Ibrahim Chaudhry Principal Azure Engineer

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PROFILE SUMMARY

- **Principal Azure Engineer** with **16 years** in banking infrastructure, the last 7 leading **Azure platform design** at **Standard Chartered** under **MAS TRM** guidelines and the bank's outsourcing rules across Asia.
- Works across **landing zones** (Terraform, Azure Policy), **identity** (Entra ID, PIM), **networking** (ExpressRoute, Azure Firewall), **data** (SQL Managed Instance) and **cost** (Cost Management, reservations).
- Deep experience in **regulated cloud design**, **datacenter to Azure migrations** and **Microsoft contract planning**, using architecture decision records and **Well-Architected** reviews that auditors can follow line by line.
- Sits on the bank's **architecture review board**, works with **technology risk**, **procurement** and country CIOs, and writes the Azure sections of **outsourcing risk assessments** for regulators.
- Leads a design group of **9 engineers** in Singapore and Chennai, wrote the bank's **Azure reference architectures**, and coached **4 engineers** through the AZ-305.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Compute & Containers:	AKS, App Service, Azure Virtual Machines, Azure Container Apps
Networking:	ExpressRoute, Azure Firewall Premium, Private Link, Virtual WAN, Azure Front Door
Identity & Security:	Microsoft Entra ID, PIM, Conditional Access, Azure Key Vault Managed HSM, Microsoft Defender for Cloud, Microsoft Sentinel
Governance & Hybrid:	Azure Policy, Management groups, Azure Arc, Azure Migrate, Cost Management
IaC & CI/CD:	Terraform, Bicep, Azure DevOps, GitHub Actions
Data & Storage:	Azure SQL Managed Instance, Azure SQL Database, Azure Cosmos DB, Blob Storage
Monitoring & Scripting:	Azure Monitor, Log Analytics, KQL, PowerShell, Python

EDUCATION

National University of Singapore — **B.Eng. in Computer Engineering** — Singapore · Aug 2006 to May 2010

Microsoft — **Azure Solutions Architect Expert (AZ-305), Azure Network Engineer Associate (AZ-700)** — Remote · Jun 2022, Nov 2023

WORK EXPERIENCE

Standard Chartered — Principal Cloud Engineer, Azure (promoted 2022) — Singapore · Mar 2016 to Present

- Designed the bank's Azure landing zone for 4 regions under **MAS TRM** guidelines, with policy as code in **Terraform** and **Azure Policy** deny rules, and it now hosts **190** production apps.
- Set the **Entra ID** admin model across 3 tenants, with **PIM** approvals and quarterly break-glass reviews, cutting standing Owner role assignments from 420 to **12**.
- Approved the network design of dual **ExpressRoute** circuits per region from the Singapore and Hong Kong datacenters, with **Azure Firewall Premium** and **1,300+** private endpoints keeping every PaaS service off the internet.
- Led the move of the trade finance platform's **SQL Server** estate to **Azure SQL Managed Instance** with log replay, finishing the final cutover in **38 minutes** of planned downtime.
- Built the 3-year Azure consumption forecast from **Cost Management** exports that procurement took into the Microsoft renewal, and saved **$11.4M** through reservations and **Azure Hybrid Benefit**.

United Overseas Bank — Senior Infrastructure Engineer — Singapore · Jul 2010 to Feb 2016

- Ran the **Windows Server** and **VMware vSphere** clusters behind internet banking and branch apps, holding **99.97%** availability through 2014 and 2015 across 2 Singapore datacenters.
- Ran twice-yearly DR failovers between the 2 datacenters with **VMware Site Recovery Manager**, cutting recovery time for the main customer channel apps from 6 hours to **2 hours**.
- Wrote **PowerShell DSC** configurations and a **Jenkins** pipeline for hardened Windows Server builds, cutting a new server build from 5 days to **4 hours**.