

MUHAMMAD ATIQ-UR-REHMAN

IT Project & Program Manager | Head of IT & Cybersecurity • Cloud • Infrastructure | PMP® Certified

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Currently based in Dubai, UAE • Open to immediate relocation to any GCC Region • Available at short notice

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

PMP®-certified IT Project & Program Manager and Head of IT with 17+ years leading enterprise-scale digital transformation across the GCC and South Asia. Delivered a program portfolio exceeding US\$60M in aggregate value spanning national banking infrastructure, defense-sector C4I, telecom IP/MPLS backbones, SAP S/4HANA, cloud migration, and enterprise cybersecurity. Deep delivery experience in regulated and mission-critical sectors (banking, government, defense, telecom), with a security-governance foundation in ISO 27001, NIST, CIS Controls aligned to UAE IA (NESA) Standards, DESC ISR, and UAE PDPL. Proven at leading cross-functional teams of 20+ engineers, governing multi-million-dollar budgets, and aligning IT delivery to national digital-transformation agendas including UAE Vision 2031. **Back-to-back Best Performer Award winner (2023 & 2024).**

KEY SKILLS

Project & Program Management	IT Project / Program Management (Agile • Waterfall • Hybrid) • Scope, Schedule & Resource Planning • Budgeting, Cost Control & Financial Tracking • Risk, Issue & Change Management (RAID) • Vendor, SLA & Contract Management • Stakeholder Engagement & Executive Reporting • UAT, Go-Live & Post-Implementation Support • MS Project • Jira • Monday • ServiceNow
Strategy & Governance	Strategic Planning & Tactical Execution • PMO Setup & Governance • Project Delivery Frameworks • Budget Management & Cost Containment • Digital Transformation aligned to Vision 2030 • ITSM / ITIL • Managed Services & Outsourcing Governance • Analytical Problem-Solving
Enterprise Apps & ERP	SAP S/4HANA Implementation & Governance • Microsoft 365 (Exchange, SharePoint, Teams, Intune) • Hybrid ERP Architecture • Business Application Integration • POS Systems • ERP Lifecycle Management • Application Performance Monitoring
Cloud & Infrastructure	Microsoft Azure (IaaS, M365, Governance) • AWS • Hybrid Cloud Architecture • Data Center Migration & Consolidation • Spine-Leaf Fabric • IP/MPLS • WAN/DCI • SD-WAN • SASE • Cisco • Juniper • Fortinet • Palo Alto • SolarWinds
Cybersecurity & Compliance	Zero Trust Architecture (ZTA) • ISO 27001 • NIST • CIS Controls readily mapped to DESC ISR, and UAE PDPL -aware • SIEM • IAM • DLP • EDR (CrowdStrike, Defender, Sophos) • IPS/IDS • PAM • SOAR • Vulnerability Assessment & Remediation • SOC Coordination • BCP/DR • Incident Response • Endpoint Security & Patch Management • Cloud Security & Infrastructure Hardening
Leadership	Cross-functional Team Leadership (20+ engineers) • Budget Ownership • C-level Stakeholder Alignment • Vendor Negotiations • Mentoring & Capability Building • Executive Reporting • Aligning IT initiatives with organizational and national transformation goals
Engineering Deliverables	High-Level Design (HLD) • Low-Level Design (LLD) • Implementation & Migration Plans • PoC Management • Technical Solution Proposals • Scope of Work (SOW) • Network & Security Solution Architecture • Runbooks & Operational Handover

CORE COMPETENCIES

- IT Project & Program Management
- ERP & Business Applications (SAP S/4HANA)
- Azure & AWS Cloud Governance /Transformation & Migration
- Cloud Security & Enterprise Infrastructure project/ Hardening
- Digital Transformation
- Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery (BCP/DR)
- Risk & Issue Management
- IT Service Management (ITSM / ITIL)
- Zero Trust Architecture (ZTA) & SASE
- Cybersecurity & Compliance (ISO 27001)
- Datacenter Modernization, Consolidation
- Infrastructure & Data Center Migration Projects
- Technical Proposals, Scope of Work (SOW)
- Network & Security Solution Architecture
- Telecom & ISP Infrastructure Projects
- Requirements Gathering & Business Analysis
- Budgeting, Cost Control & Financial Tracking
- Strategic Planning & Tactical Execution
- Project Initiation, Planning & Execution
- Scope, Schedule & Resource Management
- RAID Register, Change & Quality Management
- Vendor & Third-Party Integrations
- Stakeholder Management & Communication
- Vendor, Contract & SLA Management
- ERP / POS / Enterprise Application Alignment
- UAT, Go-Live & Post-Implementation Support
- Agile / Waterfall / Hybrid Delivery Models
- PMO Setup, Executive Reporting & Governance
- Managed Services & Outsourcing Governance
- Tools: MS Project, Jira, Monday, ServiceNow

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Project & Delivery Manager

KAM INTERNATIONAL - Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Jan 2026 - Present

- Lead the full lifecycle of IT projects, initiation, planning, execution, monitoring, and closure. applying PMP-aligned governance to deliver on scope, schedule, and budget.
- Define project charters, business cases, and delivery roadmaps that align IT initiatives with the organization's operational and growth objectives.
- Plan and deliver IT infrastructure projects across network, server, storage, and data center environments, ensuring high availability and minimal business disruption.
- Manage cloud adoption and migration initiatives (Azure, AWS, M365), including landing-zone setup, workload migration, and cost/governance optimization.
- Oversee cybersecurity and IT governance workstreams, embedding controls aligned to recognized frameworks (NIST CSF, PCI DSS, ISO 27001) and ensuring regulatory and data-privacy compliance.
- Drive enterprise systems and ERP delivery (SAP S/4HANA), coordinating functional, technical, and vendor teams through implementation and stabilization.
- Manage vendor relationships, procurement, contract negotiation, and third-party delivery to ensure quality, value, and SLA compliance.
- Own project budgeting, cost control, and resource planning, tracking spends against forecast and reporting variances to leadership.
- Establish and enforce PMO standards, RAID logs, status reporting, and change-control processes across concurrent projects.
- Ensure business continuity, disaster recovery, and data protection requirements are built into every project deliverable.
- Lead and mentor cross-functional project teams, coordinating internal staff, contractors, and vendors toward shared delivery goals.
- Serve as the primary point of contact for stakeholders, translating technical progress and risks into clear business-facing updates for executive sponsors.

Project Manager & Senior IT Manager

Rockford Xellerix Computer Systems LLC Abu Dhabi, UAE

Oct 2018 – Dec 2025

- Delivered end-to-end cloud-readiness and data center migration projects covering WAN, VPN, SD-WAN, and DCI connectivity with zero unplanned downtime across every go-live milestone.
- **\$6.2M SAP S/4HANA implementation:** led the full lifecycle infrastructure readiness, vendor coordination, UAT, and go-live delivered on schedule and within budget for a UAE enterprise client.
- **\$7M defense-sector C4I program:** managed end-to-end delivery of a netcentric Command, Control, Communications, Computers & Intelligence system (end client: Streit Group, UAE), coordinating multi-vendor integration for a secure, resilient, mission-critical architecture.
- Cut security incident response time by 40% by architecting a layered endpoint-protection stack (CrowdStrike + Microsoft Defender) aligned to Zero Trust Architecture principles, with full SIEM integration across a high-volume UAE retail environment.
- Reduced cloud operational spend by 20% governing Azure and Microsoft 365 platforms for 3+ enterprise clients through enforced security baselines, SLA controls, and cost-optimization governance.
- Modernized branch and remote-site connectivity through SASE / SD-WAN rollouts, consolidating firewall, secure web gateway, and ZTNA capabilities into unified policy enforcement for hybrid-workforce clients.
- Managed cross-functional teams of 15+ engineers and 5+ third-party vendors; authored HLDs, LLDs, runbooks, and executive stakeholder communication plans across all major programs.
- Enforced ISO 27001, NIST, and CIS Controls compliance across all client engagements; led Fortinet, Palo Alto, and Cisco ASA firewall deployments, vulnerability assessments, and full remediation cycles.

Project Manager – Enterprise & Security Solutions

TwinMOS Technologies FZE Dubai, UAE

Dec 2016 – Oct 2018

- Secured 3 enterprise contracts worth \$500K+ by authoring winning technical proposals, HLDs, and migration plans, providing end-to-end pre- and post-sales technical leadership.
- Architected and delivered data center, network, and security platform implementations firewalls, WAF, load balancers for enterprise and SaaS-ready environments across UAE finance, retail, and government sectors.
- Managed PoCs, vendor negotiations, and third-party integrations aligned to regulatory-compliance requirements for regulated-industry clients.
- Delivered ERP-ready cloud and network infrastructure for 4+ enterprise customers, improving application-integration stability and operational efficiency.

Lead Networks & Project Coordinator**Jan 2013 – Jun 2016***Nera Telecommunication Pvt Ltd. Islamabad, Pakistan*

- Sustained 99.99% high availability across all critical links by planning and executing IP/MPLS backbone, DCI, and WAN upgrade projects for a national defense operator.
- Authored LLDs and DR/BCP operational procedures; led vulnerability assessments and security hardening across all network segments.
- Coordinated multi-vendor teams to deliver project milestones on schedule; produced executive status reports and stakeholder communication plans.

Manager – Networks**Apr 2011 – Nov 2012***LMKR Pakistan Private Limited Islamabad, Pakistan*

- Led datacenter development and integration across 9+ remote facilities, implementing ISO 27001 and ISO 9001-aligned security policies across firewalls, IPS, VPN, and monitoring systems.
- Operated nationwide IP core/access networks monitored via NetFlow, Syslog, and SolarWinds; built risk-mitigation and change-management processes supporting SOC coordination.

Manager – Networks**Apr 2008 – Mar 2011***Jaffer Brothers (Private) Limited Islamabad, Pakistan*

- Directed network and security transformation for National Savings Bank of Pakistan network designs, SOWs, HLDs/LLDs, and implementation guides covering 137+ branches nationwide.

KEY PROJECTS**National Savings Bank of Pakistan – Branch Network Transformation****Banking | \$20M+**

- Delivered a full network and security rollout across 137+ branches nationwide; all documentation from HLD through operational handover produced and executed on schedule.
- Designed LAN/WAN topology, implemented firewall and VPN policies, and coordinated multi-vendor integration ensuring zero-downtime cutover at each branch site.

IP/MPLS DCN Backbone & Access Networks**Telecom / Defense | \$17M**

- Designed and implemented an IP/MPLS DCN backbone and access networks over NERA and Seral radios, rolling out across 350+ sites with secure, scalable, high-availability connectivity.

C4I – Command, Control, Communications, Computers & Intelligence**Defense | \$7M**

- Managed end-to-end delivery of a netcentric C4I system for a defense-sector end client (Streit Group, UAE), delivered under Rockford Xellerix; coordinated multi-vendor integration for a secure, resilient, mission-critical network architecture.

Inter-Nationwide Network & Security Infrastructure**Enterprise / Telecom | \$8M**

- Designed and deployed nationwide and international network & security infrastructure ensuring secure, scalable, high-availability connectivity across all business operations and global locations.

SAP S/4HANA Implementation + Azure Cloud & M365 Governance**Enterprise ERP | \$6.2M**

- Led end-to-end ERP delivery infrastructure readiness, vendor coordination, security-baseline enforcement, UAT, and go-live while governing a hybrid Azure environment that achieved a 20% OPEX reduction.

Datacenter Network & Cybersecurity Deployment**Enterprise / Government | \$3M**

- Architected and delivered data center, network, and security platform implementations (firewalls, WAF, load balancers) for enterprise and SaaS-ready environments across the UAE, incorporating Zero Trust segmentation and secure remote access aligned with ZTA principles.

CERTIFICATIONS

Project Management Professional	PMP	PMI
Cisco Certified Internetwork Professional	CCIP	Cisco Systems
Cisco Certified Security Professional	CCSP	Cisco Systems
Cisco Certified Network Professional	CCNP	Cisco Systems
Cisco Certified Network Professional	CCNA	Cisco Systems
Cisco Certified Sale Expert	CSE	Cisco Systems
Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer	MCSE	Microsoft

Planning Next: Microsoft Azure • AWS Solutions Architect • Certified Information Security Manager (CISM)**EDUCATION****Master in Computer Science****1999 – 2002***National College of Computer Sciences, Pakistan*