AARON STOVALL

NETWORK SECURITY ENGINEER

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PROFILE

Network security engineer with fifteen years spent inside the firewall estates of global manufacturers, a hyperscale social platform, and a pediatric hospital. Deep Palo Alto Panorama and Check Point Multi-Domain practice across thousands of HA-configured devices, layered over Cisco Catalyst, Nexus, Meraki, ISE, and Aruba. Equally a builder: writes production Rust, Python, and TypeScript, and has shipped a portfolio of API-driven platforms that turn firewall operations into automated, self-service workflows. Current work centers on a custom agentic framework for network operations.

SELECTED IMPACT

- **Global firewall operations** / Ran Palo Alto Panorama and Check Point Multi-Domain estates across global operations, cutting incident response time 20% through centralized policy management and automation.
- **Automation at scale** / Removed 40% of manual operational work via Python and Ansible pipelines, then extended past scripting into production-grade Rust and TypeScript platforms.
- **Agentic infrastructure automation** / Designs agentic, AI-assisted automation for multi-vendor network operations, pairing natural-language intent with deterministic, governed execution.
- **Platform development** / Built full-stack network management and analysis platforms integrating Palo Alto, Cisco, and Juniper APIs into unified control planes.
- **M&A security integration** / Led perimeter assessments and site integrations across mergers, acquisitions, and divestitures, standardizing the work into repeatable playbooks.
- **Tier 3 escalation** / Resolved hundreds of cross-domain escalations spanning routing, switching, firewall policy, wireless, and VPN in 24/7 production environments.
- **Compliance & zero trust** / Held 100% audit adherence across NIST, CIS, CISA, and ISO 27001, embedding least-privilege enforcement into policy, access control, and segmentation.

CAPABILITIES

Security — Palo Alto NGFW & Panorama · Check Point MDMS · Fortinet · Zscaler ZIA/ZPA · WAF · IDS/IPS · Zero Trust · Segmentation · Threat modeling

Network — Cisco Catalyst, Nexus, Meraki · Cisco ISE 802.1X · Aruba wireless · SD-WAN · LAN/WAN · Routing & switching · Tier 3 troubleshooting

Automation — Python · Ansible & Tower/AWX · Terraform · REST API orchestration · CI/CD · Infrastructure as code

Development — Rust (Axum, Tauri) · TypeScript · SvelteKit · Python (Django, Flask) · Agentic frameworks · LLM/RAG integration

EXPERIENCE

Network Engineer

Insight Global San Diego, CA · Oct 2025 – Feb 2026

- Ran firewall request fulfillment, policy troubleshooting, and traffic analysis across a Panorama-managed HA estate of PA-7080 and PA-5400 firewalls in a HIPAA-governed healthcare environment.
- Built the CNTRL platform, unifying Palo Alto Panorama, Cisco ISE, Catalyst Center, and Juniper Mist APIs into one control plane with 70+ automated features spanning policy hygiene, rule-overlap detection, compliance, and traffic analysis.
- Developed Palo Alto API tooling for policy validation, operational dashboards, PAN-OS lifecycle management, upgrade automation, and visual log analysis.
- Automated Cisco Catalyst Center and Nexus operations through platform APIs and direct SSH.
- Orchestrated Itential with Ansible playbooks for provisioning, configuration validation, compliance enforcement, and automated remediation across multi-vendor infrastructure.
- Automated Infoblox IPAM, DNS, and DHCP through Itential APIs, covering address allocation, subnet validation, record creation, reservations, and source-of-truth sync.

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- Developed agentic-driven infrastructure automation solutions, pairing AI-assisted request interpretation with deterministic execution under RBAC, approval gates, and audit trails.
- Administered Cisco ISE 802.1X access control and supported Prisma SD-WAN (ION) branch connectivity.
- Maintained as-built topology, security zone, and VLAN documentation in Visio.

Principal Network Security Engineer & Automation Developer

Mythos Systems Chula Vista, CA · Nov 2024 – Oct 2025

- Shipped a portfolio of production-grade network security and automation platforms in Rust (Tauri 2.0) and SvelteKit, converting years of firewall operations experience into tooling that removes manual effort and shortens incident resolution.
- Architected API-driven integrations across Palo Alto Panorama, Cisco Catalyst Center, and Cisco ISE, automating policy hygiene, compliance, blast-radius assessment, and 115+ diagnostic scenarios that previously demanded manual CLI work.
- Current work centers on a custom agentic framework for network operations: natural-language request interpretation, an integrated LLM with hybrid RAG retrieval over Palo Alto, Cisco, and Juniper documentation, and controlled, citation-backed execution.
- Engineered post-quantum secure communications across the stack using Open Quantum Safe cryptography, including Kyber key exchange, Dilithium signatures, and quantum-safe TLS.
- Cut firewall and VPN triage from hours to minutes by parallelizing 60+ diagnostic commands with anomaly detection and TAC-ready reporting.
- Built wireless auditing and endpoint telemetry capabilities: RF spectrum analysis, rogue AP classification, WPA3 scoring, real-time monitoring, and fleet discovery.
- Owned every product end to end, from requirements and architecture through testing and release.

Sr. Business Operations Protection Specialist, Network Security

TikTok (ByteDance) Los Angeles, CA / Remote · Jun 2022 – Nov 2024

- Directed daily operations for a global Panorama-managed HA environment of PA-5200, PA-3000, and PA-1400 firewalls alongside Cisco Meraki and Nexus switching, improving resolution times 20% through proactive automation.
- Engineered multi-cloud network security across Azure and Oracle Cloud, lifting security posture 30% via automation-driven deployment and threat modeling in Python and Rust.
- Provisioned and managed Palo Alto firewalls and Panorama in Azure using Terraform, configuring network security groups, peering, and policy sets to extend on-premises architecture into the cloud.
- Built a custom Ansible Tower environment that cut manual provisioning effort 40% and made deployments repeatable at scale.
- Deployed and managed ByteWAF and Akamai WAF via Istio service mesh, configuring rulesets and monitoring threats across web services in the USDS enclave.
- Handled operational service requests through Jira for Palo Alto and Meraki infrastructure: policy changes, connectivity troubleshooting, access provisioning, and configuration updates.
- Deployed biometric 2FA on TruU and Prisma APIs, reducing security incidents 15%.
- Led Tier 3 escalations across infrastructure, wireless, firewall policy, and VPN, resolving production-impacting issues that crossed team and vendor boundaries.
- Maintained NetBox as source of truth for device inventory, IP allocation, and subnets; authored diagrams and runbooks in Visio.
- Carried 24/7 on-call for critical global infrastructure.

Network Security Engineer III

TE Connectivity San Diego, CA / Remote + Travel · Mar 2021 – Jun 2022

- Managed global firewall operations across a Check Point Multi-Domain Management System spanning thousands of HA-configured firewalls, leading site security integrations and posture reviews through M&A activity.
- Wrote a Python application automating Check Point firewall onboarding, imaging, policy provisioning, health checks, and log analysis for a 6,000-device refresh.
- Built policy validation tooling on the Check Point Management API, scanning configurations across domains for rule violations, shadowed rules, and untracked access.
- Administered Zscaler ZIA and ZPA, managing app connectors, access policies, and traffic forwarding for zero-trust connectivity across remote users and branch sites.

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- Coordinated multi-domain change management globally, holding policy consistency and compliance validation through M&A integrations and refresh cycles.
- Supported firewall architecture and incident resolution through ServiceNow; maintained zone maps and topology documentation in Visio.
- Carried 24/7 on-call for global infrastructure.

Information Security Engineer III

TE Connectivity San Diego, CA / Remote + Travel · Jan 2019 – Mar 2021

- Ran daily operations on Check Point MDMS firewalls across thousands of HA-configured devices: security requests, policy changes, HA failover validation, and M&A site integrations.
- Processed policy updates, imaging requests, and health check validation, holding configuration standards and security baselines through maintenance windows.
- Audited firewall configurations for policy violations and untracked access, driving remediation through targeted rule updates and change management.
- Partnered with the Cyber Security team on incident response workflows and organizational security objectives.
- Improved project delivery timelines 15% through Python and Rust automation of configuration updates and policy validation.
- Internal and external partner auditing showed a 10% reduction in security incidents through QA validation, failover testing, and automated remediation.
- Supported firewall architecture through ServiceNow; maintained as-built documentation in Visio. Carried 24/7 on-call.

IT Operations Analyst III

TE Connectivity Oceanside / San Diego, CA + Travel · Nov 2011 – Jan 2019

- Oversaw multi-site IT operations across West Coast facilities: upgrades, greenfield deployments, and on-site security integrations spanning Cisco Catalyst, Nexus, and Check Point. On-site work ran 35–45% of the role.
- Served as subject matter expert for Aruba wireless, managing controllers, access point deployments, RF tuning, and role-based access policy.
- Managed vendor and contractor relationships for infrastructure procurement, covering UPS systems, racks, network closets, AV systems, and gigabit Ethernet installations.
- Evolved the team's DevOps standards to include development standards, and established a small development team building Python and Rust network automation.
- Partnered across Facilities, IT, and HR to support scalable, secure growth through process automation and consistent policy enforcement.
- Administered BlueCat IPAM for IP space, DNS zones, and DHCP scopes across enterprise facilities.
- Delivered end-user and infrastructure support through ServiceNow: network devices, Ricoh printers, Aruba wireless, Cisco switching and routing, VoIP, UPS, Layer 1, and desk moves.
- Maintained topology diagrams and rack elevations in Visio. Carried 24/7 on-call.

Helpdesk Administrator

Deutsch Industrial Products Hemet, CA · Apr 2010 – Nov 2011

- Provided helpdesk administration and network support across the organization, handling user support and system troubleshooting.

Network Administrator

Ramko Manufacturing Hemet, CA · Feb 2009 – Apr 2010

- Managed network administration, user support, and multi-site infrastructure.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION

Bachelor of Science, Game Software Development · Westwood College, Upland, CA · 2005–2009

Palo Alto Networks Certified Network Security Engineer (PCNSE) · *renewal in progress*
Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) · *previously held*