

Lead Network Engineer, London

Job Description



Making a difference



Who we are

We are an international law firm with a focus on private capital at the intersection of personal, family and business.

Our ability to understand people makes us who we are. We work together to build deep and trusted relationships that deliver meaningful value to our clients. We do this with empathy, attention, and clarity. No jargon, no attitude. We know what matters.



We are committed to running our business responsibly

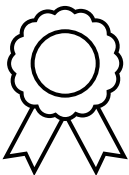
We recognise that our long-term success as a responsible business depends on the health and resilience of our people, our clients, our communities, and our natural environment. We are working hard to ensure that we make a positive contribution for all our stakeholders.

As part of this, we are committed to developing an increasingly diverse, inclusive, and supportive workplace environment where everyone can bring their whole selves to work, feel valued, feel that they belong and can fulfil their potential.



We understand the benefits of hybrid working.

We adopt a hybrid working approach, working on a 60/40 split of working in the office and working remotely. This arrangement is non-contractual, dependent on requirements of the role and subject to manager approval.



What we value

Our values represent who we are as a Firm. They are designed to guide the way we think, behave, speak, collaborate, and do business. Please see our four core values below.



Collaborative
we pull together



Committed
we drive performance



Authentic
we stay grounded



Forward-looking
we look beyond

Lead Network Engineer

The Lead Network Engineer will provide hands-on technical leadership for the design, operation, security and continual improvement of the firm's network infrastructure across office, data centre, cloud and remote access environments. The role owns network standards, resilience, service performance, risk management, supplier coordination and the delivery of network-related change.

Network Operations

- Lead the implementation, support and lifecycle management of network services across office, data centre, cloud connectivity, wireless and remote access environments.
- Maintain secure, resilient and scalable network services aligned to business requirements, client expectations and regulatory obligations.
- Support disaster recovery testing, failover validation and availability improvement for critical network services.
- Monitor network performance, identify risks, resolve complex incidents and drive continual service improvement.
- Maintain operational procedures, implementation plans and technical documentation to support controlled and repeatable delivery.
- Comply with relevant legal and regulatory obligations, including the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) Standards and Regulations and Principles.

Strategy and Architecture

- Shape and maintain the technical roadmap for network services, ensuring alignment with the firm's technology strategy, security requirements and resilience objectives.
- Own network standards, reference architectures and design principles across office, data centre, cloud, wireless and secure access services.
- Provide architectural assurance for projects, office moves, cloud adoption and supplier-led changes, ensuring risks and operational impacts are understood.
- Evaluate emerging technologies and vendor roadmaps to improve automation, observability, resilience, security and operational efficiency.

Leadership

- Provide technical leadership, mentoring and guidance to network engineers, junior colleagues and wider IT teams.
- Work closely with Information Security, Security Operations, Cloud Operations, Service Delivery and Infrastructure teams to ensure network services remain secure, supportable and aligned to wider priorities.

- Support planning, prioritisation and budget input for network lifecycle, licensing, service improvement and project requirements.

Operational Excellence and Service Management

- Operate network services in line with ITIL-aligned incident, problem, change, release and configuration management practices.
- Act as a senior escalation point for complex incidents, coordinating root cause analysis, corrective action and stakeholder communication.
- Maintain effective monitoring, alerting and reporting to identify service degradation, capacity constraints, security events and availability risks.

Security and Risk Management

- Embed security-by-design across network architecture, operations and project delivery.
- Support Secure Service Edge (SSE) and Secure Access Service Edge (SASE) capabilities for secure access to internet, SaaS, cloud and private applications.
- Partner with Information Security on risk management, audit readiness, vulnerability remediation and compliance requirements, including ISO 27001, GDPR and CIS Controls.
- Support network-related security incident investigation, containment, remediation and lessons learned.

Stakeholder and Vendor Management

- Act as a senior technical escalation point for network infrastructure issues, risks and decisions.
- Translate business requirements into secure, supportable and cost-effective network solutions.
- Manage technical engagement with network suppliers, managed service providers and service partners, including performance, escalation and delivery assurance.

Key Skills and Experience

Essential

- Significant hands-on experience in a senior or lead network engineering role within a complex enterprise environment.
- Deep knowledge of enterprise networking, including Layer 2/3, switching, routing, VLANs, segmentation, high availability, wireless and troubleshooting.
- Strong experience with Cisco enterprise technologies, including Catalyst, Nexus, Cisco ISE, RADIUS, TACACS+, 802.1X and access control policies.
- Proven experience with network security and secure access technologies, including Palo Alto, Fortinet FortiGate, Prisma Access, SD-WAN, SSE and SASE concepts.
- Required experience designing, implementing and supporting Microsoft Azure networking, including virtual networks, subnets, NSGs, route tables, UDRs, private DNS and hybrid connectivity.

- Experience supporting network resilience, high availability, disaster recovery testing, monitoring and observability across enterprise LAN, WAN, wireless, data centre and cloud services.
- Experience producing and maintaining HLDs, LLDs, standards, implementation plans and operational documentation.
- Solid understanding of IT service management disciplines, including incident, problem, change, release and configuration management.
- Excellent communication skills, with the ability to explain complex networking principles clearly to technical and non-technical audiences.
- Experience with network automation, scripting, infrastructure as code or configuration management tooling.

Advantageous

- Relevant Cisco, security or cloud certifications, such as CCNA, CCNP, PCNSE, NSE or Microsoft Azure certifications.
- Experience maintaining, troubleshooting and supporting Wireless LAN Controllers and associated enterprise Wi-Fi networks.
- Experience configuring and maintaining Cisco 9800 Wireless LAN Controllers and/or Cisco Meraki wireless networking.
- Experience working in a professional services, legal or similarly regulated environment.
- Knowledge of LogicMonitor or Solarwinds monitoring and observability platforms

Person Specification

- Analytical, methodical and calm under pressure, with sound judgement when resolving complex technical issues.
- Proactive and ownership-focused, with the ability to prioritise competing demands and deliver work to agreed standards.
- Committed to continuous improvement, automation, knowledge sharing and self-development.
- Collaborative and service-focused, with strong communication and stakeholder engagement skills.
- Professional and detail-oriented, with an appreciation of the standards expected in a client-focused professional services environment.

Competencies

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Working together | • Integrity and respect |
| • Inclusive | • Personal impact and growth |
| • Driving high standards | • Commercial mindset |
| • Client - centric | • Responsible Business |

Contact

Ifra Ahmed

Senior Talent Acquisition Advisor

T: +44 (0)20 7427 4548

[charlesrussellspeechlys.com](https://www.charlesrussellspeechlys.com)

Charles Russell Speechlys LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales, registered number OC311850, and is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA number: 420625). Charles Russell Speechlys LLP is also licensed by the Qatar Financial Centre Authority in respect of its branch office in Doha, licensed by the Ministry of Justice and Islamic Affairs in respect of its branch office in Manama and registered in the Dubai International Financial Centre under number CL2511 and regulated by the Government of Dubai Legal Affairs Department in respect of its branch office in the DIFC. Charles Russell Speechlys LLP's branch office in Singapore is licensed as a foreign law practice under the Legal Profession Act (Cap. 161). Any reference to a partner in relation to Charles Russell Speechlys LLP is to a member of Charles Russell Speechlys LLP or an employee with equivalent standing and qualifications. A list of members and of non-members who are described as partners, is available for inspection at the registered office, 5 Fleet Place, London, EC4M 7RD. In Hong Kong, France, Luxembourg and Switzerland Charles Russell Speechlys provides legal services through locally regulated and managed partnerships or corporate entities. For a list of firms trading under the name of Charles Russell Speechlys, please visit <https://www.charlesrussellspeechlys.com/en/legal-notice/>.

This job description is not rigid or exclusive and may be adjusted at any time in consultation with the Partners and/or Director of HR to meet the needs of the Firm or the post holder. There is constant review and adaptation to meet the changing needs of the Firm.

Please note in respect of our UK offices, any offer of employment will be conditional upon the successful candidate having the right to reside and work in the UK. In respect of the overseas offices any offer of employment will be subject to being able to obtain the relevant visa. Charles Russell Speechlys is committed to its effort to ensure there is no modern slavery or trafficking in their organisation or supply chain, details can be found on our Modern Slavery Statement. Charles Russell Speechlys is an equal opportunities employer. We respect and support diversity within our workforce.