

MOHAMMED ALYAHYA

Cybersecurity Governance & Risk Leader · Technology Risk · Data Protection · Regulatory Assurance

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Cybersecurity and GRC leader with 10+ years building enterprise security programs across SAMA-regulated banking, defense, government, and critical national infrastructure in Saudi Arabia. Track record of achieving full NCA and ISO 27001 compliance within six months, strengthening audit outcomes, and translating complex technical risks into board-level risk reporting. Proven ability to unify cross-functional teams around a single risk strategy and deliver measurable outcomes under regulatory pressure. Strong background in data protection (PDPL, NCA DCC) and regulatory engagement across the NCA, SAMA, and CST ecosystems.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Cybersecurity Governance & Strategy · Enterprise & Technology Risk Management · Regulatory Compliance (SAMA ITGF, NCA ECC/TCC/CSCC/DCC, ISO 27001, CST, CMMC, NIST CSF) · Data Protection & Privacy (PDPL) · Control Design, Assessment & Remediation · Audit Readiness & Assurance · Board & Executive Risk Reporting · Third-Party Risk Management · IT/OT Security & Critical Infrastructure · Security Controls, Monitoring & Assurance · Cross-Functional Leadership & Stakeholder Engagement

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Manager, Technology Risk | Confidential Tier 1 Saudi Bank 2024 – Present

- Lead enterprise-wide risk assessments across IT and cybersecurity, aligning 200+ controls with SAMA ITGF and strengthening audit outcomes.
- Re-engineered Jira-based risk workflows by embedding KRIs, KPIs, and residual risk scoring, improving the speed and consistency of risk assessments.
- Designed and implemented a department-wide remediation tracker and reporting dashboard, improving visibility over control ownership, remediation progress, and management reporting across the technology risk function.
- Unified risk treatment documentation across audit, compliance, and IT, creating a single source of truth for Three Lines of Defence reporting.
- Authored board-level risk posture reports and led inspection readiness, contributing to a clean regulatory examination.

Cybersecurity & Data Protection Specialist (Acting Lead) | SAMI AEC, Saudi Arabian Military Industries 2023 – 2024

- Built and implemented data governance controls aligned to NCA DCC, achieving 100% compliance in the targeted data protection domain.
- Drove broader compliance initiatives across NCA, CST, and CMMC frameworks, contributing to an overall audit improvement from 62% to 94% and closure of 12 critical non-conformities.
- Served as Acting Cybersecurity Department Head during management transition, directing a 6-person team while maintaining 100% SLA compliance for incident response.
- Designed an integrated IT/OT risk assessment framework, increasing threat visibility across 50+ industrial control systems.
- Led the DRM implementation project end-to-end, coordinating directly with the vendor engineer and IT/network teams to deploy the solution, and rolled out FIM services to strengthen endpoint monitoring.

Senior Cybersecurity Consultant, NCA Representative | National Cybersecurity Authority (NCA) Jan – Jul 2023

- Performed deep-dive ECC/TCC audits across public-sector organisations, identifying critical control gaps overlooked in prior third-party reviews.
- Conducted regulatory audits of Cloud Service Providers supporting national infrastructure, assessing control effectiveness and identifying high-risk gaps for remediation by accountable stakeholders.
- Authored strategic reports adopted by CISOs to reshape compliance roadmaps and prioritise risk mitigation budgets.

GRC Consultant | ITS2 2022 – 2023

- Performed control gap assessments for SABIC (global) and ACWA Power, supporting ISO audit readiness through documentation review, preparedness activities, and coordination throughout the external audit process.
- Developed and enforced 15+ policies aligned with NCA ECC and ISO 27001, raising compliance maturity from Level 2 to Level 3.
- Designed executive and staff-level security awareness programs reaching 500+ employees, supporting stronger cyber hygiene across client organisations.
- Established a new data privacy consulting service, developing PDPL frameworks that expanded the firm's offering and supported business growth.

Information Security Developer (GRC) | General Authority for Statistics (GASTAT) 2021 – 2022

- Implemented 25+ internal controls mapped to NCA ECC/TCC standards, contributing to the organisation's first compliant assessment.
- Led a large-scale endpoint security rollout across the authority, deploying a secure golden image, coordinating device migration to the domain controller, and managing the project team.

- Built a governance tracker covering device inventory, ownership, status, and accountability, and developed a live progress application giving management real-time visibility into the rollout.

Founder | *Mr. Wireless, Chicago, USA*

2017 - 2020

- Founded and scaled a consumer electronics business to profitability within 18 months, overseeing operations, vendor management, and PCI DSS compliance.

CERTIFICATIONS

CISM, ISACA (2024)

CISA, ISACA (2022)

ISO/IEC 27001 Lead Implementer, PECB (2022)

GRCP / GRCA, OCEG (2022)

CompTIA Security+ • **CySA+** • **CEH** (2021)

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Information Technology, DePaul University, Chicago, USA

2013 - 2017

Cybersecurity Bootcamp (Security+, CySA+, CEH), Saudi Digital Academy (SDA)

Jan - May 2021

INDUSTRY EXPOSURE & SPEAKING

Sectors: Banking & Finance (SAMA-regulated) • Defense (SAMI AEC) • Government (NCA, GASTAT) • Oil & Gas (SABIC, ACWA Power) • Fintech (Raqamyah) • Regional Development (Al Madinah RDA)

Speaker, MENA ISC 2022: Data Privacy - Key Insights, Approaches, Challenges and Pitfalls

LANGUAGES

Arabic (Native) • **English** (Full Professional Proficiency)