Benjamin Abrams

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Mission-critical IT and Cybersecurity Executive with 20 years of experience building and leading technology organizations in the life safety industry, where systems do not get to fail. Built and scaled enterprise infrastructure, cybersecurity, cloud governance, and compliance programs through rapid acquisition-driven growth, transforming 24 acquisitions into a unified $1B enterprise platform. Founding member of the NFPA Cybersecurity Advisory Committee with deep experience advising cybersecurity standards impacting critical life safety systems.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- **M&A IT Integration (24 Acquisitions)**
- Identity Modernization
- Cloud Transformation (AWS & Entra ID)
- IT Org Design & Team Leadership
- Cybersecurity Program Ownership
- **Zero Trust Architecture**
- High Availability Infrastructure
- SIEM / SOC Operations
- ISO 27001 / Compliance Governance
- SD-WAN / Network Architecture
- Threat Detection & Incident Response
- **OT/IT Security Convergence**

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Pavion Corporate

January 2020 – August 2026

Director of IT Infrastructure and Cybersecurity

- Built specialized IT departments across Cybersecurity, Infrastructure, Systems Operations, and Compliance, transitioning from generalist support models to dedicated functional teams with deep technical expertise.
- Designed and established an ISO 27001-certified cybersecurity program from the ground up, covering all 24 operating entities and managing gap assessments, control design, policy development, audit execution, and ongoing compliance governance.
- Managed an IT operational budget of approximately $18–20M annually, covering hardware, software licensing, vendor contracts, and cloud infrastructure.
- Orchestrated the end-to-end IT integration of 24 acquired companies, standardizing network architecture, identity platforms, and cybersecurity governance while maintaining uninterrupted day-to-day business operations.
- Federated 20 separate Active Directory forests into a single cloud-native Entra ID tenant, eliminating the organization's on-premises Active Directory footprint and modernizing identity management across acquired entities.
- Architected a nationwide SD-WAN deployment across 80 Palo Alto next-generation firewalls managed centrally through Panorama, maintaining DNS governance across 200+ domains throughout every acquisition and integration effort.
- Engineered multi-account AWS cloud governance utilizing AWS Control Tower, Transit Gateway, EC2, VPC, IAM, SES, Amplify, and Elastic Beanstalk.
- Deployed an enterprise security stack including CrowdStrike, Proofpoint, Palo Alto NGFW, SIEM, IDS/IPS, ITP/DLP controls, and Zero Trust access architecture, standardizing cybersecurity operations across all 24 organizations.

AFA Protective Systems *December 2011 – January 2020*
IT Director

- Architected and constructed a redundant 24/7 Central Station life safety monitoring platform supporting thousands of commercial and residential accounts with zero tolerance for downtime.
- Managed three datacenters hosting 150+ Windows servers and administered 50+ Palo Alto firewalls across the branch network using Panorama.
- Built the company's AWS environment utilizing VPC, Transit Gateway, EC2, and RDS, establishing the foundation for hybrid cloud operations.
- Unified Active Directory, ADFS, Office 365/Azure AD, and LDAP environments into a centralized Single Sign-On architecture.
- Implemented Multi-Factor Authentication and Zero Trust security controls years before such technologies became standard industry requirements.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

NFPA Cybersecurity Advisory Committee *— Founding Member | 2023–Present*
A standing advisory committee that reports directly to the NFPA Standards Council. The committee's work spans the full breadth of NFPA standards: gap analysis, technical committee advisement on current and emerging threats, and direct input into how those standards address the realities of modern cybersecurity. This includes participating in the standards development and commissioning process itself.

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Security & Compliance: CrowdStrike · Arctic Wolf · Palo Alto NGFW · Proofpoint · SIEM · IDS/IPS · Zero Trust · ITP/DLP · Vulnerability Management · Incident Response · ISO 27001 · SOC 2

Networking & Telecommunications: Palo Alto · Panorama · SD-WAN · Fortinet · Meraki · Ubiquiti · VPN · 802.1X · VLAN · Layer 3 Routing · DNS Governance · NPS

Cloud, Identity & Workspace: AWS Control Tower · IAM · VPC · Transit Gateway · Amplify · Elastic Beanstalk · Entra ID · ADFS · PKI/AD-CS · SSO · MFA · Intune · SharePoint

IT Leadership & Business Operations: RFP Management · Vendor Management · Budget Oversight · Executive Communication · Disaster Recovery / Business Continuity

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Bachelor of Science — Queens College, City University of New York (CUNY)

InfraGard — New York Metro Area Chapter

AWS Certified Solutions Architect

Microsoft Certified Networking Professional

Secure Worker Access Consortium (SWAC) — Certified Member

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