



Senior Network & Security Engineer | Data Center Infrastructure | Structured Cabling & Telecom  
christopher@merica-tech.com | 870-648-8366 | Texarkana, TX

## Christopher Johnson

CTO, Merica Tech LLC | CTO & Co-Founder, Whoz Next LLC

### PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior network and security engineer, full-stack developer, and AI engineer with 30+ years designing, building, and commissioning enterprise and industrial infrastructure. Built and deployed 14 production AI service pipelines. Defense-experienced DoD contractor with proven field execution across structured cabling, network architecture, security systems, and low-voltage installations. Pioneer in regional IT—founded the first MSP in Texarkana (1998), built the first Cisco CCNA lab in the state of Arkansas (2000). Additive manufacturing and CNC machining expert (Fusion 360 CAD/CAM). FMEA quality engineering practitioner. Biometrics R&D adopted as university CS curriculum for 10+ years. Currently executing infrastructure projects servicing Fortune 50 and nationally recognized brands.

### CORE COMPETENCIES

Network Architecture & LAN/WAN	Structured Cabling & Fiber	Data Center Infrastructure
Firewall & VPN (PA, Fortinet, Cisco)	Video Surveillance & Access Control	Rack Builds & Power Distribution
Zero-Trust / PKI / Cert Auth	VoIP & Wireless Systems	CMMC / FISMA / NIST
Industrial Controls & PLC	System Commissioning	Python / Bash / PowerShell
AI/ML Pipeline Engineering (14)	Full-Stack Dev (React/Python)	Fusion 360 CAD/CAM & CNC
Additive Manufacturing / 3D Print	FMEA Quality Engineering	Biometrics R&D

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### Infinet-Solutions.com — Founder (1998–Early 2000s)

- Founded the first managed service provider in Texarkana, TX
- Secured three tristate independent school districts as anchor clients
- Won Buhrmann-Pharr Hardware (the nation's largest independent hardware distributor at the time)
- Built the first Cisco CCNA lab in the state of Arkansas for Arkansas High School Vo-Tech (2000)

#### Merica Tech LLC — Founder & CTO (2022–Present)

- Design and deliver network architecture, structured cabling, and security systems for commercial and industrial clients
- Active multi-location deployments for the nation's largest manufactured housing company: network backbone, DSP audio, HDMI matrix, PoE, rack builds, full commissioning
- Active engagement with White Sign (national signage—Love's, Race Trac, Dick's Sporting Goods): network infrastructure across distributed commercial locations

- Greenfield Zero-Trust network build: FortiGate fabric, full PKI lifecycle, IPsec VPN, certificate-based auth
- Fire station and police station deployments across Dallas, Longview, Memphis, Shreveport—alerting systems, network, AV, comms
- Developing vehicle-mounted IoT telematics/HUD platform: OBD-II, multi-camera NVR, environmental sensors, edge computing
- Designed Project INTERCEDE IoT monitoring system (provisional patent filed)
- LifeNet emergency alerting system—prototype built, 60+ units in pipeline
- Built and deployed 14 production AI service pipelines (SMIS platform)—ML models, vector stores, real-time data aggregation, user auth, change management
- Multiple full-stack web deployments: React/Next.js, Python/Node.js, PostgreSQL, Docker, Nginx, CI/CD
- Additive manufacturing and CNC machining: Fusion 360 CAD/CAM, 3D printing, custom enclosures and industrial components
- FMEA quality engineering methodology applied across defense manufacturing, software, and product development

#### **Fortune 50 Fuel & Convenience Retail Chain — Tier 4 Infrastructure Engineer (2023–2025)**

- Supported enterprise network infrastructure across 1,700+ retail locations nationwide
- Standardized security controls for geographically distributed sites
- Network segmentation, blast-radius containment, edge resilience strategies

#### **Major DoD Defense Manufacturing Facility — Controls Engineer → Lead Infrastructure Engineer → Interim Director of Engineering (2012–2023)**

- Plant-level infrastructure authority: cabling, hardware commissioning, switch/router/server operations, secure network design
- CMMC compliance: artifact collection, documentation, audit support across 7 USG agencies incl. Homeland Security
- UL 2050 Custodian: federal security compliance for classified materials and ordnance
- Automated military ordnance production: Staubli robotics, Cognex vision, Wago PLCs
- Built 13-mile Air Fiber bridge for secure campus data transport
- Lead engineer, advanced weapons program: published DOTC white papers
- Primary cybersecurity event responder; IAM, SIEM, FISMA-aligned controls
- Modernized legacy PLC-5 and Windows XP control systems
- Honeywell Vindicator security systems certified; dark fiber cleanup

## **EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS**

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- **Texas A&M University** — MBA, Supply Chain Management
- **University of Advancing Technology** — Network Security (Summa Cum Laude); Biometrics R&D adopted as CS curriculum for 10+ years
- 420 hours formal programming education; 300+ hours additional professional development since 1998
- **Patents:** PVC Cabinet System (App# 63/962,782), INTERCEDE IoT Monitoring, First Responder Alerting System

## **SYSTEMS & TECHNOLOGIES**

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**Firewalls:** Palo Alto NGFW, Fortinet/FortiGate, Cisco, MikroTik | **Networking:** VLANs, VPNs, SD-WAN, structured cabling, fiber

**Security:** IAM, SIEM, PKI, Zero-Trust, access control, surveillance | **Full-Stack:** React, Next.js, Python, Node.js, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Docker

**AI/ML:** 14 production pipelines, OpenAI/Anthropic API, vector stores, LLM integration

**Manufacturing:** Fusion 360 CAD/CAM, 3D printing, CNC machining, FMEA

**Platforms:** Linux, Windows Server, VMware, AWS | **Automation:** Python, Bash, PowerShell, CI/CD

**AV/IT:** Atlas IED, J-Tech, Shure, PoE systems, commercial commissioning