

Seif Bassem Mokhtar

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SUMMARY

Senior Cloud Solution Architect at Microsoft specializing in enterprise-scale cloud, hybrid, and AI architecture on Azure. Architect of platforms and solutions adopted across 125+ enterprise customers and 10K+ deployments. Contributor to Azure Landing Zones, Azure Arc Jumpstart, and Azure Verified Modules, with modules deployed 44K+ times globally. Speaker at Microsoft Ignite, events, podcasts and author of widely used Azure architecture guidance. Experienced in designing hybrid cloud, AI platforms systems for large-scale enterprise and government environments.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Microsoft

Cloud Solution Architect, Tech Strategy

Jul 2023 – Current

- Architected the Azure AI platform for the Egyptian Ministry of Education's AI student companion. Led the migration from OpenAI Enterprise to Azure OpenAI & Azure AI Search, implementing secure, scalable RAG architecture via Infrastructure-as-Code (IaC)
- **At Microsoft Ignite 2024 event, led a hands-on workshop "Explore next-gen industrial transformation architecture patterns",** teaching attendees how to build next-generation AI solution architectures for manufacturing using the Azure AI platform, Azure services and Kubernetes across edge-to-cloud environments.
- Authored 6 Infrastructure-as-Code modules to the Azure Verified Modules bicep library with around **~44K+ Azure deployments to date.**
- A lead core maintainer for the [Azure Arc Jumpstart project](#) and contributed to having this project evolve in 4 years to be a fully-fledged engineering product.
 - Led the architecture and [end-to-end automation of two sandbox reference implementations](#) (Contoso Hypermarket and Contoso Motors) for comprehensive cloud-to-edge industry scenarios including AI-powered shopper analytics solutions, computer vision, real-time monitoring, Edge-to-cloud data pipeline and more, built on top of Kubernetes, powered by Azure services.
 - **Spearheaded the process of building a new product called Jumpstart Copilot.** Conceptualized and led the product vision, authoring the Product Requirement Document (PRD). Orchestrated cross-functional alignment with engineering, legal, and design teams to secure FY26 roadmap inclusion
- Core maintainer for Azure Landing Zones (ALZ) and leading the feature alignment workstream to track, prioritize and implement new Azure features across the different workstreams.
 - Accelerated the feature intake and release cycle **from quarters to weeks**, improving delivery velocity and cross-team collaboration.
 - To date, led the release of **~12 new features and capabilities** (new and replaced deprecated ones)
- Drove the development of subscription vending module which allows customers to onboard applications to Azure in a quick, automated and governed manner.
 - Developed and migrated the subscription Vending module to Azure Verified Modules. **Shipped 15+ releases, adopted across 125 customers with 10K+ deployments.**
- Co-built the [Azure Advisor cost optimization workbook](#) in collaboration with the Azure Advisor product group, which helps customers easily identify key opportunities for cost optimization. The workbook has around **~1800 monthly users.**
- Authored multiple articles for the Cloud Adoption Framework highlighting customers' scenarios on how to transition to the ALZ architecture covering different brownfield scenarios. The articles have on average **2,360 monthly page views.**
- Acted as global tech lead for Azure Arc.
 - Restructured field content to align with FY25 priorities. Including building a 2-day hands-on workshop with more than **350+ deliveries worldwide** and **~\$2.6M in Unified consumed revenue**

Sr. Cloud Solution Architect Engineering, Tech Strategy

Jul 2022 – Jul 2023

- Led the authoring of the **Cloud adoption framework [landing zone accelerator for Azure Arc Data Services](#)** across three design areas (BCDR, Upgradability and governance principles) which demonstrates how to deploy those services on top of Arc-enabled Kubernetes clusters (K3s and AKS).
- **Authored a reference architecture on the Azure Architecture center** around Disaster recovery for Azure Arc SQL Managed Instance on top of Kubernetes clusters.
- **Delivered 6+ public Microsoft Teck Talks (MTT)** around different Azure topics like Azure Monitor, Azure Arc, cost optimization ...etc with **average of ~60 attendees per session.**

- Led the creation of field content and tools to support delivering customer engagements around security, governance and management of hybrid and multi-cloud solutions using Azure Arc, which resulted in **~177 Deliveries in fiscal year 2023**
- **Acted as the lead engineer for [ArcBox for DataOps](#)** developing the reference architecture for the Azure Arc-enabled SQL Managed Instance landing zone accelerator on top of Kubernetes clusters.
- **Authored a Microsoft Learn Module about Azure Monitor Workbooks** including a sandbox where learners get an environment deployed with a sample application and database to get hands on experience with Azure Workbooks to help drive more adoption of the service.
- **Azure Arc and Azure Advisor SME** in the Azure WW community, helping unblock WW field opportunities by answering technically challenging questions
- Active core maintainer of the Azure Arc Jumpstart project, which was referenced in different events' keynotes like **Ignite, the Azure Hybrid event and VMware Explore event**

Sr. Customer Engineer, Apps & Infra, Global Technical Team

April 2021 - Jul 2022

- Worked as part of a virtual team to create the [Azure Arc-enabled Kubernetes Enterprise scale landing zone accelerator](#) by leading the Cost governance design area, in addition to building the sandbox solution for the product which was announced in the Microsoft Build 2022 event.
- Contributed to reducing the time and cost of the **Azure Well-Architected assessments deliveries by ~40%** by building automated tools to help customers assess their workloads against the framework's best practices.
- Worked as part of a virtual team to create the [Azure Arc-enabled servers Enterprise scale landing zone accelerator](#) by leading the authoring of two design areas (Cost governance and Management)
- Contributed to the empowering of our field resources and customers when it comes to delivering Well architected discussions through conducting multiple training sessions, public webinars and training bootcamps.
- Contributed to envisioning, building, and managing new Managed IP for Azure Arc-enabled servers to drive more growth and empower customers to realize value for their hybrid resources
- Supporting the Worldwide community by acting as an Azure Arc SME to help unblock field resources with regards to Azure Arc questions.
- Joined the Azure Arc jumpstart team, authoring multiple articles on different Azure Arc scenarios, building automation tools, contributing to the Azure Architecture center, building Cloud adoption framework content, and providing resources for new innovations on Azure Arc
- Joined the Azure Arc Jumpstart v-team where I authored multiple articles and contributed to building the automation tools to help field and customers adopt Arc solutions
- **Contributed as a technical reviewer** for "Mastering Microsoft Endpoint Manager" book with more than 1300 copies sold in the first month.

Subject Matter Expert, FastTrack center

Mar 2018 – Mar 2021

- Engaged with customers across EMEA region to act as a trusted advisor to customers, helping them modernize their management of Windows 10, Office 365 and Edge using Microsoft Endpoint Manager
- Architected an automated self-service Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD) sandbox environment to provide a training platform for my team where they can request an environment with a form to ramp-up on AVD to be able to help our customers

QNBALHLI

Domain Infrastructure & Messaging System Team Leader

Mar 2013 - Mar 2018

- Led the PCI DSS certification journey by securing and hardening our Windows environment by implementing security baselines, hardening configuration and fixing vulnerabilities
- Developed a cross-platform mobile application to direct customers to the nearest branches or ATMs, integrating with the ATM systems to show customers their status and different features (Example: Accepts cash deposit)

Société Générale

Senior System Administrator

Sep 2009 - Mar 2013

- Reduced help desk requests by developing a bot-like application to empower end-users with self-troubleshooting
- Automated the migration from Windows XP to Windows 7 for 5000+ devices

Publications and speaking

- **At Microsoft Ignite 2024 event, led a hands-on workshop** "*Explore next-gen industrial transformation architecture patterns*",

teaching attendees how to build next-generation AI solution architectures for manufacturing using the Azure AI platform, Azure services and Kubernetes across edge-to-cloud environments.

- **Speaker at the PowerShell Conference Europe 2024**, which is the largest PowerShell conference in Europe with over 300+ attendees.
 - **"Azure Arc Unleashed"** A 90-minute hands-on workshop to help attendees realize the value of onboarding their on-premises and multi-cloud servers to Azure Arc
 - **"What is Azure Verified Modules and why you should care?"** Covered the purpose of Azure Verified Modules, its benefits, and how to get started with it, whether you are a Bicep or Terraform user
- **Technical Author:** Frequent contributor to **Microsoft Learn** and **Azure Architecture Center**. Articles on Azure Landing Zones average **2.3K+ monthly views**.
- **Video Content:** Published multiple videos on YouTube and Microsoft Tech Talks on various topics like Azure Arc, Well-architected and cloud adoption frameworks, Kubernetes on Azure, AI and more

Technical skills

- **Cloud & Hybrid:** Azure, Azure Arc, Azure Landing Zones, Azure Verified Modules, well-architected framework, cloud adoption framework, multi-cloud architecture
- **AI & Data:** Azure OpenAI, Microsoft Foundry, Agents, Scaling LLMs on Kubernetes
- **DevOps & IaC:** Bicep, Kubernetes (K8s), Docker, GitHub Actions, CI/CD, PowerShell, Python.
- **Security & Governance:** Cloud security, Cloud governance, Identity Management, FinOps, Cost Optimization, automation

EDUCATION

Bachelor's – Computer Science, Cairo University (Egypt)

Languages

English (Fluent)

Arabic (Native)

Profiles

Personal blog: <https://www.seifbassem.com/>

LinkedIn: <https://linkedin.com/in/seif-bassem>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@seifbassemazure>

GitHub: <https://github.com/sebassem>

X: <https://x.com/SeifBassem>