PERSONAL DETAILS

Last Name:	Mbawa
First Name:	Blessing
Contact:	(+27) 73 585 6923
Email:	bmbawa@gmail.com
Availability:	Immediate
Location	Midrand
ZA ID Number	7807126041186
Gender:	Male
Race:	African
Languages:	English, Shona

PROFILE SUMMARY

Educated and Experienced network & security engineer in design and implementing secure enterprise network solutions across large distributed enterprise networks. Highly skilled in Application Web Security/WAF, Network Security, DNS, Datacentre, LAN/WAN/WLAN deployments and administration. Knowledgeable in AWS solutions architectures and also Forescout NAC technology. A real team player who delivers exceptional service to clients, tackling complex environments.

Projects accomplished include Checkpoint NGTX network security gateways deployment, Datacentre to Datacentre migration, F5 LTM/GTM/ASM setup, Cisco campus networks refresh, IPTV deployments and enterprise network security posture design. Experienced in Fortigate firewalls implementations and support.

Certified in Check Point Security solutions, Cisco technologies, F5 technologies, AWS solutions architecture, and ITILv3.

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

Date	Institution/Organisation	Degree/Diploma/Certificate
1998 - 2003	National University of Science and Technology	**B. Eng. (HONS) Degree: Electronic Engineering**
1996 - 1997	Saint Augustine's High School	**Advanced Level Certificate**

IT CERTIFICATIONS
- Check Point Certified Security Administrator R80
- AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate
- F5 Certified Technology Specialist (F5 CTS), BIG-IP Application Security Manager
- F5 Certified Technology Specialist (F5 CTS), BIG-IP DNS
- F5 Certified Administrator (F5-CA), BIG-IP
- Cisco Certified Network Professional Enterprise (CCNP)
- Cisco Certified Specialist - Enterprise Design
- Cisco Certified Specialist - Enterprise Advanced Infrastructure Implementation
- Cisco Certified Specialist - Enterprise Core
- Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA)
- Cisco Certified Entry Networking Technician (CCENT)
- ITILv3 Foundation

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES
- Network Security Technologies - Cisco ASA, Fortigate, Check Point, ISE, Forescout, Solaris IPF
- IP Routing protocols - EIGRP, OSPF, BGP, Multicast
- LAN Switching Technologies - VLANS, StackWise, VSS, VPC, MLAG, HSRP, VARP, VRRP
- Data Centre Technologies - Spine and Leaf, VXLAN, Cisco NX-OS, Arista EOS
- Wireless Technologies - Cisco WLC and APs
- F5 Technologies - F5 LTM/ASM/GTM setup & deployment
- DNS administration
- VoIP and Quality of Service deployments

PERSONAL SKILLS SUMMARY
- Flexible attitude
- Determination
- Confidence
- Articulate

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Role: Network Security Engineer (project)
Period: June 12th - 31st July
Organization: M2TD Consulting | City of Johannesburg: Metrobus
Responsibilities/Contributions:
- o Analysis, Plan, Design, Implementation and Migration of the Network Firewall Security Architecture
- o Installation, Configuration & Testing of the following Checkpoint Security Solution:
  - Firewall, VPN, Advanced Networking and Clustering, Identity Awareness, Mobile Access, IPS
  - Application Control, URL Filtering, Anti-Virus, Anti-Bot, Anti-Spam, Content Awareness
  - Threat Emulation, Threat Extraction
  - Network Policy Management, Logging, Monitoring and Status
- o Migration from Cisco ASA firewall to the Checkpoint Security Solution

Reason for Leaving: project successfully completed.

Role: ICT Consultant (project)
Period: May 5th – 23rd May
Organization: Impofu's Engineering Service; Makhadabi Consulting | Gauteng Government Hospital
Responsibilities/Contributions:
- o Healthcare ICT Facilities Network Design - IP Voice, data, video surveillance and network security

Reason for Leaving: project successfully completed

Role: Network and Security Engineer (contractor)
Period: March 2019 - March 2020
Organization: Carlysle Human Capital | DRDLR: Deeds Registration Services in Pretoria
Responsibilities/Contributions:
- o Network security infrastructure design.
- o Network & Applications vulnerability assessments.
- o F5 LTM/GTM/ASM deployment, administration and support.
- o Network Technical Support Lead across 11 branches LANs, MPLS WAN and 2 data centres
- o LAN, WAN, WLAN, and Datacentre Network design
- o Branch LANs switching network refresh, administration, and monitoring.
- o Firewalls administration and support.
- o ICT Policy formulation and Projects Terms of Reference preparations

Reason for Leaving: contract successfully completed.

Role: Network Engineer II (full time)
Period: March 2016 - February 2019
Organization: Dimension Data | Barclays/Absa Bank in Johannesburg
Responsibilities/Contributions:
- o Network Solutions Delivery for Absa IT
- o Data Centre design, implementation, and support - Cisco ASA, Cisco ISE, Arista, Fortigate, Check Point, F5.
- o Data centre to Data centre migrations.
- o Campus networks revamp – Replaced ageing equipment with L2/L3 Cisco catalyst 9000 and Arista switches.
- o CIB JSE infrastructure connectivity technical support.
- o VoIP Deployments Network Support – Implementing QoS for Cisco, Avaya, and BT deployments
- o IPTV design, implementation, and support.

Reason for Leaving: Absa Datacentre Migration project successfully completed, and I resigned to embrace an opportunity at Deeds Registration Services.

Network Engineer II (full time)
October 2008 - February 2016
Organization: Gijima | Columbus Stainless Steel in Mpumalanga
Responsibilities/Contributions:
- o Cisco LAN/WLAN/WAN technical support and monitoring.
- o Cisco ASA Firewalls/VPN, Cisco ACS AAA server network deployment and administration.
- o VoIP Deployment and Legacy telephony network support.
- o IP CCTV Network design, implementation, and support.
- o Routing & Switching – ospf, vlans, hsrp, vrf, EtherChannels, stacking
- o UTP and Fibre cabling support

Reason for Leaving: I resigned in pursuit of new experience and challenge in order to advance my career

Network Planning Engineer→Senior Engineer Telecoms Engineer
August 2004 - August 2008 (full time)
Powertel Communications - Zimbabwe
Responsibilities/Contributions:
- Analysis and Development of Transmission & Access Networks
- Technology evaluations
- Provide expert insights on technology choices and operations
- Lead key technology projects as required from time to time
- Telco network planning and design - Access and Transmission Backbone
- Operations, maintenance, and support of multi-vendor equipment - Cisco, ZTE, Huawei.
- Maintenance and restoration for the transmission nodes (SDH, PDH, ETH, Wireless).

Reason for Leaving: Relocated to South Africa.

Network Engineer
October 2003 - July 2004 (full time)
Africa Online - Zimbabwe
Responsibilities/Contributions:
- Technical support and maintenance of ISP Core/Access Network, and Client connectivity designs - email, proxy, routers, switches, DNS, Linux, windows.
- Cisco infrastructure platforms support

Reason for Leaving: Career growth.

Telecommunications Intern
August 2001 - August 2002 (student contract)
Powertel Communications - Zimbabwe
Responsibilities/Contributions:
- Planning and design of the service provider data communication network.
- Operations, maintenance, and support of multi-vendor equipment - Cisco, ZTE, Huawei.
- Maintenance and restoration for the transmission nodes (SDH, PDH, ETH, Wireless).
- LAN/WAN, PC, server support and maintenance.

Reason for Leaving: I went back to university for the final year of B.Eng. Electronic Engineering Degree (Honours).

HOBBIES & INTERESTS
I enjoy football (also known as American Soccer) and tennis

REFERENCES

Chris Mehlo
IT Security Manager – Dimension Data
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Prince Hadebe
Datacentre Networks Manager – Absa
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Steve Tefo
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