DESTINY YOUNG

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SUMMARY

A highly skilled IT professional with over 20 years of experience in maintaining complex IT infrastructure systems. Proficient in network administration, cybersecurity management and cloud computing. Adept in communicating with technical and non-technical language. A team player in a collaborative work environment.

PROFESSIONAL PHILOSOPHY

In the rapidly evolving landscape of IT and cybersecurity, continuous learning and adaptation are not just beneficial – they are essential. My goal is to bridge the gap between cutting-edge technology and practical, real-world solutions, ensuring robust security without compromising operational efficiency.

EDUCATION

Paul University, Awka, Anambra State, Nigeria   Oct 2025
Master of Science, Computer Science & IT, Awaiting Result

Imo State University, Owerri, Imo State, Nigeria   July 2025
Master of Science, Data Communication and Network Engineering, Awaiting Result

Nexford University, Washington DC, USA   NOV 2023
Master of Science, Digital Transformation, GPA, 3.75/4.0

Nexford University, Washington DC, USA   DEC 2020
MBA, Business Administration (Specialisation – Cybersecurity), GPA, 3.76/4.0

University of South Africa, Pretoria, South Africa   OCT 2015
MTech, Information Technology Merit, 54%

Tansian University, Umunya, Anambra State, Nigeria   JUL 2013
BSc (Hons), Computer Science, GPA, 3.53/5.0

OSISATECH Polytechnic, Enugu   Nov 2010
HND, Computer Science, 3.0 (Upper Credit)

SKILLS

- **TECHNOLOGY:** Splunk | Nessus | EDR | Microsoft Sentinel | SIEM | IAM | Windows Server | Microsoft 365 Cloud |
- **OTHER:** Python | Bash | PowerShell | Wireshark | Microsoft Windows Defenders | Firewall | Linux | SQL | System Administration | SOC2 | DAST | Windows OS | Vulnerability Management | Incident Detection and Response | Access controls system | Security Architecture and Engineering | Operations Security | Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Planning | Project Management | Technical/Non-technical Communication | Collaboration | Technical Writing
- **LANGUAGE:** English

WORK EXPERIENCE

SPECIAL ASSISTANT (New Media) TO THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF AKWA IBOM STATE

Akwa Ibom State Government – www.akwaibomstate.gov.ng   OCT 2025 – TO DATE

Leveraging innovative digital strategies to enhance public engagement and amplify government initiatives through new media platforms, ensuring secure and robust communication systems

MANAGER (Technology Infrastructure/IT Operations)

Oil and Gas Free Zones Authority, Onne, Nigeria – www.ogfza.gov.ng   MAR 2019 – OCT 2025

1. Increased Authority Ranking on Presidential Executive Order on Ease of Doing Business in Nigeria

- Designed and developed the Authority's website and digital communications platforms, resulting in N. 1 ranking under Business Efficiency Category on the Presidential Executive Order on Ease of Doing Business in Nigeria for 3 consecutive years (2018-2020) and in 2024 and OGFZA emerges top in The Presidential Enabling Business Environment Council (PEBEC)'s QUALITY ASSESSMENT of MDAs for Q1 2025

2. Automated Inter-Agency Operations (Oil & Gas Free Zones)

- Supervised project development team that built existing Free Zone Management System (FZMS) using Oracle Cloud (budget: USD$100,000), automating inter-agency operations within the Nigerian oil and gas free zones, cutting down average workload by at least 70%.

SENIOR OFFICER (ICT)

Akwa Ibom Water Company Limited, Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria   AUG 2006 – OCT 2016

- Network Implementation and Management: Managed company's LAN and WAN infrastructure, including computer systems and networks across 27 area offices in Akwa Ibom State - Improved resource sharing and minimised operational cost by 50%
- IT Security Implementation: Managed company's IT strategies, standards, policies, processes, and procedures to ensure the protection of the Company's IT and digital assets - Increased company's cyber resilience by 50, enabling company to restructure excess cybersecurity expenditure into other area of needs.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Project Name: Technology Integration and IT Support Consulting

Federal University of Technology, Ikot Abasi (FUTIA) – www.futia.edu.ng   MAR 2019 – TO DATE

- **Cloud Infrastructure Onboarding**: Successfully onboarded university staff, faculties, and students onto Microsoft Office 365, enhancing collaboration and productivity.
- **Website and Portal Development**: Designed and developed university and portal website using Word Press Content Management Systems (CMS), improving online presence, user experience and brand visibility.
- **Enterprise Network Systems Design:** Implemented university enterprise network systems incorporating VPN, ensuring robust and secure connectivity.
- **Cybersecurity Program Development**: Implemented a comprehensive strategic cybersecurity program using NIST CF and ISO 27001:2013 ISMS frameworks, protecting university IT systems from cyber threats.
- **IT Policy Development:** Created an Information Technology Use Policy and Data Privacy Policy, aligning with National Data Protection Regulation (NDPR) requirements, to ensure responsible IT usage and data protection.
- **Process Improvement:** Prepared Departmental Exams and Result automation templates, simplifying exams and record administration workload per semester result by 80%, enhancing efficiency and reducing manual errors.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES

- Certified Cybersecurity Educator Professional (CCEP)
- Google Cybersecurity Professional Certificate
- Career Essentials in System Administration by Microsoft and LinkedIn
- Career Essentials in Cybersecurity by Microsoft and LinkedIn
- Career Essentials in Administrative Assistance by Microsoft and LinkedIn
- Google IT Support Engineer Professional Certificate
- Meta Certified Social Media Marketing Professional.
- Meta Certified Digital Marketing Associate.
- Introduction to Cybersecurity, New York University Tandon School of Engineering (Specialization)
- Institute of Information Management (IIM) Certified Information Security Professional (CISP) – Provisional
- Institute of Information Management (IIM) Certified Data Management Professional (CDMP) - Provisional

ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATES

- **Advanced Artificial Intelligence & Robotics**
  Nexford University, Washington DC, USA
- **Management Essentials**
  Nexford University, Washington DC, USA

COURSERA CERTIFICATES

- Cybersecurity Threats - Vulnerability and Countermeasures - **Department of Homeland Security**
- Cybersecurity Introduction – **International Business Machine (IBM)**, USA
- Information Security (Introduction & Context), **Royal Holloway University of London**
- Fundamentals of Digital Marketing - **Google**
- Introduction of Project Management Fundamental – **Google**
- Introduction to Critical Infrastructure Protection – **OPSWAT**

LINKEDIN LEARNING PATH CERTIFICATES

- Master Digital Transformation (Learning Path with 30 Certificates)
- CISO Leadership: Managing a Cybersecurity Program (Learning Path with 8 Certificates)

LINKEDIN CERTIFICATES:
- Information Security Frameworks
- Artificial Intelligence for Cybersecurity
- Risk Management for IT & Cybersecurity Managers
- Certified Information Systems Security Professional - CISSP
- Certified Cyber Security Professional - CCSP

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Student Mentor and Ambassador   JAN 2021 - JUN 2023

Nexford University, Washington DC, United States
- Mentored dozens of MBA learners, especially those with low-level of e-learning skill on how to scale through online learning.

ForbesBLK Followership   JAN 2023 – ON-GOING

Forbes Black Community (ForbeBLK), United States
- Actively engage in philanthropic endeavors, mentorship, community service projects, and social and professional development activities that create equitable pathways and opportunities for others.

Cybersecurity Followership   OCT 2023 – ON-GOING

Rotary International
- Mentorship - fostering a deep understanding of cybersecurity and promoting digital resilience among communities.   OCT 2025 – ON-GOING

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Fellow, Institute of Information Management (**IIM**), Nigeria Chapter
- Chartered IT Practitioner (**C.tip**) and Member - Computer Professionals Registration Council of Nigeria (**MCPN**)
- Member - Nigeria Computer Society (**NCS**)
- Member – British Computer Society (**BCS**)
- Member - Nigeria Institute of Management- Chartered (**NIM**)
- Member - Chartered Institute of Administration (**CIA**)
- Member - International Association of Engineers (**MIAENG**), AI, Computer, Internet Societies

- Member – Cybersecurity Expert Association of Nigeria (CSEAN)
- Member – Institute of Data Processing Management of Nigeria (IDPMN)

PUBLICATIONS

Young, Destiny A. (2015, August). Improving the Adoption of Cloud Computing by Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (SMEs) in Nigeria [Dissertation, University of South Africa]. UNISA Institutional Repository. Available at: https://uir.unisa.ac.za/items/7f378e78-8b84-4310-8351-1978a851ce46
Download PDF

Young, Destiny. (2018). Accelerating the Adoption of Cloud Technology by SMEs in Nigeria: Investigating Barriers and Enablers. *Information and Knowledge Management*, Vol. 8, No. 7, ISSN 2224-5758 (Paper), ISSN 2224-896X (Online). Available at: https://www.iiste.org/Journals/index.php/IKM/article/view/44187
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Young, Destiny. (2025, July 31). Analysis of Emerging Cybersecurity Threats in Nigeria's Financial Sector: Trends, Impacts, and Mitigation Strategies. *International Journal of Research and Innovation in Social Science (IJRISS)*, Volume IX Issue VII, ISSN 2454-6186. DOI: 10.47772/IJRISS. Available at: https://rsisinternational.org/journals/ijriss/articles/analysis-of-emerging-cybersecurity-threats-in-nigerias-financial-sector-trends-impacts-and-mitigation-strategies/
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Young, Destiny. (2025, July 31). Protecting Critical Infrastructure in Nigeria: A Framework for Integrated Cybersecurity Approach. *International Journal of Research and Innovation in Social Science (IJRISS)*, Volume IX Issue VII, ISSN 2454-6186. DOI: 10.47772/IJRISS. Available at: https://rsisinternational.org/journals/ijriss/articles/protecting-critical-infrastructure-in-nigeria-a-framework-for-integrated-cybersecurity-approach/
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Young, D., & Ozocheta, O. (2025). Cyber resilience capabilities and their impact on small and medium-sized enterprise business continuity in emerging economies. *International Journal of Research and Innovation in Applied Science, 10*(11), 1397–1406. . Available at: https://rsisinternational.org/journals/ijrias/view/cyber-resilience-capabilities-and-their-impact-on-small-and-medium-sized-enterprise-business-continuity-in-emerging-economies

Young, D., & Ozocheta, O. (2025). Integrating governance, AI accountability, and systemic resilience: A framework for critical infrastructure protection in Nigeria. *International Journal of Research and Innovation in Applied Science, 10*(11), 139–150. https://doi.org/10.51584/IJRIAS.2025.101100132. Available at: https://rsisinternational.org/journals/ijrias/view/integrating-governance-ai-accountability-and-systemic-resilience-a-framework-for-critical-infrastructure-protection-in-nigeria

Young, D., & Ozocheta, O. (2025). Strategic Leadership and Cybersecurity Readiness in Digitally Transforming Organisations. (2025). *International Journal of Latest Technology in Engineering Management & Applied Science*, *14*(12), 28-38. https://doi.org/10.51583/IJLTEMAS.2025.1412000004

Destiny Young, Osinachi Ozocheta (2026). Implementing Data Sovereignty and Digital Privacy in Nigeria Using Legislative Instrument: A Governance and Policy Analysis for a Secure Digital Economy., 10(12), https://doi.org/10.51584/IJRIAS.2025.10120028

HONOURS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Nexford University global record-holder**, as University's fastest MBA Graduate (4 months) — JAN 2021
- **Honoured Member - ForbesLBK** – A Global Community for Black Professionals — September 2023
- Selected **Top 25 Cybersecurity Star** of the year 2023 by DigitalConfex, New Delhi, India — October 2023

PEER REVIEW AND EDITORIAL SERVICES

- **Reviewer** – International Journal of Research and Innovation in Social Science (IJRISS), ISSN, 2454-6186. DOI Number: 10.47772/IJRISS — March 2025
- **Reviewer** – International Journal of Research and Scientific Innovation (IJRSI), ISSN 2321-2705, DOI Number: 10.51244/IJRSI — March 2025
- **Reviewer** – International Journal of Latest Technology in Engineering, Management & Applied Science (IJLTEMAS) — April 2025
- **Editorial Board Member** - International Journal of Computing and Engineering (IJLTEMAS) — April 2025

- **Reviewer** – International Journal of Research and Innovation in Applied Science (IJRIAS), ISSN 2454-6194, DOI Number: 10.51584/IJRIAS   April 2025
- **Reviewer** – International Journal of Latest Technology in Engineering, Management & Applied
- Science, ISSN 2278-2540, DOI: 10.51583/IJLTEMAS   April 2025