

Michael Allen

Cloud Engineer

I am a seasoned IT professional with over 8 years of extensive industry experience, demonstrating a strong emphasis on managing Azure cloud environments and on-premises VMware environments. Self-motivated and driven, with a proven track record of successfully delivering complex projects and maintaining high standards of operational excellence. I am skilled in leveraging a variety of technologies and tools, including VMware, Proxmox, Azure Cloud, Cisco UCS, and Nessus vulnerability scanning and environment hardening. Adept at project management, ensuring projects are completed on time, within scope, and in compliance with all relevant standards and best practices with varying complexity.

Experience

2025-01 -
Current

Cloud Engineer

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA

- Designed and implemented Azure landing zones across two regions using infrastructure as code tooling such as Terraform, Packer, Azure DevOps pipelines, and GitHub actions.
- Developed Terraform modules supporting complex IaaS and PaaS configurations.
- Established monitoring and alerting for the Azure platform using Azure Monitor and Grafana.
- Led initiatives for creating standards for a newly formed Cloud Operations team, establishing governance for deployments, monitoring, and security.
- Deployed and optimized Azure Arc onboarding strategies for large-scale Windows Server fleets, enabling hybrid visibility and policy enforcement for 2,000 on-premises servers.
- Designed and implemented Azure Virtual Desktop from the ground up, delivering a fully functional enterprise virtual desktop solution for production use.
- Implemented multiple Azure Local clusters to host Azure Virtual Desktop workloads.
- Performed a migration of users and repositories from Azure DevOps to GitHub Enterprise Cloud.

2021-10 -
2024-12

Senior Systems Engineer

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA

- Led the comprehensive upgrade of 400+ ESXi Hosts and 12 vCenter Servers from version 6.7 to 7.0, and subsequently 7.0 to 8.0, significantly enhancing system stability, security, and performance.
- Implemented Terraform and Packer to reduce virtual machine deployment time by 50%, accelerating project timelines and boosting team productivity.
- Developed and deployed advanced PowerShell scripts to automate OS-level changes, resulting in a 30% reduction in manual configuration time and improved system consistency.
- Led new automation efforts for the server team, establishing a framework for ongoing improvements and efficiencies, ultimately contributing to a more robust and agile IT infrastructure.

Contact

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Certifications

AZ-305, AZ-104, AZ-900,
AWS Certified Cloud
Practitioner, VCP Datacenter
Virtualization 2022, CompTIA
CySA+

Education

Bachelor of Science:
Information
Technology

Western Governors University

Skills

Cloud Platforms & Services:

- Microsoft Azure IaaS & PaaS Services – Azure Firewall, Virtual Machines, App Services, Key Vault, Storage Accounts, Private Link, Container Apps, Azure Managed Redis, Azure

- Set up Entra and Active Directory Federation Services (ADFS) partnerships, enabling secure and efficient authentication and authorization processes.
- Managed and configured Big-IP F5 load balancers, including GTM and LTM setups, and handled certificate management.
- Collaborated within an Agile/Scrum framework, participating in sprints and engaging in regular stand-ups, sprint planning, backlog grooming, and retrospectives to iteratively develop and enhance the infrastructure and services.

2020-01 -
2021-10

Systems Administrator

Cancer Treatment Center of America, Newnan, GA

- Managed and enhanced Windows/Linux server infrastructure, ensuring the continuous availability and reliability of critical systems.
- Proactively identified and resolved potential issues by leveraging SolarWinds Orion and VMware vRealize Operations, resulting in a 30% reduction in incident response time.
- Developed and implemented PowerShell and PowerCLI scripts, automating routine tasks related to VMware and Active Directory, which increased operational efficiency by 40%.
- Conducted regular audits and updates, enhancing the security and compliance of server environments, reducing vulnerabilities by 25%.

2018-12 -
2019-12

Associate Systems Administrator

University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA

- Managed Linux and Windows operating systems, supporting critical services such as backups, disaster recovery, databases, and web applications, resulting in a 20% increase in system reliability.
- Designed and implemented technical solutions to meet infrastructure requirements, including scripting, hardware/software specification, and documentation, which improved operational efficiency by 25%.

- PostgreSQL Flexible, Azure Managed Grafana
- AWS (Foundational services, IAM, VPC, S3)

Infrastructure as Code & Automation:

- Terraform, Packer, GitHub Actions, Azure DevOps
- GitHub, GitLab, Ansible AAP, AWX
- PowerShell, PowerCLI, Bash

Monitoring & Logging:

- Azure Monitor, Grafana, SolarWinds, ExtraHop

Virtualization & Systems:

- VMware vSphere (vCenter, ESXi, SRM, vRealize Suite)
- Azure Local
- Windows Server (2012, 2016, 2019, 2022, 2025)
- Linux (RHEL/Debian distributions)

Networking & Security:

- Site-to-Site VPNs, Firewalls, Load Balancers (F5 LTM/GTM)
- Active Directory, Group Policy, DNS, DHCP, IIS

Backup & Recovery:

- Azure Site Recovery, Azure Recovery Services Vault, Rubrik, Veeam, Avamar