

Chris Johnson

Senior Network Optimization Engineer

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Network Optimization Engineer with 15+ years designing, scaling, and modernizing carrier-grade backbone and enterprise WAN infrastructure. Consistent record of delivering multi-million dollar cost savings through strategic contract negotiation, network consolidation, and infrastructure modernization. Deep expertise in IP/MPLS, BGP, DWDM, and large-scale WAN architecture across multi-carrier environments.

EXPERIENCE

Network Optimization Engineer

May 2022 – Present

Uniti Group Inc. · Denver, CO (Remote)

- Developed and executed a cost-saving framework delivering over \$2M USD in annual savings through strategic contract renegotiation and vendor management.
- Spearheaded multi-phase network consolidation strategies, integrating acquired infrastructure and streamlining operations across the portfolio.
- Directed enterprise-wide infrastructure modernization including TDM-to-IP migrations and End-of-Life equipment transitions, improving service reliability and reducing operational risk.

Senior Planning Engineer

Oct 2014 – May 2022

Lumen Technologies · Denver, CO (Remote)

- Directed design and management of a 2 Tbps mission-critical WAN supporting 500,000+ households at 99.999% uptime across 100+ central offices.
- Developed the network growth roadmap and delivered scalable FTTx solutions, future-proofing infrastructure for expanding residential and business broadband demands.
- Managed a \$2.5M+ annual project portfolio, consistently delivering under budget while setting new network performance benchmarks.

Network Planning Engineer

May 2012 – Oct 2014

Lumen Technologies · Denver, CO (Remote)

- Built and deployed automation tools that reduced daily engineering workload by 15%, improving operational efficiency and data accuracy.
- Analyzed bandwidth utilization data to identify growth opportunities and drive targeted network scaling strategies.
- Led technical recruitment, team mentoring, and development of best practices for project delivery and customer engagement.

Network Planning Engineer

Mar 2010 – May 2012

Windstream Communications · Evansville, IN

- Led cross-functional teams in fiber network deployments for major wireless carriers, improving reliability through standardized testing protocols.
- Developed configuration design tools that eliminated over \$100K in annual engineering contract costs and improved operational efficiency.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Networking	BGP, OSPF, MPLS, QoS, DWDM, Carrier WAN, IP Routing, WAN Architecture, Capacity Planning, FTTx, TDM-to-IP Migration, Network Troubleshooting
Automation	Python, Ansible, Network Automation, Process Optimization, Data Analysis
Cloud	AWS, Microsoft Azure, Hybrid Cloud Architecture
Management	Cost Reduction, Contract Negotiation, Network Consolidation, Infrastructure Modernization, Project Portfolio Management, Cross-Functional Leadership

CERTIFICATIONS

CCNA CCNP Enterprise (in progress) AWS Solutions Architect Associate AWS Cloud Practitioner
Microsoft Azure Fundamentals (AZ-900) CompTIA A+

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science · Telecommunication Systems Management

Murray State University

Associate of Science · Information Technology

Henderson Community College