Thomas A. Roach Jr.

Senior Network Architect

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Innovative and technically sophisticated professional with 15+ years of experience in designing, implementing, and optimizing complex network infrastructures.

Credible history of developing scalable network architectures and integrating advanced technologies, such as SD-WAN, MPLS, VPNs, and cloud connectivity solutions. Demonstrated success in network security protocols, disaster recovery planning, and performance tuning. Possess strong command of Cisco and VMware environments, with Cisco certifications CCNA, CCDA and CCNP. Adept at collaborating with cross-functional teams to deliver projects on time and within budget. Committed to innovating and leveraging network analytics for strategic insights while ensuring robust, secure, and efficient network operations.

Areas of Expertise

- Scalable Network Design
- Disaster Recovery Planning
- Advanced Security Protocols
- Cloud Connectivity Solutions
- SD-WAN Configuration
- Network Performance Tuning
- MPLS Network Implementation
- Virtualization Technology Integration
- Network Analytics Insight
- Project Management Excellence
- Cross-Functional Team Leadership
- Regulatory Compliance Assurance

Professional Experience

Charles River Labs, Remote   **2016 — Present**
Network Architect

Establish reference designs and corporate standards by spearheading development and implementation of cutting-edge IT network technologies. Enhance infrastructure and application portfolio by conducting thorough investigations into performance and stability issues. Design and implement infrastructure systems to bolster data center and site operations, including technology refreshes, new platform integration, and seamless incorporation of acquired companies.

Key Contributions:

- Pioneered design, configuration, and implementation of Cisco Catalyst and Nexus series equipment for LAN/WAN access, demonstrating robust 20-year track record across global enterprise.
- Maintained Palo Alto firewalls with Panorama for centralized management, ensuring high levels of security and operational efficiency.
- Designed and managed public wireless networks using Aruba IAP and Campus WAPs, achieving extensive coverage and reliability across global enterprise.
- Implemented Prisma SD-WAN for over seven years, optimizing policy-based traffic management and control throughout the enterprise network.
- Possess advanced skills in designing and troubleshooting enterprise-level networks, consistently delivering solutions that meet complex requirements.
- Dedicated six years to installation and administration of Cisco FTDs, providing edge protection and secure AnyConnect VPN access, enhancing network security and remote accessibility.

Grand Sierra Resort, Reno, NV   **2013 — 2017**
Network Engineer

Engineered and managed Cisco routers and switches in enterprise datacenter, bringing extensive knowledge in layer 2 and layer 3 switches to ensure seamless operation of high-speed gaming floor via multiple VLANs across 200+ switches. Led design and implementation of public wireless networks utilizing Cisco WLC and Cisco Prime for superior network monitoring and configuration.

Key Contributions:

- Administered Cisco Nexus 9500 Core switches to optimize network performance and manage traffic flow efficiently.
- Developed and managed public wireless systems within 250K+ square feet of convention and hotel space using Cisco 5500 WLC.
- Migrated datacenter from three distinct Cisco platforms (6500, 4500, and 3850), segregating gaming, administration, and guest services, to streamlined Nexus 9K HA pair configuration using multiple VRFs.
- Employed Cisco Prime for diligent network monitoring, enabling efficient upgrades and widespread configurations.

- Designed and troubleshoot enterprise-level networks, showcasing robust experience with Cisco ASR 1001 routers, Cisco 6500, 4500, 3700x, 3800x, and 2900x switches.

TEKsystems/State Farm, Phoenix, AZ   2011 — 2013
Network Engineer/Network ISA

Managed Enterprise-level Network Operations Center operations, focusing on Cisco routers to ensure robust connectivity and network reliability. Leveraged POTS, T1, and T1 Multilink configurations to facilitate seamless network connectivity. Possessed advanced knowledge in network protocols, including TCP/IP, DNS, WAN/LAN, and DHCP, complemented by proficiency in MPLS and BGP routing protocols. Troubleshoot complex issues related to CUCM and Unity servers, as well as resolved local connectivity challenges involving Cisco VOIP and Local Exchange Carriers (LEC).

Key Contributions:

- Optimized network performance and minimized downtime by leading proactive network monitoring and traffic analysis using NetQos.
- Ensured high levels of network availability and performance by managing expansive network of 100K+ remote nodes, integrating technologies, such as T-1, Multilink, DS0, MPLS, and BGP.
- Designed and troubleshoot of enterprise-level networks, showcasing strong track record with Cisco 2800 and 2900 series routers.
- Installed and troubleshoot Cisco VOIP phones, ensuring seamless communication services at local level and within CUCM and Unity environments.

WMS Gaming Inc., Reno, NV   2006 — 2011
Network Administrator

Spearheaded network system specialization and senior network administration within gaming operations center, demonstrating profound expertise in leveraging POTS, DSL, and T1 connectivity technologies. Exhibited mastery in TCP/IP, DNS, WAN/LAN, and DHCP, alongside proficiency in OSPF, EIGRP, and BGP routing protocols. Upgraded Windows 2000 servers to Windows Server 2008 on VMWARE and tested SQL Server 2000 and 2005, along with Microsoft Message Queuing, ensuring seamless upgrade transitions. Employed SNMP and SolarWinds Orion for comprehensive network traffic monitoring and researched cutting-edge technologies, advocating for strategic investments to stay at forefront of technological advancements.

Key Contributions:

- Achieved unparalleled network stability with initiatives that secured 99.8% uptime, managing 1000+ remote nodes utilizing diverse mix of connectivity solutions, including DSL, T-1, Frame-relay, MPLS, and BGP.
- Innovated with EIGRP routing through DMVPN tunnel over BGP, integrating weighted PRI dialers for flawless communication backup.
- Designed and troubleshoot enterprise-level networks, with extensive experience in configuring Cisco 1700, 1800, 2800, and 3700 routers, as well as Cisco 2900, 3500, and 3700 switches.
- Led testing of new gaming device code, employing manual and automated strategies via Test Director and effectively managing defect tracking with Team Track.

Education & Credentials

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
Morrison University, Reno, NV

Professional Development: CCNA | CCDA | CCNP

Technical Skills: Cisco ASR & ISR Routers | Cisco Nexus & Catalyst Switches | Cisco ASA Firewalls | Palo Alto Firewalls & Panorama | Layer 2/Layer 3 Troubleshooting | Prisma SD-WAN | Spanning-tree Protocol | TCP/IP, DHCP & DNS Protocols | WAN/LAN Connectivity | Aruba and Cisco Wireless Solutions | 802.1x Wireless and Wired Design | Aruba Wireless and ClearPass Server