aruba Wireless systems. Track record of implementing strategic network designs, enhancing security frameworks, and optimizing data center operations for scalability and resilience. Known for leading teams to achieve modernization initiatives and ensure seamless network integrations during mergers and acquisitions. Recognized for exceptional problem-solving skills and ability to leverage broad technical proficiency in network security, routing protocols, and cloud environments to drive organizational growth and efficiency. Committed to ongoing professional development, pursuing Amazon AWS Solutions Architect certification to enhance cloud infrastructure skills.

Technical Proficiencies

Firewalls & Security:	Palo Alto Palo Alto Panorama Cisco Firepower Cisco ASA Juniper SRX Juniper NetScreen Check Point SonicWall Fortigate WatchGuard Barracuda ClearPass
Routing & Switching:	Cisco NX-OS Cisco IOS Juniper JunOS Brocade NOS Cisco ASR Cisco ISR Cisco Catalyst Juniper QFX Juniper EX BGP OSPF EIGRP
Wi-Fi & Voice:	Aruba AeroNet Meraki Ubiquiti Ruckus Cisco Call Manager
Miscellaneous:	GlobalProtect AnyConnect Windows Server CentOS AlmaLinux Wireshark

Professional Experience

1-800 Contacts – Draper, UT Senior Network Engineer

Facilitated secure remote access by designing, testing, and implementing remote office networks, including Site-to-Site VPNs utilizing Palo Alto, Azure, and AWS. Upgraded and maintained data center infrastructure while ensuring optimal performance and reliability. Configured and maintained MPLS circuits while optimizing network traffic and performance. Developed and administered cloud environments in Azure and AWS. Updated and oversaw VXLAN implementations to support scalable network virtualization.

- Led hardware refresh initiatives for data centers/distribution centers, driving modernization and scalable design for future growth.
- Enhanced network performance and reliability by configuring and implementing Cisco routing and switching across 1,800 contact offices and warehouses; strengthened network security by deploying and spearheading Palo Alto Panorama and firewalls.
- Enhanced connectivity for users by administering Aironet wireless controllers and establishing a robust wireless infrastructure.
- Improved security posture by executing security auditing, logging, and monitoring using SUMO, Tufin, NNMi, and Security Onion.
- Identified vulnerabilities and strengthened network defenses by conducting security scanning using Nessus, Nmap, and Angry IP.
- Optimized network security and access control by configuring and managing Cisco Identity Services Engine (ISE).

Overstock – Midvale, UT Senior Network Engineer

Designed, tested, and implemented remote office networks, including Site-to-Site VPN solutions using Palo Alto, Cisco, and Brocade. Streamlined communication and collaboration across the organization by managing configuration and administration of Cisco Unified Communications Manager (CUCM). Configured and managed Aruba ClearPass to enhance network access control and security.

- Drove network efficiency by configuring and executing Cisco routing and switching solutions in Overstock offices and warehouses.
- Significantly improved network security measures by implementing and spearheading Palo Alto Panorama and firewalls.
- Managed Aruba wireless controllers and established robust wireless infrastructure, ensuring reliable connectivity across locations.
- Executed hardware refresh projects for data centers and distribution centers with focus on enhancing modernization efforts and implementing designs that support future growth.

2021 — 2022

2022 — Present

2015 - 2016

2014 - 2015

2012 - 2014

Walmart – Bentonville AR Manager II Network Engineering / Senior Network Engineer

Designed, tested, and implemented remote office networks, including Site-to-Site VPN solutions with Palo Alto, Cisco, and Fortinet, with keen focus on facilitating secure remote connectivity. Managed configuration and administration of Aruba wireless controllers and access points while ensuring reliable wireless coverage. Utilized Wireshark to troubleshoot and resolve network-related issues.

- Ensured seamless connectivity and operational continuity by directing team of highly skilled network engineers in integrating the networks of acquired companies into Walmart's infrastructure.
- Enhanced network performance by configuring and executing Nexus 9K and Catalyst 9K switches in Walmart distribution centers.
- Ensured high availability and reliability of network connections by setting up vPC and HSRP and establishing redundant paths.
- Optimized connectivity across U.S., and Dublin, Ireland by designing strategic placement of networking hardware for M&A Team.
- Developed and executed network security engineering strategies utilizing Palo Alto, Cisco ASA, Cisco Firepower, and policy-based routing, implementing and managing multitier firewall security.
- Improved overall network efficiency by configuring and administering data center core networks across multiple facilities using Cisco and Juniper core and access layer switches.

Verisk Analytics – Jersey City, NJ Senior Network Engineer

Managed multiple data centers across U.S., Europe, and Australia while ensuring optimal performance and operational efficiency. Conducted auditing of system logs and penetration testing to enhance security posture. Installed and configured Cisco ASR BGP border routers to facilitate efficient routing. Managed Silver Peak site-to-site WAN accelerators to drive WAN performance.

- Enhanced performance and ensured minimal disruption to services by successfully migrating multiple data centers globally.
- Led the design and management of network acquisitions while integrating new networks into existing infrastructure seamlessly.
- Optimized network functionality by designing, configuring, and administering data center core networks, including Nexus 7K, 5K, and 2K switches, and implementing VRFs, HSRP, and dynamic and static routing protocols.
- Developed and implemented network security engineering strategies utilizing Cisco ASA, Check Point Security, Palo Alto, and policy-based routing, along with installation and management of multitier firewall security.

Best Friends Animal Society – Kanab, UT Network Engineer II

Utilized SolarWinds for network monitoring and Kiwi CatTools for network backup and administration, ensuring efficient management of network resources. Ensured uninterrupted network service by implementing high-availability configurations for ASA firewalls, core switching, and edge routers. Monitored edge network performance using Exinda and Elfiq load balancers while optimizing traffic flow.

- Expanded global reach of Best Friends technology with keen focus on enhancing accessibility and impact across diverse markets.
- Designed, tested, and implemented remote office networks, including split tunnel VPN configurations, firewalls, routers, switches, wireless infrastructure, and VoIP systems, with strong emphasis on ensuring seamless connectivity and security.
- Enhanced network security measures by configuring security devices, including ASA firewalls, SonicWall, and SourceFire.
- Set up, configured, and administered routers, switches, wireless access points, VoIP systems, and security cameras across 3.700acre sanctuary with over 50 buildings, employing EIGRP/SVIs with distributed and local VLANs for optimal network performance.
- Established and maintained Cisco VoIP services while managing CUCM and Unity for efficient communication solutions.
- Administered and maintained core network infrastructure at both central and remote offices, ensuring operational efficiency.
- Designed and implemented Point of Sale network and infrastructure that meets PCI compliance specifications.

ADP – Roseland, NJ

Network Systems Administrator

Managed day-to-day administration of Cisco ASA firewalls and Barracuda Web Application Firewalls, configuring rules to enable client connectivity through network object service groups, NAT, and access rules in multi-vendor ASP environment. Configured client objects for network and hosts using Zabbix, a distributed monitoring solution, to maintain optimal performance and uptime.

- Managed networks and security for hundreds of ADP service offerings, ensuring protection and reliability for clients' operations.
- Set up ESXi VMware servers to support a multi-vendor ASP environment with emphasis on enhancing virtualization capabilities.
- Deployed Ubuntu Linux and Windows Server hosts within multi-vendor ASP environment while ensuring flexible infrastructure.
- Coordinated hardware and software upgrades and configurations across multiple data centers in various locations.

Additional Experience: Network Administrator, Myriad Genetics, Inc. | Network Administrator, Park City School District

