

FRANCIS CHARLES SAANANE

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Nationality: Tanzanian

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

IT leader with over 16 years building and running technology operations — starting out as a network engineer and growing into leading HubNet Tanzania's managed services and consulting practice. Comfortable across infrastructure, cloud, security, and governance, with a track record of leading infrastructure upgrades, cloud migrations, and IT audits for clients in logistics, real estate, and the NGO sector. Over the past year, that's expanded into building practical AI and automation tools (n8n, LLM integrations) to solve real operational problems for clients, alongside the day-to-day work of running technical teams and vendor relationships.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- IT Strategy & Governance
 - IT Operations & Infrastructure Management
 - Cloud, Cybersecurity & Networking
 - AI & Workflow Automation (n8n, LLM Integration)
 - Project Management & IT Audit/Compliance
 - Team Leadership, Training & Change Management
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

HubNet Tanzania

Head of Technology & Operations

June 2015 – Present

- Lead IT operations, managed services delivery, and technology consulting engagements across multiple organizations.
- Develop ICT strategies, budgets, governance frameworks, and digital transformation initiatives.
- Manage infrastructure, cloud, cybersecurity, networking, and business systems projects.
- Lead technical teams, vendor relationships, procurement activities, and stakeholder engagement.
- Support compliance, audit readiness, business continuity, and operational improvement initiatives.
- Lead development of AI-powered automation and workflow solutions (n8n, LLM integrations) as a new managed service offering for clients.

Rexus Group FZE – Dubai

Country Representative – Network & Hardware Support

February 2022 – Present

- Serve as primary contact for Level 1 support services for *Google servers* infrastructure within Tanzania.
- Coordinate hardware support activities, vendor engagement, and service continuity requirements.

Habari Node PLC

Network Operations Centre (NOC) Administrator

November 2013 – June 2015

- Managed network operations, monitoring, incident response, and service availability within an ISP environment.

Corporate IT Solutions (CITS)

Senior Systems & Network Engineer

April 2012 – October 2013

- Designed, implemented, and supported enterprise networking and systems infrastructure solutions.

Cats-Net Limited

Network Engineer

June 2010 – February 2012

- Supported ISP infrastructure operations, network deployments, and customer connectivity services.
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SELECTED PROJECTS

AI & Automation Initiatives (In Progress, Early Stage – 2026)

- Dianarose Logistics: developing an n8n-based fleet reporting automation, pulling data from the Wialon GPS API to generate AI-narrated performance summaries for distribution via Outlook.
- Evolution Motors: completed a digital operations discovery and drafted a phased roadmap covering Autorox optimization, accounting system implementation, and dashboard integration.
- Drafted a five-year phased AI adoption roadmap for a logistics and trucking sector client, delivered as a strategy document, executive presentations, and a supporting infographic.
- Building and testing a WhatsApp-to-AI integration as an internal proof of concept, evaluating its potential as a productized managed service for HubNet clients.

Automated Vendor Call Notification Platform – PIKI Tanzania (2026)

- Designed and deployed an automated outbound calling platform for PIKI Tanzania, a food delivery company, integrating Yeastar P560 IP-PBX, Node.js middleware, and cloud-hosted Asterisk infrastructure.
- Implemented Yeastar OpenAPI integrations, automated call workflows, IVR services, and REST API connectivity.
- Configured secure SIP communications over WireGuard VPN and optimized telephony architecture.
- Developed documentation and delivered administrator and user training.

Knight Frank Tanzania – IT Infrastructure Modernization & Audit Readiness (2025)

- Implemented high-availability Active Directory environment with Primary and Secondary Domain Controllers.
- Led migration from legacy file-sharing systems to Microsoft SharePoint Online.
- Configured and optimized Palo Alto firewall security controls, VPN connectivity, and network segmentation.
- Supported Microsoft 365 administration, governance improvements, and audit readiness initiatives.
- Served as technical focal point during external IT audits and compliance reviews.

Cellulant Tanzania – Data Centre Compute & Network Upgrade (2021–2023)

- Led compute, storage, and network infrastructure modernization.
- Upgraded Dell C6220 compute infrastructure and expanded storage capacity by approximately 500TB SSD.
- Implemented VMware environments and upgraded Cisco Nexus 3000 switching infrastructure.

Norwegian Church Aid – National ICT Assessment (2022)

- Conducted nationwide ICT assessments and developed strategic recommendations supporting digital transformation initiatives.
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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science (BSc) – Business Information Technology

University of Greenwich

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

- Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) – 2010
- Cisco Certified Internetwork Professional (CCIP) – 2012
- Mikrotik Certified Routing Engineer (MTCRE) – 2014

- Project Management Professional (PMP) – 2024

Additional Training

- Cyberoam Certified Network & Security Professional (CCNSP) – 2012
 - Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) – 2012
 - Microsoft Azure Fundamentals (AZ-900) – 2023
 - Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA) – 2025
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REFEREES

Mr. James Sweke

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