Paul-Christiaan Diks

Personal Details

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Summary

Driven by my passion for helping organizations maximize their potential in the cloud, I founded my own company to provide clients with comprehensive support in designing and deploying solutions on Azure. I specialize in creating solution designs for various workloads in Azure, building enterprise-scale Azure Landing Zones, and streamlining their deployment through Infrastructure as Code. I empower organizations by training their teams on Bicep, ARM deployments and Azure DevOps, ensuring they adopt the DevOps way of working to enhance collaboration and productivity. My mission is to guide businesses through seamless migrations and transformations, enabling them to fully leverage the power of Azure.

Experience

2022-Present   **Axians NL – Eindhoven**
I designed enterprise-scale Azure Landing Zones and built automated deployment solutions using Infrastructure as Code to streamline the setup of these environments. Leveraging my deep network knowledge of Azure Virtual WAN and its corresponding components, I implemented Azure Landing Zones for several Axians clients, guiding them through a seamless migration to Azure. This involved converting traditional hub-spoke network models to the Azure Virtual WAN, ensuring more efficient, scalable, and flexible networking architecture. I also trained team members on using Bicep and ARM templates, providing them with the skills to leverage Azure DevOps for efficient development workflows. I find great satisfaction in automating processes wherever possible and empowering my team to adopt the same approach. Currently, I am working on both Greenfield and Brownfield deployments as well as Azure-to-Azure migrations (ALZ-to-ALZ), ensuring robust, scalable, and future-proof cloud solutions.

2022   **Axians ICT Austria – Remote**
I conducted an inventory of an existing Azure environment for a client of Axians ICT Austria, creating comprehensive documentation to outline the current network architecture. This documentation enabled Axians ICT Austria to assess the impact of transitioning from a traditional hub-spoke network to Azure Virtual WAN, providing crucial insights for effective project planning before embarking on the migration.

2021-2023 **Purple – Lelystad**
I created solution designs for workloads in Azure, ensuring optimal architecture for various client needs. I provided training on Azure DevOps, empowering teams to adopt best practices. Furthermore, I helped organizations embrace the DevOps way of working, fostering a collaborative culture and streamlined development processes.

2019-2021 **Axians NL – Groningen**
At Axians NL - Groningen, I led the AxiansCloud development team, overseeing the design and implementation of central management solutions in Azure (Lighthouse) tailored for CSP/MSP purposes. I specialized in developing structured customer environment deployments with Azure DevOps and crafted effective monitoring and alerting for customer resources managed by Axians. I also played a pivotal role in the design and development of the private AxiansCloud based on Windows Azure Pack.
My focus included providing internal training on Azure, ARM templates, Azure DevOps and PowerShell, as well as fostering a DevOps culture within the organization by incorporating Agile Scrum methodologies into our teams.
I also designed and built automated rollouts for Azure (Windows) Virtual Desktops, delivered insightful workshops for customers, and guided them in creating future-proof solutions on Azure. This included migrating on-premises workloads with a cloud-native mindset and ensuring the continuous management and improvement of their Azure environments.
My expertise in Azure and DevOps encompasses pipelines (YAML), infrastructure as code, ARM/bicep templates, backlogs, and testing, alongside solution design, cloud-native resources, and security with PowerShell.

2008-2018 **StartReady – Groningen**
In my role, I designed and built infrastructure solutions for several hosted Lync offerings. My designs included network architecture (DMZs, LANs, routing and internet connectivity), dedicated and shared hosted solutions, enterprise voice enablement, firewalls and hardware load balancers. I also explored integrating Azure services into the development of the hosted environment, identifying ways to enhance scalability, security, and automation. Additionally, I designed and developed Lync appliances featuring fully automated deployment for both standard and enterprise versions of Lync 2010/2013, complete with enterprise voice capabilities.

Education

01-1994 – 06-1998	**Hogeschool Windesheim Zwolle**
	Hogere Informatica en Organisatiekunde (HOIO)
	Graduated as Bachelor of Sciene (Ingenieur)
06-1992 – 12-1993	**Saxion Hogeschool Enschede**
	Hogere Informatica Opleiding (not graduated)
08-1987 – 05-1992	**Dr. Groen College Almelo**
	Middelbare Technische School Elektronica (graduated)

Certifications

Microsoft Certified: Azure Solutions Architect Expert (AZ-305)
Microsoft Certified: Azure Administrator Associate (AZ-104)
Microsoft Azure Architect Technologies (AZ-300)
MCSE: Cloud Platform and Infrastructure – Certified 2018
MCSA: Windows Server 2016 – Certified 2018
Microsoft Certified IT Professional (MCITP) Lync Server
Microsoft Certified Master for Lync Server 2010

Languages

	Speaking	**Writing**	**Reading**
Dutch (Native language)	Fluent (C2)	Fluent (C2)	Fluent (C2)
English	Fluent (C1)	Fluent (C1)	Fluent (C1)

Personal Skills

I specialize in designing and deploying comprehensive Microsoft Azure infrastructure solutions, including Azure Landing Zones and automated deployments using Infrastructure as Code. With expertise in network architecture and firewalls, I excel at structuring customer environment deployments with Azure DevOps.

As a team lead, I guide development teams and foster a DevOps culture through Agile Scrum methodologies while training staff on Azure, ARM templates, Bicep, and PowerShell. I ensure seamless on-premises-to-cloud migrations, secure architectures, and scalable, cloud-native applications. My approach is rooted in collaboration and optimizing customer environments through innovative solution designs and monitoring strategies.

Personal Interests

In my free time, I enjoy exploring personal projects in home automation, finding innovative ways to enhance everyday living through smart technology. Staying active is important to me, so I often go running or cycling to maintain fitness and clear my mind. I also find joy in gaming, where I can dive into immersive worlds and challenge myself with strategic gameplay. These interests not only provide a balance between creativity and physical activity but also help keep my problem-solving skills sharp and my energy high.