

Aaren Nichols

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EDUCATION

Southern New Hampshire University

Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity

GPA: 3.75 / 4.00 — President's list 2023-2025

Manchester, NH

Aug. 2021 – Jan 2025

EXPERIENCE

Repulsion LTD

2022 – 2023

Server Administrator

- Administered and maintained a secure network of 6 game servers, ensuring stable operation for over 3,000 daily players.
- Actively monitored for and countered threats and malicious actors, ensuring high server quality, performance, and security.
- Provided essential updates and guidance to the community via discord regarding server status, security protocols, and operational improvements.

RustyNation LLC

2020 – 2022

Server Administrator

- Managed and secured online game servers for a community of over 1,000 daily players, using tools like Battlemetrics and Arkan to analyze player data and identify malicious activity.
- Coordinated with a moderator team to distribute crucial security updates, tickets, and respond to incidents, ensuring effective communication.
- Conducted quality assurance tests on server performance and user interactions, identifying and resolving stability issues.

PROJECTS

Python Log Parser | *Python, VScode, Pandas*

- Developed a custom Python script to automate the analysis of system log files, parsing log data to detect anomalies and flag potential risks.
- Enables early detection of errors and warnings that may indicate system failures or security threats, supporting faster incident response.

Ethical Penetration Testing | *Kali Linux, Nmap, Nikto*

- Conducted a sanctioned penetration test on a live website using Kali Linux tools (Nmap, Nikto) to identify and report web vulnerabilities.
- Provided a detailed report with remediation steps to improve the site's overall security posture.

Secure Network Design | *Cisco Packet Tracer, VPN's, Firewalls*

- Designed and configured a secure network for a simulated hotel lobby using Cisco Packet Tracer.
- Involved implementing VLANs to segment traffic between workstations, servers, and a public guest Wi-Fi.
- The design was created to support up to 70 concurrent users in the lobby all on guest Wi-Fi, with DHCP and firewall rules configured to protect internal devices.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming and Scripting: Python, PowerShell, SQL

Frameworks: NIST, ISO 27001, HIPAA, GDPR

Cybersecurity Tools: Kali Linux, Nmap, Metasploit, Nikto

Networking and Security: Cisco Packet tracer, Wireshark, Firewalls, VPN's, VLANs