

# ANDREW SIMKO

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## Information Security Consultant | Leader

**Social Engineering • Penetration Testing • Vulnerability Assessments • Client Retention & Excellence**

Results-driven IT security expert with progressive 15-year career that includes building robust security-conscious practices, policies, and cultures for small to medium-sized enterprises. Trusted security advisor to senior leadership, proactively identifying major security threats and communicating mitigation strategies with confidence. Passionate team player/leader, offering a “can do” attitude to identify and remediate weaknesses through education, improved procedures, and technology innovation.

**Certifications:** CISA, CISSP, GPEN, GSNA, HCSFP

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

SHAZAM, Des Moines, IA

2013 – Present

#### Information Security Consultant

Ensure security and success of fast-growing (10+% YoY) SHAZAM Secure with sharp eye on efficiency, performance, and profitability. Serve primarily as social engineer and penetration tester—developing and delivering network vulnerability assessments and audits in areas of social engineering, network penetration, wireless penetration, enhanced web application penetration, and firewalls. Hold leadership roles and act as “the face” of the technical security services, as primary point of contact. Communicate and present to all areas organization-wide, including C-level executives and Board of Directors.

- **Social Engineering:** Develop, execute, and sustain sophisticated, organization-wide phishing programs. Identify and monitor top human risks to organizations and behavior changes needed to mitigate risk. Strengthen employee knowledge through training. Tools used include: Barracuda Networks - PhishLine, Metasploit Pro, Maltego, Social Engineer Toolkit (SET), Recon-ng, Reconnoiter, and Foca.
  - Developed, managed, and implemented a security awareness program, focused on changing behaviors to protect employees and customers. Measured and reported program’s effectiveness.
  - Created a service that utilized a “program mentality” to evaluate phishing campaign results and determine best course of action. Built partnership with a leading security awareness and training vendor.
  - Performed over 70 social engineering assessments for clients in 2016–2017, resulting in 15.19% opened emails, 6.67% clicked links, and a 3.19% interaction. Of the clients that performed more than one test, achieved the following average results: 7.26% decrease in open ratio; 8.63% decrease in click ratio; and 4.20% decrease in action ratio.
- **Penetration Testing, Vulnerability Assessments, & Technical Audits:** Perform penetration testing and vulnerability assessments on networks, wireless platforms, and web applications. Researched new threats, attack vectors, and risks. Tools used include: Kali Linux tools, Metasploit, Nessus, Saint, OpenVAS, Burp Suite, IBM AppScan, HP Webinspect, ZAP, Nmap, Nipper.
  - Led red-team operations and simulated attacks to help organizations understand and measure the risk of malicious threat actors that had obtain access to the networks, applications, and devices.
  - Supported various IT compliance audits, such as PCI, HIPPA/ HITECH/ HITRUST, ISO27001/2, NIST Cybersecurity and Special Publications, SANS Top 20 CSC, FSISAC, FFIEC, FISMA, and CIS Benchmarks.
  - Assessed business risks and evaluated effectiveness of controls at the network, operating system, database, and application levels.
- **Project Management:** Serve as a security expert, managing projects with multiple key priorities and tight timelines. Analyze complex data to prioritize and deliver results. Translate complex technical content into simplified terms for non-technical professionals.
- **Product Management:** Continuously meet client expectations, managing lifecycle of service offerings, while optimizing their strategic value and financial performance. Facilitate product planning to drive enhancements to market. Identify new technologies and capitalize on opportunities to innovate.
- **Team Lead | Operations Supervisor | Research Analyst:** Lead team in coordinating resources for completing engagements and training staff. Assume operational leadership for assigned areas and effectively manage workload to meet deadlines. Maintain acute awareness of competition through market research and client interactions.

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ALL COVERED, Des Moines, IA

2011 – 2013

## **Systems Engineer & Solutions Architect**

Rendered a full range of IT services and technology to support 17 primary clients and ~14 secondary clients across the entire IT spectrum, from optimizing resources to maintaining infrastructure to designing/implementing solutions. Proactively engineered and monitored networks to maximize performance. Improved efficiency and reliability by auditing, documenting, testing, and modifying systems. Supported sales staff and engineers with client proposals and RFPs.

- Assisted fellow engineers in fully understanding a proprietary backup system and methods for effective troubleshooting.
- Served as “the face” of the business to customers consistently representing the quality and integrity of the company.
- Successfully managed expectations delighting customers and garnering high satisfaction with favorable experiences.
- Drove new business by conducting network audits, and then presenting and utilizing findings.

INDEPENDENT ENGAGEMENTS, Des Moines, IA

2009 – 2011

## **IT Consultant**

Advised businesses and individuals on the purchase, use, and implementation of hardware and software. Developed customized solutions by thoroughly analyzing and understanding client’s needs. Provided training and support services as needed.

- Achieved high client satisfaction levels by providing utmost attentive service and efficient problem solving.

ICL RESOURCES, Des Moines, IA

2006 – 2009

## **IT Director**

Advanced and bolstered critical IT operations of multiple companies nationwide by ensuring proper functionality of technology services, workstations, infrastructure, and applications. Provided 24/7 helpdesk support to isolate, troubleshoot, and resolve problems.

- Equipped clients with expertise in areas of systems development/implementation and disaster planning/recovery.
- Implemented new design or redesign of web presences, overseeing international consultants to expedite construction.
- Provided clients with strategic planning for improvement and growth of future computer operations.

BEST BUY, Des Moines, IA

2005 – 2006

## **Computer Intelligence Agent (Sales Engineer) —Geek Squad (2005–2006)** **Computer Sales Associate (2005–2005)**

Progressed to become key contributor to Geek Squad—fixing, updating, and maintaining computers and other electrical components. Led weekly technology training to maximized staff’s effectiveness. Exceeded Geek Squad’s corporate sales projections.

STREATOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT, Streator, IL

2003–2005

## **Assistant Network Administrator**

Supported technology operations of multiple schools and offices, which included 500+ devices and 20+ servers. Completed a wide range of projects on as needed basis.

## EDUCATION

DRAKE UNIVERSITY, Des Moines, IA

**Bachelor of Science, Business Administration**

Major: Marketing • Concentrations: Law and Insurance

ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Oglesby, Illinois

**Associate in Applied Science, Computer Network Administration**

Certificate in Computer Networking