Afzal Ahmed

Senior Cloud Consultant · AWS & Google Cloud

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Softchoice / WWT since 2024 · AWS since 2017 · Google Cloud since 2018 · Discovery → Handover

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Cloud Consultant with 15+ years in IT, delivering AWS and Google Cloud environments for enterprise customers in professional services: multi-account landing zones, MGN server and file-service migrations, tested disaster recovery, identity integration, hybrid networking, cloud security and Terraform and Python automation. Owns engagements end to end, from discovery and design through build, validation and operational handover, and documents them so customer teams can run what was delivered. Recent work is primarily AWS, with continued Google Cloud delivery across landing zones, GKE, security logging, IAM and VMware Engine; also contributes to customer discovery, technical scoping and statement-of-work reviews.

CORE COMPETENCIES

AWS: Control Tower, Organizations, IAM Identity Center, VPC, EC2, S3, KMS, WAF, GuardDuty, Security Hub, CloudTrail, CloudWatch, Lambda, Cognito, SES, DynamoDB, Amazon Bedrock

Google Cloud (GCP): Landing zones (resource hierarchy, organization policies, Shared VPC), Cloud IAM, Cloud Identity, Kubernetes (GKE), Identity-Aware Proxy, VPC Service Controls, Certificate Authority Service, Cloud KMS, Cloud Logging and Audit Logs, Pub/Sub, Security Command Center, VMware Engine, BigQuery, Dataflow, Cloud Composer

Migration & DR: AWS Application Migration Service (MGN) wave planning, test launches and cutovers; Elastic Disaster Recovery (DRS) replication with failover and failback drills; DataSync and Robocopy file migration; VMware-to-cloud lift and shift; Veeam

Security & identity: Multi-account guardrails, private PKI (Google Cloud CA Service, AWS Private CA), KMS key protection, IAM separation of duties, Entra ID SAML single sign-on (SSO), Okta federation, centralized logging with SIEM ingestion, CIS / NIST / ISO 27001 posture

Networking: VPC design, site-to-site VPN, hybrid routing, east-west traffic design, FortiGate, Palo Alto, vendor-managed firewall integration

Automation & IaC: Terraform, Python, CloudFormation, CI/CD and GoCD pipelines, EC2 Image Builder pipelines, MGN launch-template automation

Windows & end-user computing: Active Directory, EC2 domain controllers, FSx for Windows and ONTAP, FSLogix, Amazon WorkSpaces

Delivery: Discovery workshops, design documents, as-builts, operations guides and runbooks, knowledge transfer, assessments and remediation reports, technical scoping and SOW reviews

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Cloud Consultant, Professional Services | **Softchoice / WWT** | Calgary, Canada — Mar 2024 – Present

- Led AWS delivery for a life-insurance organization's modernization: designed and built the multi-account landing zone, deployed EC2 domain controllers, configured IAM Identity Center, MGN private endpoints, FSx for Windows, S3 and WAF, and supported the migration waves.
- Built the Amazon WorkSpaces proof of concept (AD Connector, FSLogix profiles on FSx, Entra ID SAML single sign-on, custom images) and led the Elastic Disaster Recovery drills and knowledge transfer.
- Led a financial-services organization's AWS landing zone, MGN test and cutover waves, FSx for Windows build and file-data migration inside a vendor-managed firewall network model; changed the transfer method from DataSync to Robocopy after observed failures, remediated permissions and ran customer failover and failback drills.
- Led the Google Cloud implementation of a multi-cloud private PKI foundation for a global security organization: dedicated PKI project and subordinate CA on Certificate Authority Service, Cloud KMS key protection, IAM separation of duties, audit logging and organization-policy guardrails, with Terraform validated in a lab and aligned with the AWS Private CA counterpart.

- Took over technical ownership of an enterprise customer's advanced AWS landing zone mid-project: finalized the account model and network plan, implemented the landing zone and EC2 infrastructure, wrote the as-built, operations guide and FortiGate runbook, and delivered knowledge transfer.
- Built Python automation that generates AWS MGN launch templates with consistent tagging and customer-managed EBS encryption keys for a multi-site server migration; ran the automation across pilot, non-production and production groupings and supported test and cutover waves.
- Delivered a GKE design review and Terraform automation through Identity-Aware Proxy tunnels (no direct SSH) for a marketing-technology platform; reviewed a GoCD pipeline refactor and contributed to Kafka and YugabyteDB working sessions.
- Further AWS foundations and recovery work: Elastic Disaster Recovery implementation with failback testing and Terraform handover; landing zones with FortiGate, Entra ID and FSx for ONTAP integration; a regional build with directory services and DataSync; repeated Quick Start landing zones; architecture assessments and remediation.
- Further AWS automation and enablement: Linux and Windows EC2 Image Builder pipelines; recurring DevOps changes across Lambda, S3, Cognito, Secrets Manager, SES, DynamoDB and CloudFormation; an Amazon Bedrock enablement session.
- Further Google Cloud delivery: centralized security logging with SIEM ingestion and a security-posture and compliance assessment for a regulated organization; a landing zone with Okta federation; a VMware Engine foundation with Veeam-based recovery; landing-zone as-built documentation and knowledge transfer.

Solution Architect (Google Cloud) | **Telus** | Canada (remote) — Sep 2018 – Feb 2024

- Designed and deployed Google Cloud landing zones from infrastructure-as-code templates: resource hierarchy, IAM policies and organization constraints, Cloud Identity, Shared VPC and VPC peering, CIDR planning and aggregated log sinks.
- Built Google Cloud solutions for data analytics and ETL workflows with BigQuery, Dataflow and Cloud Composer, automating and streamlining pipeline operations.
- Strengthened cloud security with IAM policies, VPC Service Controls and centralized logging and monitoring, aligned with ISO 27001 and CIS benchmarks and Security Command Center findings.
- Ran discovery workshops, lift-and-shift VM migrations onto Terraform-built landing zones, CI/CD pipeline integration and operational knowledge transfer.

Cloud Consultant (AWS) | **Flyht** | Calgary, Canada — Jan 2017 – Aug 2018

- Delivered AWS cloud migrations with a focus on cost, security and scalability.
- Designed fault-tolerant, highly available AWS infrastructures and supported their adoption.

Automation Engineer | **Sidotel Inc.** | Karachi, Pakistan — 2010 – 2016

- Implemented VMware virtualization to consolidate servers and improve scalability and reliability.
- Deployed Cisco-based network security solutions and hardened the network estate.

Technical Support Engineer | **Callmate Telips** | Karachi, Pakistan — 2006 – 2009

- Subject-matter expert for level II and III technical support across teams and customers.

CERTIFICATIONS

PREVIOUSLY HELD

Google Cloud Certified – Professional Cloud Developer — Google Cloud, Nov 2024 – Nov 2026
Google Cloud Certified – Professional Data Engineer — Google Cloud, Oct 2024 – Oct 2026
Google Cloud Certified – Professional Cloud Architect — Google Cloud, May 2024 – Sep 2026
Google Cloud Certified – Associate Cloud Engineer — Google Cloud, Sep 2022 – Sep 2025
AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner — Amazon Web Services
Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA) — The Linux Foundation

EDUCATION

Bachelor's degree, Electronics — NED University of Engineering and Technology, Karachi, Pakistan, 2002 – 2005 · Canadian degree equivalency assessed by ICAS

Detailed, sanitized case studies and diagrams: comonline.ca/my-projects/