

# John D. Hudgins

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Remote preferred · Open to hybrid or on-site within the greater Atlanta area

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Network Engineer with 12+ years of experience designing, deploying, and operating enterprise-scale network infrastructure. Advanced expertise in Cisco routing and switching, Palo Alto next-generation firewalls, F5 BIG-IP load balancers, and hybrid cloud networking (Azure/GCP). Proven track record leading zero-downtime hardware migration projects in high-availability, PCI-compliant data center environments and driving on-premises infrastructure into cloud-native architectures using Infrastructure as Code (Terraform/GitHub).

## EXPERIENCE

**Network Engineer** | **Amadeus Hospitality** · Chicago, IL / Atlanta, GA (Remote) · May 2021 – Present

*Owned end-to-end network operations for two co-located data centers (~50 racks, Chicago and Atlanta) and associated Azure hybrid cloud infrastructure, supporting Amadeus Hospitality's B2B software suites for hotels, airlines, and travel companies.*

- Led replacement and migration of core switching architecture in the Atlanta data center (2023), completing the project with zero unplanned downtime in a high-availability production environment.
- Replaced legacy Cisco ASA (Layer 4) with Palo Alto NGFW (Layer 7) firewall platform in Atlanta (2024), improving threat visibility and policy granularity across the production perimeter.
- Directed migration of all edge routers and DCI infrastructure (2025), coordinating maintenance windows and fallback procedures to maintain SLA commitments throughout the transition.
- Migrated remote access VPN infrastructure from Cisco Firepower to Palo Alto GlobalProtect, consolidating firewall platforms in alignment with corporate security standards.
- Contributed to the design and deployment of hub-and-spoke Azure VNet architecture, including integration of several ExpressRoute circuits with on-premises infrastructure.
- Served as Tier 3 subject matter expert during team adoption of Terraform/GitHub IaC workflows; validated change control processes, provided structured feedback, and delivered knowledge transfer training to Tier 2 engineers.
- Maintained PCI-compliant network infrastructure across production data center environments; participated in regular compliance audits in coordination with the InfoSec team.
- Managed day-to-day operations of Cisco routers and switches, Palo Alto firewalls, F5 BIG-IP load balancers, and multi-context Cisco ASA firewalls supporting production B2B SaaS platforms.
- Administered Akamai CDN platform including public edge DNS, SiteShield, and Prolexic DDoS mitigation; partnered with internal application teams to manage and support individual web properties in Akamai Property Manager, ensuring reliable customer access to public-facing services.
- Participated in GCP-to-Azure cloud migration initiative, contributing network architecture planning and execution for re-platformed application services.
- Served as on-call Tier 3 escalation engineer; led technical troubleshooting during major incidents with cross-functional teams, multiple business units, and direct executive visibility.

**Lab Engineer (Contract)** | **Cisco Systems** · Lawrenceville, GA · Oct 2013 – Oct 2020

*Managed network and infrastructure for Cisco's customer-facing training lab environment, supporting internal and external certification and product courses.*

- Redesigned and deployed lab network architecture end-to-end using hierarchical Cisco Nexus switching design with multiple VRFs and hundreds of VLANs.
- Deployed and maintained lab gateway routers with zone-based firewalls and Cisco ASA firewall instances for segmented training environments.
- Managed VMware vCenter environments (5.5 → 6.5/6.7), overseeing dozens of ESXi hosts and hundreds of virtual machines supporting lab workloads.
- Acted as subject matter expert for Cisco, VMware, and Microsoft technologies; collaborated with instructional delivery teams to design and build labs for Cisco Prime Infrastructure and Collaboration courses.
- Maintained detailed data center documentation including IP allocation, network topology diagrams, and rack diagrams; led a campus-wide data center migration project.

## Warranty Technician | Georgia Southern University · Statesboro, GA · 2009 – 2013

- Led a team of 3 A+-certified warranty technicians; prioritized work orders and managed team scheduling.
  - Served as principal warranty technician for all Lenovo-branded campus equipment; assisted in technical hiring interviews.
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## EDUCATION

### B.S., Information Technology · July 2013

Georgia Southern University · Statesboro, GA

Specialization: Networking and Data Center Administration · Effective Minor: Political Science

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## CERTIFICATIONS

### Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP) – Enterprise

CSCO12421852 · Certified February 26, 2018 · Expires July 22, 2027

### Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA)

CSCO12421852 · Certified August 21, 2013 · Expires May 15, 2029

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## TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Network Hardware:**Cisco Routers & Switches (IOS/NX-OS, Nexus), Palo Alto NGFW, F5 BIG-IP (virtual servers, pools, vCMP), Cisco ASA (multi-context), Cisco Firepower

**Routing/Switching:**BGP, OSPF, EIGRP, VRF, VLANs, STP/RSTP, EtherChannel, vPC, Inter-VLAN Routing, NAT/PAT, ACLs, Multicast, IPsec VPN, IKE

**Cloud & Hybrid:**Microsoft Azure (VNet, ExpressRoute, Hub-and-Spoke), GCP, Hybrid Cloud Network Design, DCI

**Security:**Palo Alto NGFW (Layer 7), GlobalProtect VPN, Cisco ASA, Zone-Based Firewalls, Network Segmentation, PCI Compliance, Akamai (SiteShield, Prolexic)

**IaC & Automation:**Terraform, GitHub, SAFe/Agile, Infrastructure as Code workflows

**Data Center:**Co-located DC operations, rack management, high-availability design, zero-downtime migrations, capacity planning

**Monitoring:**SolarWinds, What's Up Gold, ServiceNow

**Virtualization:**VMware vCenter (6.5/6.7), ESXi, vSphere

**Languages:**Python, Bash (CLI)

**Tools:**Royal TS, SecureCRT, PuTTY, CML, Vim, Wireshark, Nmap

**AI Tools:**GitHub Copilot, ChatGPT, Claude

**OS:**Linux, Windows Server, macOS

## SOFT SKILLS

- Technical communication & mentorship — translating complex network concepts for non-technical stakeholders, cross-functional collaboration, and Tier 2 knowledge transfer.
  - Global workforce communication — experienced coordinating across distributed, international teams in a global enterprise environment.
  - High-pressure incident management — composed and effective leading technical troubleshooting during major incidents with cross-functional teams, multiple business units, and direct executive visibility.
  - Self-directed project ownership — independently managed task planning, technical documentation, and execution for major infrastructure projects; collaborated with principal engineers on milestones and deliverables.
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## CONTINUED LEARNING & HOME LAB

- Maintains an active Cisco Modeling Labs (CML) environment for hands-on study and validation of advanced routing and switching topics, including multi-AS BGP topologies and policy design.

- Proxmox-based home virtualization platform hosting self-managed infrastructure services including DNS, reverse proxy, authentication, and DDNS.
- Active Python development for network automation, including CML API integration for lab session management and configuration generation.
- Actively exploring practical applications of AI tools (including GitHub Copilot, ChatGPT, and Claude) to improve engineering productivity, automate repetitive tasks, and accelerate documentation and workflow development.

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*References available upon request.*