

**Writing Assignment 1:**  
**Job Advertisement Analysis**

Jasmyn Wilhelm

Department of Cybersecurity, Old Dominion University

IDS 493: Electronic Portfolio Project

Dr. Sherron Gordon-Phan

31 January 2025

### **Abstract**

This essay will examine a job posting for Surefire Cyber's Digital Forensic and Incident Response (DFIR) Consultant position, looking at the description, qualifications, and required abilities. This essay shows the requirements of the role and my educational and professional history by examining the tone, structure, and duties specified in the advertisement. In addition, the investigation will look at the company's culture and the changing developments in the sector that make this function important. This essay will also go into how my professional experiences, internships, and courses have given me the skills I need to be successful in the position. A more thorough analysis of the industry's development will shed light on this position's long-term applicability. The essay will conclude by considering obstacles in the position and how to overcome them to guarantee professional success.

*Keywords:* Job analysis, role responsibilities, advertisement tone, language, industry trends

### **Job Advertisement Analysis: Aligning Skills with Industry Expectations**

In today's competitive job market, understanding the skills and qualifications required for a position is crucial for job seekers. This paper examines a job advertisement for a consulting position at Surefire Cyber, analyzing its key responsibilities, stated and implied skills, and the expectations set by the employer. The analysis also explores industry trends influencing the demand for the position and evaluates how my educational background, internships, and professional experiences align with the job requirements. Furthermore, the company's culture, work environment, and potential challenges associated with the role are discussed. This evaluation provides insight into how well my skills match the position and offers strategies for further professional development.

Job advertisements serve as a bridge between employers and potential candidates, outlining the necessary qualifications and expectations for a role. A thorough examination of these job postings helps job seekers understand employer priorities and assess their suitability for the position. This paper analyzes a job posting for a consulting position at Surefire Cyber, focusing on the position's responsibilities, required and implied skills, company culture, and industry relevance. Additionally, it highlights how my academic background and professional experiences prepare me for the role and align with industry expectations.

**Company Overview and Job Purpose** Surefire Cyber aims to “address the industry's persistent challenges of efficiency, predictability, and transparency. (Surefire Cyber, n.d.)” The advertised consulting position is telework-based and emphasizes customer relations and incident response depth. The company is dedicated to redefining the incident response model, striving to provide swift and effective solutions for cybersecurity threats such as ransomware, email compromise,

malware, and data theft. This suggests that customer service and passion for cybersecurity are top priorities for this role (Surefire Cyber, n.d.).

**Required and Implied Skills** The job posting lays out a clear set of required skills, including proficient verbal and written communication abilities, technical writing proficiency, critical thinking skills, a strong willingness to learn, and familiarity with various operating systems. Additionally, candidates must possess at least one year of experience in incident response, Security Operations Center (SOC), Managed Security Service Provider (MSSP), or a related cybersecurity role. The ability to demonstrate knowledge in areas such as digital forensics, cyber intelligence, and malware analysis is also highly valued. While teamwork, quality customer service, adaptability, and patience are implied as essential traits despite not being explicitly mentioned in the "knowledge and skills" section, they undoubtedly play a fundamental role in daily operations (*Consultant, Digital Forensic and Incident Response (DFIR)(Remote)*, n.d.).

**Industry Trends and Position Significance** With the increasing reliance on technology, cybersecurity is a rapidly growing field. Surefire Cyber is dedicated to both incident response and cybersecurity awareness, which aligns with the industry's expansion. As cyber threats become more complex, the demand for professionals in this field will continue to rise, making roles like this consulting position crucial for organizations seeking to enhance their security posture.

**Personal Qualifications and Preparedness** My academic coursework, including network security and cybersecurity incident response, has provided me with the foundational knowledge required for this position. Additionally, internships, certifications, and firsthand projects have enhanced my expertise in digital forensics, malware analysis, and security operations. My

experience working with operating systems and critical thinking skills make me a strong candidate for the role, as they directly align with the stated job requirements.

**Company Culture and Work Environment** The job advertisement suggests a culture of mentorship, collaboration, and professional growth. The senior role for the same position includes statements such as “convey complex forensic findings to technical and non-technical stakeholders clearly and understandably” and “provide mentorship and assist less experienced team members by sharing your knowledge and expertise. (*Senior Consultant, Digital Forensic and Incident Response (DFIR) (Remote)*, n.d.)” This indicates that Surefire Cyber values teamwork, learning, and employee development. The company also emphasizes inclusivity by encouraging candidates to apply even if they do not meet all listed qualifications.

**Challenges and Expectations in the Role** The position may present challenges such as managing customer expectations and responding to high-pressure cyber incidents. Surefire Cyber acknowledges the industry's persistent challenges of efficiency, predictability, and transparency, indicating that the role requires strong problem-solving and adaptability. The job ad’s structured interview process provides a clear timeline, making the hiring process more transparent and encouraging.

The DFIR team, often consisting of Tier III IR practitioners and Forensic Examiners, collaborates closely with various stakeholders to ensure a comprehensive and effective defense strategy. The DFIR toolkit is essential for standard investigations, and practitioners must rely on both open-source and licensed tools. The DFIR process is often undocumented, and practitioners gain their skills through informal sharing of unwritten knowledge.

## Conclusion

Analyzing job advertisements is a critical step in ensuring that one's skills and experiences are in alignment with the expectations of potential employers. This paper delves into the key components of a job posting specifically for a consulting position at Surefire Cyber. It investigates the required skills that candidates must possess, such as analytical thinking, problem-solving abilities, and familiarity with cybersecurity trends. Furthermore, it highlights the relevance of these skills to current industry trends and technological advancements within the field. The discussion also addresses the company culture at Surefire Cyber, emphasizing its commitment to innovation, teamwork, and professional development.

In addition to exploring these elements, the paper reflects on my own qualifications and experiences, demonstrating how they not only match but also exceed the requirements of this role. By connecting my background in consulting and technology with the specific demands of the position, I aim to present a compelling case for my suitability as a candidate.

## References

*Consultant, Digital Forensic and Incident Response (DFIR)(Remote)*. (n.d.). <https://job-boards.greenhouse.io/surefirecyber/jobs/4624879007>

Cybereason. (n.d.). *What is DFIR? / A Complete Guide*.  
<https://www.cybereason.com/fundamentals/what-is-dfir>

Grammarly. (n.d.). Grammarly. <https://app.grammarly.com/ddocs/2725707841>

Prompts created by Grammarly - "*Identify any gaps*" - "*Provide ideas to make it more descriptive*"

*Senior Consultant, Digital Forensic and Incident Response (DFIR) (Remote)*. (n.d.). <https://job-boards.greenhouse.io/surefirecyber/jobs/4522411007>

*Surefire Cyber Inc. hiring Consultant, Digital Forensic and Incident Response (DFIR)(Remote) in Elkridge, MD / LinkedIn*. (n.d.). <https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/4124673357>