

# AKANKSHA PATHAK



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Senior Cyber Security Consultant specializing in, Cloud Security, Application Security, Threat Detection & Response, Vulnerability Management and Product Security. Senior member of the corporate governance team responsible for overseeing the third-party cybersecurity practice. Manage supplier relationships alongside architecting and analyzing application designs. Actively participate in GIAC Advisory Board meetings.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**Senior Cyber security Consultant – Visa Inc,** Austin, TX

*Dec 2021 – Present*

*Third party Cyber Security*

- Led 3<sup>rd</sup> party onsite and remote risk assessments for over 50+ vendors in accordance with Visa's security framework and industry security standards, maintaining risk assurance for medium & high-risk vendors
- Collaborated with stakeholders to review security posture, provide process guidance, and attest internet security controls
- Improved security program by identifying process gaps through workshops, automating incident management tracking, and deploying tools to proactively track internet facing vulnerabilities, estimated to reduce risk by 50%
- Developed trusted relationships with Business Partners, Visa IT Executives, Security & Compliance Officers.
- Identified, prioritized, and pursued opportunities to enhance Visa's third-party processes and introduce innovative approaches and solutions to optimize efficiency and effectiveness
- Conducted architecture reviews for high-risk vendor applications to minimize the security risk identifying 30+ gaps and assisted vendors with building compensating controls
- Assisted with incident management response and analysis services on behalf of the Information Security function including Tier 1 through 3 analysis for the full scope and lifecycle of incident response
- Oversaw, coordinated, and delivered on activities supporting risk management activities for VISA

- Managed and operated third party security solutions and technology used in cyber security to provide protection and regulatory compliance

***Cyber security Consultant – EY, Dallas, TX***

*Jul 2020 – Dec 2021*

*Cloud Security*

- Conducted in-depth cloud risk assessments on Microsoft Azure cloud services using DivvyCloud tool, formulating a strategy to address 30+ gaps to move up the cyber maturity model within 6 months
- Defined cloud security practices for large enterprises, including cloud security gap assessments, robust security programs, and shared roadmaps to implement them
- Delivered baseline infrastructure security hardening procedures covering Roles and Permissions, vMotion, etc. for VMware ESXi (cloud infrastructure for virtualization platform) by utilizing cloud native and third-party services

*Application Security and Vulnerability Management*

- Architected a secure SDLC model for five applications used at top CPG companies; assisted them to develop application security operating model, governance and DevSecOps processes
- Conducted a security risk assessment using NIST as the baseline to identify and fix key risks
- Created a security implementation plan and strategic roadmap for a retail client to evaluate, supervise, and manage risks
- Developed recommendations for reducing vulnerability count and overall risk exposure by conducting in-depth analysis of the client application's vulnerability posture
- Partnered across the Enterprise Security Services organization and key business areas to facilitate alignment with security governance practices and compliance with corporate policies and standards, and control frameworks

*Threat Detection and Response*

- Assessed endpoint security control environment based on identified threats used by attackers, recommended endpoint configuration and technology stack changes, predicting 70% improvement in cyber controls effectiveness
- Designed vulnerability management program to integrate ServiceNow-VR tool by creating logical and technical architecture diagrams, predicting an increase in the triaging and remediation of critical vulnerabilities by 75%

***Graduate Assistant – TAMU, College Station, TX***

*Aug 2019 – May 2020*

- Led a 6-member team to diagnose customer issues by conducting virtual sessions with users to help analyze the potential and reception of the product, generating success metrics for stakeholder reporting
- Developed innovative ways to enable salesforce integration with in-house host application improving the system performance by 55%
- Implemented data pipelines using Excel and Apex data loader to reduce application review time by 20%

- Integrated Salesforce with WordPress, Zapier, and MailChimp to classify applicant information for the marketing team

***Intern – Boeing***, Denver, CO

*May 2019 – Aug 2019*

- Automated cybersecurity assessment reports for physical security specialists to upgrade the pilot security software thereby staying abreast with the current regulatory environment
- Communicated with the stakeholders for critical Boeing flagship product, Operator, by leading bi-weekly calls to address their pain points and translated requirements, resulting in renewal of contract worth \$19 billion
- Streamlined information gathering process by implementing Scaled Agile methodology, saving 80 hours per product
- Prioritized team backlog by aligning with internal stakeholders and collaborated with the scrum teams to resolve open issues by participating in scrum ceremonies, launching 6 new features within 3 months

***Business Analyst – Colgate***, Mumbai, India

*Aug 2017 - Jul 2018*

- Re-engineered business processes translating commercial business models/needs into technical solutions through SME interviews, market assessment and analysis workshops, reducing data update time by 2 hours
- Partnered with product managers, engineers, sales, and marketing team to ensure prioritization supports roadmap, product strategy, market needs, and overall company vision along with supporting beta tests and product launches
- Spearheaded efficient and informed decision making by leveraging data and user insights thus enabling the delivery of high priority features and functionality

***System Engineer – Tata Consultancy Services***, Mumbai, India *Dec 2013 - Aug 2017*

- Designed and supported technical architecture to handle dynamic dataflow between mobile application and SAP by documenting technical and functional specification, yielding 99% customer satisfaction index
- Spearheaded automation of core sales and distribution e-commerce process, increasing system performance by 35%
- Re-engineering and automated SAP process steps to improve overall business functionality
- Assisted with development and delivery of in-house security awareness programs to train 100K+ employees
- Facilitated meetings with product management and testing teams to communicate user needs and behaviors and transform native knowledge into platform enhancements and new features

## PROJECT WORK

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### Cyber Security Risk Assessment for AMC

- Worked on asset classification to classify associated vulnerability and threat resulting in risk reduction of 90%
- Identified threats by studying CVEs, creating network diagrams, calculating SLEs and AROs conducting cost-benefit analysis, and providing the most optimal security solution

## SKILLS

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**Cyber Security:** Security Program Development, Vendor Management, Governance & Risk Compliance, Security Awareness Programs, Security Assessment, Architecture Review/Threat Modelling, Security Monitoring & Incident Response, Internal Audit Reviews, NIST CSF, NIST 800-53, Compliance reports: SOC, PCI, ISO27001

**Tools & Technical Skills:** SQL, PL/SQL, JIRA, Qualys, Rapid 7, ServiceNow VR, NopSec, Code Intelligence, AttackIQ, HTML5, CSS3, Python, RPA - Power Automate, DivvyCloud, SONRAI security, SAP, ServiceNow CMDB, Kali Linux, Agile (Scrum), Amazon Web Services, Microsoft Azure, Microsoft Suite, SharePoint, Tableau, Power BI

**General:** Stakeholder Management, Presentation, Reporting, Relationship Management, Operations Support, Troubleshooting, Process Improvement, Operations Management, Strategic Planning, Marketing,

**Certifications:** SANS – GSEC Security Essentials, Qualys certified specialist – VM, IT, Ethical Hacking – Microsoft

## EDUCATION

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**Texas A&M University, Mays Business School,** College Station, TX      *Aug 2018- May 2020*  
*Master of Science in Management Information Systems*      **GPA: 3.92**

**Uttar Pradesh Technical University, SRMCEM,** India      *Aug 2009 – May 2013*  
*Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science and Engineering*      **GPA: 3.74**