

Michael Hunter, SSCP, GSEC, GFACT, GCIH



Adelaide, South Australia 

<<Provided on Request>> 

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With over 15 years of experience in various fast-paced, dynamic, and operationally critical ICT roles, Michael is a proven high achiever who strives to adapt and innovate in complex multi-platform ICT roles. Extensive teamwork and leadership experience drives Michael to complete high caliber and time-critical tasks to a high standard. Highly passionate about ICT systems with a security and automation focus. Michael has a strong drive to constantly integrate technical knowledge to design and implement a range of ICT solutions to enhance capability.

Michael also operates under the business name Hunter IT Solutions and is the registered owner. The long term goal of Hunter IT Solutions is to support, modernize and digitize businesses and incorporates Michael's passion of the technical industry over a range of disciplines.

In the past two years, Michael has shifted his focus to platform engineering, DevOps, GitOps, Infrastructure as Code (IaC), and automation, building deep proficiency across a wide range of DevOps tooling and codebases. This transition is driven by a strong emphasis on automation pipelines, Day 1 and Day 2 deployment and configuration, and end-to-end platform design, deployment, and support for Kubernetes platforms including k3s, Red Hat OpenShift, and VMware Tanzu.

Hunter IT Solutions SWA Project

<https://web.hunteritsolutions.net.au/>

Self-hosted Azure static web app (SWA) deployed using Gitops methodology within Azure DevOps.

- Dual running SWA, Dev and Prod
- Prod updated via merge request only
- Self managed, written and maintained codebase, HTML, leveraging tailwind CSS
- AI generated imagery integrated into design

Technical Areas of Expertise

- Microsoft Enterprise servers and associated software – Various
- Agile methodologies – SCRUM, Scaled Agile
- Scripting and Automation (various)

- Linux administration – server/workstation
- Linux automation and configuration management – Ansible, Puppet
- Microsoft Azure design and administration
- Microsoft System Centre – SCCM, SCOM, DPM
- Enterprise Virtualization Platforms – vSphere, Hyper-V, Redhat Openshift Virtualisation
- VMware vRealize (Aria) suite – vRO, vROPS, vRA
- VMware Horizon VDI
- Cyber security tools and governance
- Technical Team Leadership
- Kubernetes - k3s, Redhat Openshift and VMware Tanzu
- CI/CD Pipelines – Azure, Gitlab
- Server and storage hardware systems and infrastructure
- ICT Networking; WAN, LAN, and security hardening
- ICT systems design, architecture, implementation, and change management
- DevOps and DevSecOps practices and tools
- Private and Public Cloud infrastructure systems; Azure, vSphere (Private Cloud and automation)
- SOE development and hardening
- Infrastructure as Code tools – Terraform, Packer
- Docker container development

Certifications and Qualifications

- SANS GIAC Certified Incident Handler (GCIH)
- SANS GIAC Foundational Cybersecurity Technologies (GFACT)
- SANS GIAC Security Essentials Certification (GSEC)
- SANS GIAC Advisory Board
- AZ 900 – Microsoft Certified - Azure Fundamentals
- AZ 104 - Microsoft Certified: Azure Administrator Associate
- AZ 500 – Microsoft Certified: Azure Security Associate
- ISC² System Security Certified Practitioner (SSCP) (ID: 858483)
- VMware vSphere 6.7 Foundations
- ICT50415 - Diploma of Information Technology and Networking
- Scrum Master Certified (SMC)
- HLTAID003 - Provide first aid



Continuing Professional Development

- AZ-305 - Microsoft Certified: Azure Solutions Architect Expert
- AZ-400 - Microsoft Certified: DevOps Engineer Expert

- Web application development
- IaC Development with Terraform and Packer

Experience

Cloud Research Engineer (Azure, VMware, DevOps, k8s) (Contractor) / Defence science and Technology Group (DSTG)

NOVEMBER 2024 – CURRENT

Position Overview

Contracted upon request to primarily to support the emerging public cloud infrastructure supported within the defence research community (Azure, AWS). Currently assisting in modernization of the current cloud team by bringing in DevOps methodologies while also supporting the current on-premises private cloud infrastructure hosted on VMware and provided by vRealize Automation and Orchestration. With a push towards Infrastructure as Code (IaC) and stateful infrastructure deployment the role has a code-based, DevOps target, with mentoring roles towards the current team to assist in the transition. The role consists of working within Defence Secret, Protected and Official:Sensitive environments. The diverse role required knowledge in many technical ICT disciplines including:

- Microsoft Azure support, architectural design consultation
- vSphere vRealize– Automation, Orchestrator, Operations Manager, Log Insight
- vSphere vCenter (7,8)
- vSphere Horizon VDI (v7)
- DevOps practices and software suites – Atlassian, Gitlab, Pipelines, Git, Artifactory, VScode IDE
- Docker and Kubernetes
- Hashicorp Terraform and Packer
- Linux server and desktop SOE development and deployment (RHEL and Ubuntu)
- Linux configuration management and automation (Ansible, Puppet)
- Microsoft Active Directory design consultation and support
- Scripting and automation – JavaScript, PowerShell, HTML, Python, Bash, API
- ICT solutions, architectural design and delivery
- ITIL and Agile methodologies and frameworks
- Redhat Openshift Container Platform

Significant Experiences and Deliverables

- Primary team code developer – IaC, K8s, automation
- Team Merge Request / Pull Request approver
- Implementation of team Agile methodologies utilizing Atlassian Jira and Confluence. Design of new 'Ways of Working' for the current Science and Research Compute Environment Team.
- Deployment and configuration of Ansible automation platform for day 2 automation, Windows and Linux systems.
- Multiple team and branch presentations on automation.
- Implementation of Gitlab and Artifactory instances for code versioning and artifact storage
- Global Admin / Owner / Developer of Azure DevOps environment
- Global Admin / Owner / Developer of Azure collaboration environment
- Architectural design consultation of emerging Azure tenancy built around collaboration for STEM and university researchers
- Script creation leveraging API's to target secrets vault (Delinea Secret Server) for programmatic retrieval of secrets and platform management

- Design of team 'development' environment deployed using stateful code practice using Hashicorp Terraform and Packer.
- Javascript script development to support on-premise private cloud platform.
- Daily checks script, Gitlab CI pipeline based, including end-to-end management and deployment of custom Gitlab runners with Terraform, deployed to K8s.
- Team mentoring role on Git, CI/CD, code and automation, DevOps tooling.
- Redhat Openshift Container Platform end-to-end design and development – primary developer role
 - Git based source of truth methodology
 - Gitlab CI based pipeline deployment using custom container runners deployed into k8s environments. Deployment of Gitlab runners using Hashicorp Terraform
 - ArgoCD stateful deployment and
 - Full code base development (dev, staging, prod)
 - Documentation: README.md (code), high level, low level design, operations

Azure Cloud Engineer (Contractor) / Raytheon

AUGUST 2024 – NOVEMBER 2024

Position Overview

Contracted to Raytheon in projects role to support the Maritime Electronic Warfare (MMEWS) OCTAVES project. Embedded into the DevSecOps enablement team, the role includes supporting both the Azure cloud and on-premises VMware infrastructure for defence application integration. The role provides the interface between the project teams and Raytheon IT functional areas. Both design and operations are included in supporting the DevSecOps team to deliver automated pipelines to the Software Development teams, enhancing defence capability. The role includes the following skills and experiences:

- Working in a Scaled Agile environment to deliver feature-based value
- Azure landing zone and policy design and implementation
- Azure automation to provide an IaC based deployment set
- Base administration of the current Azure cloud environment including
 - Patching
 - Backups
 - Cloud IaaS deployment (IaC i.e. ARM templates)
 - Server and workstation management (Windows and Linux)
 - Cost optimization
 - Monitoring solutions and reporting
 - General troubleshooting and operations assistance
- Azure networking and firewall design and configuration in a complex and secure Azure cloud implementation
- Azure Entra administration
- DevSecOps tools and methodologies
- Microsoft Active Directory
- Azure Virtual Desktop VDI solution design and implementation
- RHEL9 SOE development and support
- Azure security recommendations and implementation
- Azure Kubernetes Service and microservices
- Azure monitoring and log ingestion
- VMware product support including Tanzu, Horizon, NSX-T, vSphere
- Consulting on design changes to all technologies listed above

Security and Infrastructure Architect / ForHealth Group

NOVEMBER 2023 – JUNE 2024

Position Overview

Promoted to full time position as ForHealth groups Security and Infrastructure Architect (technical). The role comprises of supporting both projects and operations groups over a range of technical areas to deliver a modern and secure environment, moving ForHealth from the current legacy systems in place. The role moves on from a previous technical contracted engagement and brownfields migration project. Reporting directly to the CIO, assisting with both the design and implantation of technical and process enhancements, coordinating several different teams including external vendors to meet the business requirements.

The ForHealth environment on-prem HCI landscape consists of over 160 physical hosts, 350 virtual machines over 77 sites across Australia. This is teamed with an Azure cloud hybrid environment, hosting directory services and meshed with Cisco Meraki SD-WAN and Umbrella SIG solution. ForHealth groups provides Medical Centers, including urgent care.

Infrastructure Architectural Scope

- Technical responsibility over all Infrastructure related technologies
 - VMware, vSphere environment including vSAN HCI
 - ForHealth Commvault backup solution
 - Windows Server (2008-2022)
 - ForHealth server and endpoint standard operating environments (SOE)
 - Networks
 - Azure virtual networking
 - vSphere virtual networking
 - Cisco LAN
 - Cisco Meraki SD-WAN and associated Cisco Umbrella SIG
 - Automation and configuration management platforms – InTune, SCCM
 - Automation and Scripting – PowerShell, SQL
 - SQL design and administration
 - Microsoft Azure infrastructure integration and management
 - Microsoft Directory services
 - Dell hardware
 - Operational management and monitoring solutions
 - Application integrations
- High level / low level design and Set to Work/Operations documentation for all upcoming and current projects to deliver requirements based technical design and Implementation.
- Primary change reviewer and approver
- Technical advisor to integrate critical Practice Management Systems
- 3rd party technical engagement for incoming systems and applications
- Technical advisor for ForHealth acquisitions.
- Primary project resource
- Assisting Operational teams in Major Incident Management (MIM)
- Head of Architectural Working Group

Security Architectural Scope

- Assisting with the design and implementation of the cyber security roadmap based off NIST CSF principles.
- Legislative and regulatory requirements building - i.e. FIRB compliance.
- Risk register and prioritization of security requirements.
- Risk and vulnerability assessments.

- External vendor engagement for Pen Testing, SOC/SIEM
- DRP / BCP / IRP design input and implementation
- Hardened system design and build
- Security governance and documentation (various)
- Security system integration into current and future infrastructure state
- Primary reviewer of security-based environment change
- Security design based on defence in depth methodology.
- Security Ops investigation using a variety of toolsets including Nessus and Defender for Endpoint
- Assisting security engineering team in Major Incident Management (MIM)

Cloud Infrastructure Automation Engineer (Contractor) / ForHealth Group

JANUARY 2023 – NOVEMBER 2023

Position Overview

Project role developing a bottom-up, secure and modernized hyper-converged infrastructure solution to support the primary PMS (Practice Management Software) system used by ForHealth group. With a very small team (myself as Infrastructure project lead and 1 FTE), we have architected/designed, implemented, and deployed the solution to a scope of 70 medical center's Australia wide. The environment consists of a hybrid design with cloud hosted directory services (Azure) and on-prem HCI solution meshed with Cisco SD-WAN solution. Security and compliance formed a critical piece with sensitive patient data being protected using a range of frameworks and best practices developing a Standard Operating Environment (SOE) utilizing both existing and new technologies within the domain. ITIL and Agile methodologies and tools were used during the project and in the transition to BAU.

Honors and Awards

- Multiple project and wider IT honorable mentions
- Successful project delivery

Significant Experiences and Deliverables

The design touched on a wide range of new and existing technologies within the domain including the following:

- Project solution design and deploy based on pre-set requirements – Technical Documentation: High Level Design (HLD), Low Level Design (LLD/DDS), Operations and As-built's
- HCI solution utilizing Dell vSAN ReadyNodes and VMware vSphere 8.
- Windows Server 2022 SOE development
- SQL 2022 and database design and configuration
- Microsoft Directory services design and configuration – AD, Group Policy, DNS
- SOE baseline management – PowerShell, Group Policy
- Networking WAN/LAN – Cisco Meraki SD-WAN, Azure WAN Hub, vSphere virtual networking
- Monitoring – Dell OME, OMEVV, PRTG, Azure monitoring
- Automation and Configuration management tools – SCCM, Microsoft InTune, ServiceNOW
- Microsoft Azure hybrid integration
- Backups and DR – Commvault Metallic, Veritas Netbackup, vSphere HA
- Scripting and Automation with Powershell
- Agile toolsets including JIRA, Wrike
- Security and hardening – Cisco Umbrella SIG, Essential 8, FIRB compliancy, Windows Defender for Endpoint, DRP and BCP design and input.
- Medical applications and solution integration

Cloud Engineer (Contractor) / Defence science and Technology Group (DSTG)

MARCH 2021 – JANUARY 2023

Position Overview

Contracted in projects role to support various Defence Science and Technology divisions and Australian Public Service staff to provide virtual infrastructure and solutions as a member of the Science and Research Computing Environment team. Primary support includes vSphere technology and hyper-converged infrastructure, providing an automated private cloud offering (SRCE) for Defence research teams for various workloads including AI, machine learning large data modelling and technical ICT development. The diverse role required knowledge in many technical ICT disciplines including:

- vSphere vRealize (v7,8) – Automation, Orchestrator, Operations Manager, Log Insight
- vSphere vCenter (6.7, 7)
- vSphere Horizon VDI (v7)
- Dell and HP hardware management (OpenManage and OneView)
- DevOps practices and software suites - Atlassian
- Docker and Kubernetes
- Windows server and desktop SOE development and deployment (Server 2008-2019, Windows 10)
- Linux server and desktop SOE development and deployment (CentOS, RHEL and Ubuntu)
- Linux configuration management and automation (Ansible, Puppet)
- Microsoft Active Directory design and support
- Scripting and automation – JavaScript, PowerShell, HTML, Python
- ICT solutions, architectural design and delivery
- ITIL and Agile methodologies and frameworks

Honors and Awards

- Selected along with 22 other veterans to attend the SANS Veteran Cyber Academy where I completed a 16-week boot camp style course and completed 3 SANS certifications: GCIH, GSEC and GFACT. I was also awarded entry into the SANS GIAC Advisory Board for completing a SANS certification with a score of 90% or higher.

Significant Experiences and Deliverables

- Design and implementation of SRCE team Atlassian software front ends and DevOps processes:
 - Confluence page design
 - JIRA project design
 - Bitbucket project design
- Design and solutions of vSphere vRealize Automation and Orchestrator workflows using Horizon and Active Directory APIs
- vRA7 - vRA8.x design and migration tasks
- vRealize Automation tenant configuration
- Team PowerShell SME. Code development and deployment for various requirements including Dell iDrac configuration automation, Active Directory, PowerCli vSphere code, using ISE and Visual Studio Code
- Level 3 support of Linux and Windows, desktop and server systems at varying complexities
- Level 3 support of vSphere product suite and researcher deployed customized virtual machines
- Research scientist engagement and solution design for co—investment into SRCE private cloud infrastructure
- Maintenance of vSphere product suite including patching and reporting (vROPs)

Windows Lead Engineer / BAE Systems Australia, Edinburgh

FEBRUARY 2020 – MARCH 2021

Position Overview

Promoted in February 2020 to Windows Lead Engineer within BAE Systems ICT supporting JORN project (AIR2025-6). The role comprises of a 25% direct report development and leadership and 75% technical lead, specializing in Microsoft and VMware technologies, with four permanent direct reports. As Agile SCRUM Master assisted the Windows Team Lead in developing the prioritized product backlog and produce work packages for a team of up to eight senior and junior Windows System Administrators and Engineers, while also delivering high value technical projects to develop and sustain the secret and unclassified networks that support the JORN project.

Utilising a large range of skillsets to apply architectural design solutions for JORN Phase 6 ICT project. Primarily documenting and integrating enterprise vSphere solutions and Windows Server 2019 using an overarching knowledge of security governance, linux systems and networking to strengthen overall environment security posture and functionality.

Significant Experiences and Deliverables

- Supporting ICT architects in the design and development of the JORN Phase 6 ICT project by proposing and documenting design decisions, creating technical design documentation, testing and creating set to work documentation for validation in the following technical areas:
 - VMware vSphere 7
 - Microsoft Server 2019
 - System Centre Configuration Manager 2019
 - Directory Services
 - HPE/Dell storage solutions
 - ISM Compliance for SOE development
 - Security hardening and guidance
- Redesign of the previous VMware vSphere 6.7 infrastructure
- Consultation with the Commonwealth of Australia, Department of Defence and external stakeholders and vendors on design decisions
- Security auditing and compliance
- Team development, productivity and performance enhancements including technical workshops and training packages for ICT administrators of various experience, while providing a mentoring role to achieve a common goal
- ICT automation using Windows PowerShell ISE and monitoring tools
- Configuration management and structured documentation
- Assisting Windows Team Lead and BAE HR department in acquiring talent and interview process

Windows Systems Engineer / BAE Systems Australia, Edinburgh

NOVEMBER 2018 – FEBRUARY 2020

Position Overview

Working with an innovative and engineering focused team supporting Windows systems as part of the JORN project at BAE Systems Australia. Dedication of personal resources to both enhancing technical knowledge in a broad range of windows systems administration and team leadership. Involved in several

crucial workplace activities including server and SOE development, support capability enhancement and system sustainment using both Agile and ITIL based frameworks. Working as fill in Windows Team Leader on multiple occasions to ensure the continuity of tasks while also presenting ideas to ICT management.

Honors and Awards

- Achieved Certificate of Recognition for outstanding commitment and delivery of high quality work

Significant Experiences and Deliverables

- Involvement in the SOE development, rollout, and upgrade of end user systems to Windows 10 operating systems
- High level technical reviews of current ICT technical changes and designs
- Offering advice to Windows and external teams to enhanced capability and collaboration
- Reporting to ICT management as both senior administrator and team leader
- Sustainment of ICT systems with a meticulous approach to detail
- Enhanced skills in the form of formal training both local and remote
- Organised work product and resourcing as stand in team leader based on workload task list for Commonwealth of Australia customer
- Maintaining Safety Health and Environment (SHE) requirements and completing Senior First Aid Course
- Maintain support system whilst protecting sensitive data
- Liaise with hardware and software vendors to maintain system integrity
- Support and upgrade of HPE Storage, Workstations, and Servers
- Reviewed and approved changes include:
 - Various powershell automation user and administrator facing scripts
 - Various SCCM application packaging and deployment changes
 - vSphere RBAC model ICT security permissions upgrade
 - SCCM redesign and version upgrade
 - Redesign of environment patching process and deployment
 - Windows server and desktop SOE upgrade and deployment
 - NESSUS design and integration

Advanced Information Systems Technician / SOCOMD – Australian Defence Force – Army

JANUARY 2016 – NOVEMBER 2018

Position Overview

Working with modern and specialised ICT equipment to assist tactical and technical end users in support of Counter Terrorism operations within Australia while posted to the 2nd Commando Regiment, Special Operations Command (SOCOMD). Working in small teams or individually in sensitive Information Systems environments Australia wide.

Honors and Awards

- Received Australian Service Medal with Clasp CT/SR

Significant Experiences and Deliverables

- Selected to support Australian Army at the Australian Centre for Cyber Security (ACCS) with University of NSW

- Presenting demonstrations of new and upcoming ICT technology to show modern Army Information Technology capability
- Maintaining knowledge of robust range of ICT technologies to provide end users with superior experience.
- Placed on several accredited Microsoft courses to maintain complex enterprise environment
- Working in assistance with defence contractors and peers in several minor and major ongoing defence projects.

Information Systems Technician / Australian Defence Force – Army

OCTOBER 2012 – January 2016

Position Overview

Working in primarily tactical environments to provide end users with consistent and robust Information Systems, Networking and Communication solutions in harsh geographic locations. Working as a team to complete the mission while also working on leadership skills in various appointments including I.T detachment commander and 2IC. Various short notice to move positions working with legacy and modern ICT technologies.

Honors and Awards

- Completion of corporal promotional leadership course
- Selected for Special Forces (SOCOMD)
- Received Australian Defence Medal
- Received NATO Non-Article 5 Medal
- Received Operational Service Medal with Clasp Afghanistan

Significant Experiences and Deliverables

- Completed corporal promotional leadership course
- Selected to represent the Australian Defence Force on Operational Deployment to Afghanistan in support of coalition officers training the Afghan National Army
- Working in high pressure, high tempo situations with limited downtime
- Continual self-improvement through various Australian Army sponsored Information Technology and Networking courses in various locations Australia wide

Education and Courses

Microsoft

- AZ 900 – Microsoft Certified - Azure Fundamentals
- AZ 104 - Microsoft Certified: Azure Administrator Associate

SANS Institute Training

- SEC275 - GIAC Foundational Cybersecurity Technologies (GFACT)
- SEC401 - GIAC Security Essentials (GSEC)
- SEC501 - GIAC Certified Incident Handler (GCIH)

DDLs

- 20341 & 20336 – Customised – **Microsoft Exchange Server 2013** and **Lync Server 2013**
- 20703-1 - **Administering System Centre Configuration Manager**
- 20341 – Core Solutions of **Microsoft Exchange Server 2013**

- 20411 & 20462 – Customised – **Microsoft Windows Server 2012** and **SQL Server 2012**
- Customised – DMO – SOE Training – **Microsoft Sever 2012**
- 10964 & 10747 – Customised – **Microsoft Systems Centre – Operations Manager** and **Configuration Manager**
- 10961 – Automating Administration with **Windows PowerShell**
- 20339-1 – Planning and Administering **SharePoint 2013 or 2016**
- **VMware vSphere: Install, Configure, Manage [V6.7]**
- AZ-900T01 - **Microsoft Azure Fundamentals**
- **SCRUM Mater Certified**
- **Systems Security Certified Practitioner (SCCP)**

UNSW Canberra Cyber Space Operations Training

- Introduction to **Pen Testing**
- Introduction to **Python Scripting**
- Tactical Cyber Techniques
- Introduction to **Exploit Development**
- **Computer Network Operations (CNO)**
- **Network Security Operations (NSO)**
- Red vs Blue Exercise

Box Hill Institute

- 661 Information Systems Team Leader Course
- MOC 20410 – Installing and Configuring **Windows Server 2012**
- MOC 20411 – Administering **Windows Server 2012**
- MOC 20412 – Administering Advanced **Windows Server 2012** Services
- MOC 20409 – Server Virtualisation with Windows Server 2012 **Hyper-V** and **System Centre**
- MOC 2273B – Managing and Maintaining a **Microsoft Windows Server 2003** Environment
- **Lotus Domino / Notes 8.5** Administration
- IT Essentials PC Hardware and Software
- **CCNA1** – Network Fundamentals
- **CCNA2** – Routing Protocols and Concepts
- **CCNA3** – Scaling Networks
- **CCNA4** – Connecting Networks
- **CME** – Call Manager Express
- **VOIP** – Introduction to Voice Over IP

Tactical Training Australia

- **HLTAID003 Provide first aid (Active)**

Passions and Interests

- Android security development and applications
- Basic Website design and domain creation / maintenance
- Microsoft PowerShell and advanced scripting
- Linux OS platforms
- Pen-testing lab scenarios
- Physical training
- Motorbike riding
- DevOps methodologies

Referees

Note: Due to the sensitive nature of current work position, references can be provided upon request