

AARON STOVALL

SENIOR NETWORK SECURITY ENGINEER

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Dear Hiring Manager,

I am writing to express my interest in the Network Security Engineer position with your organization. With over 15 years of experience designing, securing, and automating enterprise-scale IT infrastructures, I bring a proven track record of delivering results across global firewall environments, multi-cloud architectures, and complex compliance landscapes. I am confident that my blend of deep technical expertise and hands-on engineering capability would make an immediate impact on your team.

Most recently, I served as a Contract Network Engineer at Rady Children's Hospital, where I specialized in Palo Alto firewall policy troubleshooting, traffic analysis, and custom automation tooling across a Panorama-managed HA environment with PA-7080 and PA-5400 series platforms. I built solutions against both the Palo Alto API and Cisco Catalyst Center to streamline operations and automate device management. Prior to that, I spent nearly a year independently designing and building a full-stack enterprise network management platform using Rust and SvelteKit, integrating API connections to Palo Alto Panorama, Cisco ISE, Catalyst Center, and Juniper Mist into a single unified control plane. That effort sharpened my development skills considerably and reinforced my conviction that the gap between network engineering and software engineering is where the most valuable work happens.

At TikTok, I directed daily operations for a global Palo Alto Panorama-managed HA environment with PA-3000 and PA-1400 series firewalls alongside a full Cisco Meraki infrastructure. I improved incident resolution times by 20%, built a custom Ansible Tower environment that cut manual provisioning effort by 40%, and led regulatory audits to 100% compliance across NIST, CISA, and ISO 27001 frameworks. I was also the Tier 3 escalation lead for complex issues spanning routing, switching, wireless, firewall policies, and VPN, regularly resolving production-impacting problems that crossed multiple teams and vendor boundaries.

Before TikTok, I spent over a decade at TE Connectivity, progressing from IT Operations Analyst to Network Security Engineer III. I managed a Check Point Multi-Domain environment with thousands of HA-configured firewalls, led network security integrations for mergers and acquisitions across the company's global portfolio, and built Python-based automation that transformed how my team handled firewall imaging, policy validation, and health monitoring at scale. I spent 35–45% of my time on-site delivering greenfield deployments and security integrations, which gave me a ground-level understanding of how infrastructure decisions play out in the real world.

What I bring to any team is not just technical depth, it's the ability to see across the full stack, from firewall policy to API orchestration to CI/CD pipeline security, and translate that into solutions that actually move the business forward. I write production code in Python, Rust, Go, and TypeScript. I architect networks and I secure them. I lead teams and I build tools that make those teams faster. I am looking for an environment where that full range of capability is valued and where I can contribute at the intersection of security engineering, network architecture, and automation.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss how my experience aligns with your team's goals. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Aaron Stovall

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