Stephen Pollard

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EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

Illinois State University	Bloomington, IL
Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity	*Aug. 2019 – May 2023*
CCNA	Cisco
	Oct. 2024

EXPERIENCE

Network Engineer — Oct. 2023 – Present
Exelon — *Chicago, IL*

- Built a Python-based inventory crawler that continuously collected network device inventory, eliminating $3.5M in annual licensing exposure caused by incomplete asset records.
- Standardized and governed reusable network configuration templates, reducing configuration sprawl by 50%.
- Led end-to-end evaluation and deployment of a new network hardware platform added to the production environment, owning budget approval, design, and production roll out, and serving as the primary engineer responsible for operational standards across 10+ branch locations.
- Designed and implemented network refreshes for existing hardware lifecycles across 25+ branch sites, owning refresh execution from budgetary planning through implementation.

Information Technology Support Specialist — June 2023 – Oct 2023
Heartland Community College — *Normal, IL*

- Communicate with managers to set up campus computers used on campus.
- Assess and troubleshoot computer problems brought by students, faculty and staff.
- Maintain upkeep of computers, classroom equipment, and 200 printers across campus.

IT Endpoint Support — Dec. 2021 – May 2023
Illinois State University — *Normal, IL*

- Owned endpoint life cycle, policy enforcement, and compliance across 5,000+ devices.
- Developed an automated HIPAA compliance tool to verify compliance across student healthcare environment.

PROJECTS

Observability | *Go, Python, PostgreSQL, Docker, Kafka, OpenTelemetry* — Dec 2025 – Present

- Developed a telemetry shape pipeline to group like telemetry together, modeled after NetFlow.
- Tracked state via authoritative state machine.
- Embedded extracted keys into a vectorDB, as well as producer characteristics.

Simple Network Crawker | *Python* — Oct 2024 – Decemer 2024

- Developed a Python based network crawler to build out network inventory.
- Leveraged BFS techniques to crawl network sorted by depth.
- Used NTC templates and Netmiko autodetect to ensure that each node was processed correctly.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Python, Go(learning)
Networking: BGP, OSPF, IPsec, L2/L3 networking, traffic analysis, large-scale enterprise environments
Tools: Docker, VS Code, Visual Studio, Grafana, InfluxDB, Telegraf, Wireshark
Platforms: Meraki, NDFC, VManage, Cisco Catalyst Center, Cisco Catalyst SD-Wan
Compliance: HIPAA, NERC CIP