SAMUEL ESPINAL, MBA

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CYBERSECURITY RISK & GRC | TECHNOLOGY RISK | THIRD-PARTY RISK

SUMMARY

Bilingual cybersecurity professional with CompTIA Security+, AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate, an MBA, and ongoing PhD studies in Cybersecurity. Brings hands-on experience in security assessments, vendor reviews, OT/IIoT security, and risk analysis, plus a background in client advisory and B2B account management.

SKILLS

- **Risk & GRC:** Risk Assessments, Third-Party Risk, Vendor Reviews, NIST CSF 2.0, Gap Analysis, Control Validation, Vulnerability Triage
- **Technical Security:** AWS, OT/IIoT Security, Zero Trust, MQTT, mTLS/X.509, HMAC-SHA256
- **Business:** Stakeholder Communication, Executive Reporting, Client Advisory, B2B Account Management

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Cybersecurity Extern | vCISO Services via Extern | Oct 2026 – Present

- Review asset, software, and vendor records to identify gaps between documentation and the current environment.
- Use external reconnaissance, vulnerability triage, and NIST CSF 2.0 to validate evidence, document control gaps, and rank risks.

Founder & Independent Life & Health Insurance Agent | SamFin Solutions Corp. | 2021 – Present

- Advise clients on life and health insurance options by reviewing coverage needs, financial risk, and regulatory requirements.
- Average about 10 client appointments per week, with roughly 3 resulting in new policies during active sales periods.

Venture Innovation Scout Extern | NYC Environmental Tech Lab | Sep 2026

- Researched and evaluated 10 OT/SCADA cybersecurity vendors for potential use in municipal water infrastructure.
- Compared vendors using SEC EDGAR, corporate registries, funding information, and documented utility deployments.
- Ranked the strongest options and developed a 90-day pilot concept for testing a selected technology.

IoT Cyber Defense Extern | Hydroficient via Extern | Jul 2026 – Sep 2026 | Remote

- Mapped MQTT data flows in an IIoT water-telemetry environment to identify edge-to-cloud security risks.
- Tested mTLS/X.509 and HMAC controls against replay and tampering attacks during a 162-hour lab test; all 44 simulated attacks were rejected.
- Designed AWS IoT Core and Azure IoT Hub reference architectures for secure data ingestion and recovery.

Senior B2B Account Representative | MarketSource | 2014 – 2019

- Managed business accounts and helped clients match product solutions to their operational needs.
- Ranked in the Top 5% nationally for three consecutive years and contributed to 25% annual portfolio growth.

Doctoral Cybersecurity Research | National University | 2024 – Present

- Analyzed passenger-rail cybersecurity risks using NIST SP 800-82, Purdue segmentation, and Zero Trust concepts.
- Used FAIR modeling to estimate the business and operational impact of cyber threats affecting critical infrastructure.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

- Ph.D. in Cybersecurity | National University | In Progress
- Master of Business Administration (MBA), Information Security Concentration | Keller Graduate School
- CompTIA Security+ | AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate