

Cedrick L. Ward

San Diego, CA, USA

cedrickward@proton.me | (469) 471-5826 | [linkedin](#)

SUMMARY

Senior IT Systems Engineer with 15+ years of experience in on-premises infrastructure, virtualization, and secure hybrid environments for the DoD. Skilled in Cisco networking, Nutanix, VMware vSphere, with a strong focus on building resilient, high-availability systems in austere conditions. Proficient in managing complex migrations and cloud-managed on-prem assets. Active TS/SCI clearance. Dedicated to mission success through technical excellence and rapid adaptation to new technologies.

SKILLS

Cisco ASA/Firepower NGFW, WLC, CUCM, ISE, DNS, VPN, Satellite & Edge Routing, Load Balancing, VMware vSphere, Hyper-V, Nutanix AOS/AHV, Azure Arc, Azure Files, Entra ID, VLANs, STP, OSPF, EIGRP, QoS, LAN/WAN, STIG compliance, Tenable Nessus, ACAS, RHEL hardening, Vulnerability Remediation, PowerShell.

EXPERIENCE

Communications Section Chief

U.S. Army Reserve

May 2006 - Present

- Lead communications readiness and technical operations for a 200-plus Soldier organization across training and mission environments.
- Manage and mentor personnel responsible for enterprise IT, communications support, operational metrics, and readiness reporting.
- Brief commanders and staff on infrastructure readiness, operational risk, and mission capability.

Network Operations Manager

U.S. Army Reserve – Fort Gordon, GA Deployment

May 2025 - May 2026

- Supported Ft Gordon network operations across enterprise L2/L 3 infrastructure, including Cisco routing, switching, VLANs, OSPF, LAN/WAN connectivity, and NIPR/SIPR network segments.
- Troubleshoot and maintained route/switch and firewall connectivity, including ACLs, NAT, VPN paths, boundary access issues, and secure network availability across assigned DoD infrastructure.
- Coordinated with NEC/RNEC and technical teams to support change control, network monitoring, STIG/ACAS remediation, documentation, and mission continuity across enterprise network environments.

Network & Cloud Security Engineer

ECS Federal LLC – U.S.N.S. Mercy hospital Ship

Sept 2021 - Apr 2025

- Managed enterprise network infrastructure across NIPR/SIPR for a 24/7 shipboard medical facility supporting up to 1,200 personnel, maintaining zero tolerance for downtime and ensuring continuous operations
- Maintained and optimized a Cisco-based environment including Catalyst 9600 core switches, ASA/Firepower NGFWs, voice routers, 50+ access points, WLCs, and virtual CUCM, supporting high-performance and reliable network operations
- Deployed and administered Nutanix AOS/AHV clusters supporting virtualized workloads, including migration of services between physical and virtual environments as infrastructure evolved
- Performed network monitoring, outage response, configuration support, and infrastructure documentation while coordinating with technical teams to maintain operational continuity and mission readiness.

Network Operations Manager

U.S. Army Reserve - Kuwait Deployment

Jun 2020 - May 2021

- Led migration of more than 600 switches from Brocade to Cisco across classified and unclassified domains.
- Supervised 15 contractors and 9 Soldiers supporting daily operations and maintenance of the Network Enterprise Center at Camp Arifjan.
- Managed switching across secure hybrid environments and optimized traffic across complex routing paths under latency and bandwidth constraints.

System Administrator
Acara Solutions

Sept 2018 - Dec 2018

- Executed Linux workstation hardening for classified F-35 program requirements. Installed and configured VMware/Hyper-V solutions and managed large Active Directory environments. Conducted ACAS scans to support STIG and cybersecurity compliance

Windows Deployment Supervisor
DXC Technology – Okinawa, Japan

Jan 2018 - Apr 2018

- Led a 20-person team across four DoD bases executing Windows 10 migration, user data recovery, and system restoration for 400 users; coordinated multi-site operations.
- Briefed DoD stakeholders and senior leadership, delivering modernization objectives ahead of schedule across classified and unclassified environments.

Network Engineer
U.S. Army Reserve - Jordan Deployment

Jun 2016 - Aug 2017

- Managed Cisco switching and Cisco Unified Communications Manager in an austere environment. Utilized Nessus ACAS and SCAP tools to identify vulnerabilities and harden systems according to DIACAP and DISA STIG requirements.

Systems Engineer
NCI Information Systems

Apr 2015 - Jun 2016

- Remediated vulnerabilities across enterprise systems using SCCM, WSUS, policy updates, and scripting support in large-scale secure environments supporting 300,000+ users and 600,000+ devices.

Linux Systems Engineer
MEDWEB - Afghanistan

Dec 2012 - Apr 2014

- Supported 26 Integrated Healthcare Enterprise sites across multiple domains through remote and onsite technical support.
- Managed and maintained more than 50 Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 Servers throughout Afghanistan and U.S. Federal Bureau of Prisons.
- Trained clinicians and medical staff on radiologic software and hardware platforms.

Network Administrator
U.S. Army Reserve - Afghanistan Deployment

Dec 2011 - Jan 2013

- Oversaw the Composite Health Care System II and administered Active Directory, VoIP, and VTC services.
- Managed hospital communications supporting more than 50 joint forces personnel.
- Administered Medweb telemedicine platform, managing user accounts, maintaining system availability.

Signal Support Technician
U.S. Army Reserve - Iraq Deployment

Feb 2008 - APR 2009

- Supported the MC4 medical network and served as a liaison between DoD and vendor support teams
- Provisioned and managed network systems NIPR/SIPR accounts. Maintained tactical radio communications.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Systems & Cloud Administration
Western Governors University • 2024 – 2026

Associate of Science, Applied Business
Mountain View Community College • 2015 – 2017

CERTIFICATIONS

Cisco CCNA, CompTIA SecurityX (CASP+) Network+, Linux+, Cloud+, ITIL v4 Foundation