

Abdulrahman M. Bin Obaid

Founder & CTO — PantherIQ · Riyadh · Mar 2026 – Present

CTO, Saudi Panther · Cybersecurity & GRC Leader

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia | +966 50 817 8899 | amb.obaid@gmail.com | [linkedin.com/in/abdulrahmanob](https://www.linkedin.com/in/abdulrahmanob) | amb92.me

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Founder & Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of PantherIQ, a Riyadh-based startup founded in March 2026 that builds intelligent automation and AI solutions for businesses. Concurrently CTO of Saudi Panther, PantherIQ's first client, running Panther Hub, its internal staff platform, in production; and Senior Manager, Cybersecurity & GRC at Sehati for Information Technology. Cybersecurity and GRC leader with 10+ years across telecom and healthcare IT, from network engineering and product management to GRC leadership: led ISO 27001, PCI-DSS, and COPC certification efforts and managed HIPAA and NCA audits and regulator engagement with zero critical audit findings across two organizations.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Technology Leadership | AI Solutions | AI Governance | Business Automation | Systems Integration | Data Analytics
GRC | Cybersecurity | ISO 27001 | PCI-DSS | HIPAA | NCA Compliance | Risk Management | Vendor Management
Digital Transformation | Security Audits | Policy Development | Budget Planning | Team Leadership | Change
Management | Cloud Security | Network Security

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founder & CTO

Mar 2026 – Present

PantherIQ | Riyadh, Saudi Arabia | pantheriq.sa

- Founded a Riyadh-based startup building intelligent automation and AI solutions for businesses: custom AI (local/on-prem and cloud), deep data analysis, and machine learning to boost efficiency, support different lines of business, and improve executive decision-making.
- Lines of business: AI-native development (local and cloud) and business automation (workflows on existing systems); cybersecurity and governance advisory; systems integration; software development; and advanced data analytics.
- PantherIQ's trust and compliance model is aligned with NCA cybersecurity controls, SDAIA's AI governance framework, NDMO data management controls, NIST AI RMF, and Saudi regulatory compliance (ZATCA, e-invoicing, local registration). Arabic First: bilingual documentation and support, delivered by a small core team.

CTO

Mar 2026 – Present

Saudi Panther

- PantherIQ serves as Saudi Panther's technical arm and long-term partner, delivering its digital transformation plan; Saudi Panther is PantherIQ's first client.
- Lead the team that built and operates Panther Hub, Saudi Panther's internal staff platform, in production: it detects news from Saudi Panther-verified sources (RSS and X), analyzes it, and runs the full editorial cycle to posts rewritten in the company's tone and branded at the right canvas size, ready to publish on Snapchat, TikTok, and X.
- Panther Hub also covers research across 200K+ archived articles, a live events map for fast reporting, and a smart editor: rephrasing, Arabic–English translation, headline and image/metadata selection, and keyword and sentiment analysis with Claude NLP; a move to a local model is planned.
- Saudi Panther audience: 7M+ on Snapchat (main platform), 700K+ on TikTok, and 500K+ on X.

Senior Manager, Cybersecurity & GRC

Oct 2025 – Present

Sehati for Information Technology | Riyadh, Saudi Arabia | *Promoted from Manager, Cybersecurity & GRC*

- Lead the Cybersecurity & GRC team, reporting directly to the CISO on risk status, compliance posture, and security initiatives.
- Own compliance across the Sehati environment against HIPAA and NCA frameworks (ECC, CCC, CCCC, TCC, DCC).
- Manage team development, the department budget (SAR 3M+), and vendor contracts for all security services and tools.
- Direct the risk acceptance process and oversee security posture across the environment (EPP, EDR, VM, SOC, etc.).
- Lead the cybersecurity steering committee and present outcomes to senior leadership.

Manager, Cybersecurity & GRC

Feb 2025 – Oct 2025

Sehati for Information Technology | Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- Revamped the cybersecurity framework, governance processes, audit procedures, and compliance policies.
- Led security projects including tool deployments, threat modeling, and penetration testing across the Sehati platform.
- Passed all internal and external NCA framework audits (ECC, CCC, CCCC, TCC, DCC) with no critical findings.
- Performed cybersecurity assessments on new releases (CRs), managed risk assessments, and maintained security tools coverage (EPP, EDR, VM, SOC, etc.).
- Managed security vendors and worked directly with national regulators and external auditors to ensure continued compliance.

Manager, Operations & Products Governance

Mar 2020 – Aug 2024

Solutions by stc | Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- Served as the main contact for GRC, internal audit, and external auditors, handling all governance interactions, findings, and observations for the business unit.
- Planned and maintained all operational policies, processes, and procedures with operations teams, BPM, and GRC.
- Led the effort to obtain and maintain ISO 27001, PCI-DSS, and COPC certifications, with zero critical audit findings across all cycles for over four consecutive years; ensured compliance with CITC regulations and company policies.
- Conducted security monitoring, audits, and risk assessments across all operations assets and systems per the corporate GRC ERM framework.
- Managed the change management process and all asset tracking under operations responsibility.

Senior Product Manager II, Cloud & Digital Products

Apr 2019 – Mar 2020

Solutions by stc | Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- Worked with Cloud and IoT product managers to enhance product life cycles, business models, operating models, and end-to-end processes.
- Managed CSP onboarding on STC and Bluvalt cloud marketplaces; evaluated and negotiated SaaS onboarding with providers.
- Built business cases for digital products and services, securing executive approval; initiated strategic operating models with distributors.
- Constructed a cloud certification e-learning program and built a community of IT professionals to raise awareness of trending technologies.

Engineer II, IoT Field Services

Jan 2018 – Apr 2019

Solutions by stc | Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- Led a team of internal and external resources to deliver and maintain IoT products for government, enterprise, and SME clients, including large CCTV projects.
- Established and enhanced field operations processes to meet SLAs and QoS targets; implemented process automation through WFMS.

Engineer I, Network Field Services

Aug 2016 – Jan 2018

Solutions by stc | Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- Led the implementation and testing of complex IT networks, including FTTx and Managed Router Services, directing teams of internal and external resources.
- Troubleshoot network issues to maintain Quality of Service (QoS) for enterprise clients and provided technical review of system configurations.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Network Engineering

Johnson & Wales University | Providence, Rhode Island, United States

Magna Cum Laude (GPA: 3.74/4.0) | Dean's Senior Award 2015

CERTIFICATIONS

Project Management Professional (PMP) | Risk Management Professional (RMP) | Certified Operational Risk Manager (CORM) | Cisco CCIE Routing & Switching | Cisco CCNP Security | Palo Alto Networks Accredited Configuration Engineer (ACE) | Arbor Networks DDoS Specialist | Huawei HCNA | Finance for Non-Finance (FFNF)

LANGUAGES

Arabic (Native) | English (Fluent)