# Salman Zaheer

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## Cybersecurity Analyst | Network Defense & Security Automation Engineer

Cybersecurity professional with a foundation in network engineering and solution architecture. Proven track record at Ciena securing multi-vendor environments and developing Python-based access control tools. Certified in Google Cybersecurity with a focus on threat detection, incident response, and NIST compliance. Proficient in Linux CLI, SQL, Python, React, and Firebase.

- Cyber Threat Intelligence
- Network Security
- Linux System Hardening
- Incident Response
- Python & Shell Scripting
- Windows AD
- Vulnerability Assessment
- Cloud Security
- SIEM & Log Analysis

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Ciena**                                                                                       **Hanover, MD**
*Solutions Engineering & Introductions Engineer*                                 *Feb 2024 – Sept 2025*

- Hardened a 100+ device multi-vendor lab (Cisco IOS, Ciena SAOS, Juniper Junos) by implementing RBAC, VLAN segmentation, and AAA (RADIUS/TACACS+) to enforce Zero Trust principles.
- Engineered Python automation tools (Paramiko/Flask) to audit network configurations and enforce access policies, reducing manual configuration errors.
- Secured a containerized CI/CD toolchain (Git, Docker, OpenShift) for lab automation, ensuring deployment reliability within a secure SDLC.
- Developed an internal Flask web application with Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) to track tasks and generate reports, streamlining team collaboration and audit trails.
- Deployed a virtual Broadband Network Gateway (vBNG) cluster on Red Hat OpenShift to facilitate secure client demonstrations and solution validation.

**Chesapeake Plywood LLC**                                                         **Baltimore, MD**
*IT & Network Intern*                                                                       *Jun 2022 – Aug 2022*

- Administered IT support across multiple departments, troubleshooting network connectivity and managing user access policies.
- Developed an automated data pipeline using Power Automate to validate quotation data integrity, eliminating manual entry errors.

## SECURITY & AUTOMATION PROJECTS

- **Hault:** A fully containerized private cloud solution designed for secure file storage, media streaming, and password management. Built with a modern tech stack, it offers a privacy-focused alternative to commercial cloud providers.

## EDUCATION

**Towson University**                                                                      **Towson, MD**
*Bachelor of Science in Computer Science*                                          *December 2023*

- **Relevant Coursework:** Cybersecurity Fundamentals, Cryptography, Computer Networking, Operating Systems, AI & Machine Learning.

## CERTIFICATIONS

- **Google Cybersecurity Certificate** | *Coursera*                              *December 2025*
  Comprehensive training in Linux, SQL, Python, SIEM tools, IDS/IPS, and NIST frameworks.