KARAM AJAJ

Cloud & Infrastructure Automation Consultant

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Cloud and infrastructure automation consultant with 11+ years of experience designing, implementing, and optimizing on-premises and cloud environments for enterprise clients. Certified in VMware (VCP – Cloud, DCV, NV, DM), Terraform, Kubernetes (CKA), and ITIL. Proven track record delivering end-to-end automation solutions across hybrid infrastructures using VMware Aria, Terraform, and Ansible. Adept at leading migration projects, building reusable IaC modules, and enabling client teams through documentation and workshops.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Cloud Management & Automation Consultant
Aug 2023 – Present
ITQ — Beverwijk, The Netherlands

- Design and deliver end-to-end automation solutions using VMware Aria Automation, tailored to client infrastructure and governance requirements
- Develop IaC modules for provisioning, configuration, and lifecycle management of virtualized and hybrid cloud environments
- Lead cloud migration and modernization projects (vSphere, NSX, vSAN); build reusable libraries, modules, and API integrations
- Deliver documentation, knowledge transfer sessions, and enablement workshops to client teams

  Key client engagements: Windesheim University (Aria Automation & Orchestrator, student lab workflows) • Rotterdam Harbour Holding (Terraform, Azure, CI/CD, disaster recovery) • KPN (vRA 7 → Aria 8.x migration – evaluation, design, deployment, SQL data migration) • Interconnect Services (Ansible Tower, dynamic inventories, Aria Operations dashboards) • The Hague Municipality (catalog items, custom forms, day 2 actions) • NN Group (Orchestrator actions, NSX-T onboarding workflows) • Q8 Kuwait (Aria Operations – dashboards, alerts, reports) • ASML (RHEV → Aria migration assessment, performance benchmarking)

Datacenter and Cloud Specialist
Sep 2021 – Jul 2023
Acknowledge — Waalre, The Netherlands

- Aligned architecture decisions with security teams and project engineers for compliant solutions
- Managed full lifecycle and capacity planning for cloud and data center services
- Authored commissioning guidelines, management procedures, and technical documentation
- Trained and coached junior and medior data center engineers

System Engineer Cloud
Apr 2020 – Sep 2021
Copaco 2tCloud — Eindhoven, The Netherlands

- Designed, implemented, and monitored IT infrastructure; managed server, storage, and network lifecycle
- Automated operational tasks with configuration management tools; developed new product implementations

ICT System Administrator
Jul 2018 – Apr 2020
Please Payroll — Helmond, The Netherlands

- Designed and maintained VMware infrastructure automation, documentation, and upgrade procedures
- Monitored performance, ensured security (access controls, backups, firewalls), and managed server administration

Network and System Engineer
Mar 2015 – Oct 2016
Medical Care Company — Damascus, Syria

- Designed and executed network infrastructure migration; managed Java-based medical insurance platform

IT Specialist
Feb 2014 – Mar 2015
TechnoWare — Damascus, Syria

- Maintained 62 servers and managed networks for multiple organizations (1,000+ clients)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

CLOUD & VIRTUALIZATION
VMware vSphere / ESXi, Aria Automation, Aria Operations, NSX-T, vSAN, Horizon (VDI), Azure

AUTOMATION & DEVOPS
Terraform, Ansible, CI/CD, Docker, Kubernetes, PowerShell, Python

NETWORKING & SECURITY
Fortinet / FortiGate, NSX, VPN, Firewall, AD / DNS / DHCP

PROGRAMMING
JavaScript, Python, SQL, C#, C++, HTML/CSS

PLATFORMS
Linux, Windows Server, Terraform Cloud, Ansible Tower

CERTIFICATIONS

VMware (5)
VCP – Cloud Management & Automation 2023, VCP – Data Center Virtualization 2022, VCP – Network Virtualization 2019, VCP – Desktop & Mobility 2019, vSphere 6.5 Foundations

Cloud & DevOps
CKA – Certified Kubernetes Administrator, HashiCorp Terraform Associate (003), Oracle Cloud Infrastructure 2022

Other
ITILv4 Foundation, HPE ATP – Hybrid IT Solutions V2, Zerto Certified Professional (5 certs), Fortinet NSE 1 & 2, IBM Cloud & Containers (5 certs)

EDUCATION

Hack Your Future   2018
Front End Web Development — Amsterdam, NL

Damascus University   2009 – 2015
BSc Computer & Automation Engineering — Damascus, SY

LANGUAGES

Arabic	Native
English	Full Professional
Dutch	Full Professional