

David Bates

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Cloud & Cybersecurity Engineer with a track record of building scalable infrastructure and applications for the mission critical needs of the government and innovation crucible of Silicon Valley.

CORE SKILLS

Cybersecurity

Zero Trust, IAM, SAST, DAST, SCA, Container Scanning, Secrets Management, API Security, K8's Security, WAF, MFA, OAuth, Okta, Red/Blue Team Collaboration

Infrastructure

Windows/Linux Server, Cisco/Juniper Networking, Active Directory, VMware/ESXi, DNS/DHCP, Edge Computing, RAID, Server Rack, Satellite Communication

Cloud Engineering

AWS, Terraform, Kubernetes, Docker, GitLab CI/CD, Git, Bash, Python, Chef, PowerShell

AI

AWS Bedrock, Agentic Security Tooling, OWASP LLM Top 10, AI Threat Modeling, Secure AI Deployment, Open AI Cyber Models & Mythos for Penetration Testing

EXPERIENCE

Senior Cybersecurity Engineer — Department of State *via* OnyxPoint/Improvix

Washington, DC • December 2023 – PRESENT

Lead security engineer for Department of State developer tools and internal AI applications across FedRAMPed AWS, GCP, and Azure commercial cloud environments – specifically self hosted GitLab, Jira, Confluence, and custom AI applications.

- Achieved and maintained ATOs for self hosted GitLab, Jira, Confluence, and internal AI applications; continuous monitoring ensures uninterrupted Federal NIST 800-53 Rev 5 compliance for platforms serving over 160,000 personnel with global diplomatic reach.
- Secured custom in house AI applications on AWS and guiding secure AI adoption.
- Built continuous scanning pipelines, scaling for all projects using GitLab, reducing time to mitigation from days to minutes: demonstrated during the NPM Shai-Hulud attack.
- Drove end to end security modernization across the full tech stack – re-architecting cloud services as Terraform IaC, migrating systems to EKS, and embedding DevSecOps controls at every layer of the development lifecycle.
- Onboarded new teams by evaluating their security maturity, identifying gaps and collaborating directly with the engineers to mature their DevSecOps practices.

AI Application Security Engineer — Provisionary

Reston, VA • January 2026 – PRESENT

Secure Private AI for high compliance customers.

- Built and have continued to iterate on an AI-assisted security evaluation cluster, with capabilities such as threat modeling, gap analysis, AI/agentic and sandbox assessments.

Core Infrastructure and Automation Engineer — Meta *via* TEK Systems

Fremont, CA • April 2022 – December 2023

In support of the Global Security Systems & Technology department, I created, managed, and automated Meta's infrastructure for continuous integration and development of physical security infrastructure globally. I was the final point of escalation for a dozen vital security services, the Technical Operations Center, and Global Security Operations Center.

- Infrastructure as Code with Terraform, automation and configuration management via Chef.
- CI/CD and version control through Meta's internal DevOps services: Sandcastle, Converter & Mercurial.
- GLB's, ACLs, SSLs, Database Administration, DaaS, DNS and Disaster Recovery, both manually and through automation with PowerShell & Python.
- Configuration and troubleshooting of Cisco and Juniper Devices.
- Administration of infrastructure to employ:
 - Physical Access Control Systems, Biometric Systems, Video Surveillance, Intercom Systems, IP Cameras, License Plate Recognition Cameras, and centralized monitoring.

Network & Systems Administration Leadership — United States Marine Corps (USMC)

California, Germany, Japan, Virginia • June 2017 – February 2024

Progressed from Systems Administrator to Network Administrator, ultimately culminating in an Assistant Data Chief and IT Operations mid-level manager role, leading technical staff across CONUS and OCONUS assignments.

→ System Administrator – United States Marine Corps Forces Europe & Africa VIP Support Team

I supported the United States Marine Corps, US Europe Command, US Africa Command, and NATO forces operating in Europe and Africa, as our team specialized in supporting VIPs and deployed forces. I also received the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for aiding in a Turkey Humanitarian Mission.

- ◆ **MARFOREUR/AF Executive Staff Support** – liaise with Defense Information Systems Agency and US EUCOM mobile and residence emplaced classified IT support systems, i.e., NSA's Commercial Solutions for Classified Networks (CSFC) & Video Teleconference solutions.
- ◆ **Mobile Device Management** – configured mobile phones, tablets & laptops with Microsoft Intune + CSFC
- ◆ **Network Services** – Cisco & Juniper networking with hardware encryption devices, i.e., TACLANE-Micro KG-175D

→ Assistant Data Chief, IT Operations Mid-Level Manager – USMC Reserve, 23rd Marine Regiment

Led and mentored 27 network engineers, system administrators, and technicians in deploying ad-hoc edge infrastructure across distributed operational environments, successfully transitioning them into civilian tech roles.

→ Network Engineer & Operations Manager – Operation Allies Welcome, 23rd Marine Regiment Headquarters Company

Led 18 Marines in deploying and sustaining IT infrastructure supporting 500+ users in the processing of 10,000 Afghan refugees during Operation Allies Welcome, one of the largest domestic humanitarian operations in recent Marine Corps history.

- ◆ **Network Engineering** – engineered a load balanced network topology across Starlink + Fiber using Cisco devices to sustain continuous uptime for five DoD & federal agencies and their humanitarian aid partners.
- ◆ **Wireless Network Management** – resolved WiFi collision issues in the 2.4GHz spectrum by strategically mapping floor plans with RF detection tools and transitioning access points to the 5GHz band, optimizing network performance and enhancing user connectivity.
- ◆ **Leadership** – developed and instructed 40+ hours of technical training to advance junior Marines in their occupational specialties, preparing them for successful careers in tech. I received the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for this effort.

→ Systems Administrator – Unit Deployment Program 20-1, 1st Battalion 25th Marines & USMCR

Deployed with Infantry Battalion to ensure regional readiness in the South Pacific.

- ◆ **Help Desk** – electronics repair (client systems, UPS), telephony support, end-user hardware and printer support
- ◆ **Server Management** – Windows Server 2012/2016 administration, Active Directory administration & domain management, DNS, VMware / ESXi, iDRAC (remote server management), SharePoint, Security Technical Implementation Guides (STIGs)
- ◆ **Networking** – Cisco switching & routing, DHCP / TCP-IP, Fiber and Ethernet cabling, VPN, Wireshark (packet analysis), Black Core Routing, Tunneling, hardware encryption technologies

EDUCATION

Computer Engineering A.S. for Transfer — De Anza College

Cupertino, CA • In Progress

- Infineon Technologies engineering project: evaluated their PSoC 6 AI Kit, integrating radar-based gesture control and camera-based person tracking for a fan orientation system, designed housing via CAD/3D printing.

ORGANIZATIONS

OWASP Bay Area Chapter — Member since Spring 2024

Sunnyvale Lions Club — Member since Summer 2017

Maker Nexus — Member from Spring 2024 to Winter 2025

- Certified for 3D printing, electronics shop, media blasting, etc. jun 2020 - dec 21