









# RIFAT ERDEM SAHIN

## AZURE DEVSECOPS ENGINEER | AZURE SECURITY AUTOMATION & CLOUD SECURITY SPECIALIST

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  -  **GitHub:** [github.com/rifaterdemsahin](https://github.com/rifaterdemsahin)
  -  **Portfolio:** <https://rifaterdemsahin.com>
  -  **Schedule a Call:** <https://calendly.com/rifaterdem/schedule>
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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY


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Senior Azure DevSecOps Engineer specialising in **Azure Security Automation, DevSecOps Pipeline Design, and Cloud-Native Security on Microsoft Azure**. Expert in embedding security across every stage of the Azure DevOps CI/CD pipeline, automating compliance, and hardening Kubernetes workloads on AKS. Proven track record delivering secure Azure platforms that achieved 300% productivity improvements and 30% cost reductions across financial services, healthcare, and global consulting sectors. Deep expertise in Azure Security Center, Defender for Cloud, Sentinel, and Microsoft Zero-Trust architecture.

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## CORE COMPETENCIES

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 **Azure Security & DevSecOps Pipeline** - Azure DevOps CI/CD security integration (SAST, DAST, SCA) - Microsoft Defender for DevOps and GitHub Advanced Security - Policy-as-Code with Azure Policy, OPA, and Gatekeeper - Automated vulnerability management and remediation workflows

☁️ **Azure Cloud & Container Security** - AKS hardening and container security (Defender for Containers, Aqua) - Cloud Security Posture Management (CSPM) via Microsoft Defender for Cloud - Azure Key Vault, Managed Identities, and Zero-Trust network design - Azure Firewall, NSGs, DDoS Protection, and Private Endpoints

⚙️ **Infrastructure as Code & Automation** - Terraform, Bicep, and ARM templates for secure Azure deployments - Ansible automation for configuration compliance and drift detection - Azure Monitor, Sentinel SIEM, and KQL-based threat detection rules - Incident response automation using Azure Logic Apps and Playbooks

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## KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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### 🏆 2025 | IBM | London, UK

**Enterprise AI-Driven Azure DevSecOps Transformation - Challenge:** Secure enterprise-scale Azure and hybrid cloud platforms and automate compliance for highly regulated financial and government clients - **Solution:** Architected an AI-powered Azure DevSecOps framework on Azure Kubernetes Service and IBM Cloud, integrating Microsoft Defender for Containers, automated SAST/DAST pipelines via Azure DevOps, and AI-driven threat analysis using IBM watsonx - **Impact:** - 45% reduction in security vulnerabilities in production through shift-left Azure DevSecOps practices - 40% improvement in compliance audit efficiency via Azure Policy automation and Compliance-as-Code - Zero-downtime, secure migration of mission-critical workloads to AKS with Pod Security Admission controls - **Technologies:** Azure DevOps, AKS, Microsoft Defender for Cloud, Azure Sentinel, Terraform, Bicep, IBM watsonx AI, GitHub Advanced Security, Ansible

### 🏆 2024 | Goldman Sachs | Muscat, Oman

**Enterprise Azure DevSecOps Financial Platform - Challenge:** Design a secure, compliant Azure DevSecOps architecture for global financial operations under PCI DSS and SOC2 requirements - **Solution:** Implemented a robust Azure security automation platform with real-time vulnerability scanning, automated Azure Policy enforcement, and Sentinel-powered SIEM threat detection - **Impact:** - 300% improvement in deployment security through automated Azure DevOps quality gates with Defender for DevOps - 30% reduction in operational risk via automated Azure Sentinel incident response playbooks - 99.9% system availability with AKS auto-scaling, geo-redundancy, and secure failover - **Technologies:** Azure DevOps, AKS, Terraform, Microsoft Defender for Cloud, Azure Sentinel, Checkmarx, Snyk, Azure Key Vault

## 2023 | Ypsomed | Switzerland

**Healthcare Azure Security & Compliance Platform - Challenge:** Scale secure Azure infrastructure for medical device IoT data processing under ISO 27001 and GDPR requirements - **Solution:** Implemented a fully compliant Azure platform with automated data encryption, Azure Key Vault secrets management, and Defender for IoT threat monitoring - **Impact:** - 40% improvement in security posture through automated AKS infrastructure hardening and CIS benchmark enforcement - 35% reduction in compliance overhead via Azure Policy-driven automated documentation and reporting - Real-time threat detection enabling proactive security incident management via Azure Sentinel - **Technologies:** Azure, AKS, Azure Key Vault, Azure Policy, Microsoft Defender for IoT, Prometheus, Grafana, Ansible, Terraform

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## TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

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### Azure Security Tools & Frameworks

**SIEM & Threat Detection:** Microsoft Sentinel, Azure Monitor, KQL, Log Analytics Workspace

**Cloud Security Posture:** Microsoft Defender for Cloud, Defender for Containers, Defender for DevOps

**Scanning & Testing:** Checkmarx, Snyk, SonarQube, OWASP ZAP, GitHub Advanced Security

**Secrets & Identity:** Azure Key Vault, Managed Identities, Azure AD, Entra ID, PIM

**Policy & Compliance:** Azure Policy, OPA/Gatekeeper, Kyverno, CIS Azure Benchmarks

### Azure Cloud & Infrastructure

**Compute & Containers:** AKS, Azure Container Apps, Docker, Virtual Machine Scale Sets

**Networking:** Azure Firewall, NSGs, Azure DDoS Protection, Private Link, VNet Peering

**IaC:** Terraform, Bicep, ARM Templates, Ansible, Pulumi

**CI/CD:** Azure DevOps Pipelines, GitHub Actions, GitLab CI/CD, ArgoCD, Flux

**Monitoring:** Azure Monitor, Application Insights, Prometheus, Grafana, ELK Stack

### Compliance Frameworks

GDPR | PCI DSS | SOC2 | ISO 27001 | NIST Cybersecurity Framework | CIS Benchmarks | NCSC Cloud Security Principles

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

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**Senior Azure DevSecOps Engineer / AI Solutions Architect** | January 2025 - Present

*IBM | London, UK*

- Leading **Azure DevSecOps transformation** for enterprise clients, integrating Microsoft Defender for DevOps across 10+ Azure DevOps organisations serving 500+ developers
- Implementing **AI-driven security analysis** using IBM watsonx.ai to automate vulnerability triaging and remediation within Azure Pipelines
- Developing **Security-as-Code** Bicep and Terraform templates for enterprise-scale AKS deployments with Pod Security Standards and network policies
- Implementing **Shift-Left security** practices, reducing security debt by 50% across global Azure engineering teams
- Architecting **Zero-Trust** network policies and Azure AD Conditional Access for hybrid cloud environments with Azure Arc
- Building enterprise-wide **Azure DevOps CI/CD Security Pipelines** integrating SAST, DAST, SCA, and container image scanning

**Senior Azure DevSecOps Engineer / Technical Lead** | 2020 - 2025

*Goldman Sachs, Ypsomed, Cushman & Wakefield*

- Led Azure DevSecOps initiatives across finance, healthcare, and real estate sectors on Microsoft Azure
- Designed and implemented **automated Azure compliance monitoring** solutions using Azure Policy and Defender for Cloud
- Established Azure security best practices, including AKS hardening, Key Vault integration, and Private Endpoint architecture
- Mentored engineering teams on Azure secure coding, IaC security scanning (Checkov, tfsec), and secrets management
- Delivered solutions achieving 300% improvement in deployment security via automated Azure DevOps quality gates

**Azure DevSecOps Engineer** | 2016 - 2020

*Microsoft, Emerson, Various Fortune 500*

- Built enterprise Azure security solutions for digital transformation initiatives on the Microsoft ecosystem

- Led cross-functional teams designing secure, scalable Azure-native applications with embedded DevSecOps practices
  - Established Azure security frameworks including Sentinel SIEM onboarding and automated alerting runbooks
  - Evangelised Azure DevSecOps culture through technical leadership, Microsoft Azure security workshops, and brown-bag sessions
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## EDUCATION

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### Bachelor of Science

Southern New Hampshire University, USA  | 2013

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## CERTIFICATIONS & CONTINUOUS LEARNING

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-  **Microsoft Certified: Azure Security Engineer Associate (AZ-500)**
-  **Microsoft Certified: DevOps Engineer Expert (AZ-400)**
-  **Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA)**
-  **HashiCorp Certified: Terraform Associate**
-  **AWS Certified Security - Specialty**



### **Continuous Learning:**

- Active contributor to open-source Azure DevSecOps projects on GitHub - Regular participant in Microsoft Azure and CNCF security community events - Following latest developments in Azure AI Security and Microsoft Defender innovations - Experimenting with Microsoft Security Copilot and AI-driven threat intelligence

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## SECURITY CLEARANCES

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-  **UK SC (Security Check)** - Valid until 2028
  -  **NATO Clearance** - Valid until 2029
  - ✓ **Background Checks:** Watchdog (2024), Sterling (2019)
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## AVAILABILITY & CONTACT

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**Immediate Availability** for Azure DevSecOps Engineer roles in Cambridge and remote positions



**Schedule a Discussion:** <https://calendly.com/rifaterdem/schedule>



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## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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**Technical Portfolio & Presentations:**

[https://rifaterdemsahin.com/wp-](https://rifaterdemsahin.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/rifaterdemsahinprofilepresentation.v2025.2.pdf)

[content/uploads/2025/02/rifaterdemsahinprofilepresentation.v2025.2.pdf](https://rifaterdemsahin.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/rifaterdemsahinprofilepresentation.v2025.2.pdf)

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*References and detailed project portfolios available upon request*