

# Dawson Pena

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## SUMMARY

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Dynamic Network Engineer with over five years honing expertise in innovative networking solutions and bringing valuable experience from hands-on work with VMware NSX administration, micro-segmentation strategies, and advanced routing protocols. Commended for effectively implementing network automation technologies, optimizing application delivery across enterprise settings, and boosting reliability through meticulous load balancing configurations. Excited to contribute knowledge of spine-leaf architectures and WAN design principles while collaborating seamlessly with cross-functional teams to refine overall organizational connectivity.

## EXPERIENCE

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**Network Engineer** January 2023 - Present  
NexGen Networks *Portland, OR*

Overseeing diverse network designs and implementations at NexGen Networks, supporting both established and upcoming technology initiatives within a busy data center environment. Focus on ensuring operational efficiencies and robust performance with cutting-edge solutions.

- Implemented NSX overlay topologies, enhancing efficiency and resilience across multiple locations.
- Optimized distributed firewall policies and micro-segmentation techniques for improved traffic security.
- Managed load balancing services, significantly improving application uptime and performance metrics.
- Streamlined BGP configuration processes to elevate route peering standards and facilitate rapid response.
- Collaborated effectively with platform engineering teams to ensure integration across operations, enforcing consistent network dependency management.
- Developed and updated detailed documentation, enabling effective knowledge transfer of network standards and deployment best practices.

**Network Architect** February 2020 - December 2022  
TechSphere Solutions *Bend, OR*

Led architectural strategies focusing on hybrid connectivity solutions integrating private cloud ecosystems within existing WAN frameworks. Collaborated strategically with stakeholders to drive tremendous operational improvements.

- Designed innovative network solutions that blended private cloud settings efficiently with operational objectives.
- Utilized Ansible and Terraform for automation initiatives, significantly accelerating deployment and reducing overhead.
- Facilitated training for engineering teams focused on core topics like VPNs, BGP, OSPF while advancing overall team proficiency.
- Evaluated latest security measures to bolster the network framework further, providing extensive recommendations to peers.
- Actively engaged with clients to gather key requirements, transforming them into tailored networking offerings.
- Drafted runbooks that streamlined incident responses, aiming for consistency and accuracy during operational crises.

**Junior Network Engineer** July 2018 - January 2020  
DataLink Corp *Eugene, OR*

Contributed to full-spectrum network initiatives as a Junior Engineer focusing predominantly on working with NSX-T environments to sustain secure operations and optimize data flow.

- Administered network aspects within an NSX-T context, contributing effectively to broader design discussions.
- Engaged actively in enforcing micro-segmentation and security enhancements throughout infrastructure.
- Participated extensively in strategic WAN planning sessions, shaping insights on various models for client needs.
- Worked collaboratively to resolve network challenges promptly, driving focus towards incident resolution.
- Documented technical changes and configurations, upholding strict compliance fiscal standards kept consistently.
- Enhanced deployment mechanisms via interconnected scripting, facilitating greater workflow efficiency across teams.

## LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

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- VCP-NV Certification – Achieved in 2021, reflecting strong aptitude for managing virtual networks.
- CCNP Certification – Earned in 2022, showcasing depth in network protocols and enterprise-level troubleshooting.

## EDUCATION

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**Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science** 2018  
University of Oregon GPA: 3.6 *Eugene, OR*

**Coursework:** Data Structures, Networking, Algorithms, Cybersecurity

## CERTIFICATIONS

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- VCP-NV 📅 2021
- CCNP 📅 2022
- Terraform Associate 📅 2022

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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- **Networking Protocols:** BGP, OSPF, EIGRP
- **Network Security:** Firewalls, IPS/IDS, SSL VPN
- **Cloud Technologies:** AWS, Azure, Private Cloud Services
- **Scripting Languages:** Python, Bash, PowerShell
- **Automation Tools:** Ansible, Puppet, Terraform
- **Monitoring Tools:** Nagios, SolarWinds, Wireshark
- **Virtualization Technologies:** VMware vSphere, NSX, OpenStack
- **Load Balancers:** Avi, F5, HAProxy
- **Data Center Management:** Cabling, Rack Management, Capacity Planning
- **Service Provider Protocols:** MPLS, SD-WAN, EVPN

## SKILLS

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- VMware NSX
- Network Automation
- BGP
- OSPF
- Load Balancing
- Micro-Segmentation
- Ansible
- Terraform
- Python
- Data Center Networking
- WAN Technologies
- Traffic Engineering
- EVPN/VXLAN
- Routing Policies
- Policy-Based Routing
- Hybrid Connectivity

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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- Member, Network Engineering Society (2023 - Present). Engaged with professionals to enhance industry connections.
- Volunteer, Local Coding Bootcamp, sharing knowledge on networking basics and best practices (2020 - Present).

## LANGUAGES

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- English (Native)
- Spanish (Intermediate)

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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**Work Status** : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

## REFERENCES

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AVAILABLE ON REQUEST