



# Dr. Husam Yaghi

Senior technical business executive with 35 years of experience skilled at strategic planning, team leading, pro-actively participating in all aspects of business development and management from operations and finance to marketing and human resources. Effective leader with well-developed communication skills. Accomplished entrepreneur capable of identifying new opportunities and sustaining extraordinary business growth.



First name:	Husam	Phone number:	+966505374722
Last name:	Yaghi	Email address:	hyaghi@gmail.com
Nationality:	American Citizen	Web:	www.yaghi.net



## Summary

Built several companies, and introduced Blockchain solutions in Saudi Arabia in early 2016. Spoke at conference in Saudi Arabia, Dubai, Lebanon, Bahrain, India, and London.

Built the first Blockchain & Cybersecurity company in Saudi Arabia. By the second year, won contracts and delivered the first Blockchain-based enterprise-grade project.

Pitched digital transformation solutions to central banks and commercial banks in Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Lebanon, Saudi Telecom, Ministry of Commerce in Saudi Arabia, Prime Minister of Jordan, Lebanese Ministry Of State For Administrative Development, Ministry of Hajj in Saudi Arabia, and numerous private corporations.

Earned a reputation as a trusted business partner.

Managed a SAR/SAT classified project for the Saudi Royal Air Force valued at SR65M, delivered on time and within budget, and client was pleased.

Published more than 20 papers and one book on reservoir simulation.

Coached my teenage boys into entrepreneurship at age 13 & 14. My daughter, at age 10, created "Smiles Foundation" to bring some joy to the less fortunate.



## Work experience

### **CTO** 03/2005 – present

[Alhamrani Group , Saudi Arabia](#)

I established a reputation as a trusted business partner. Built a 24/7 information technology operation, provided business intelligence tools, business continuity services, and remote support. Assembled and led a team of dedicated professionals as the CTO for a conglomerate group of diversified companies. Developed a department culture centered on encouraging ideas, earning recommendations and sharing knowledge.

### **Director, Middle East & Africa** 01/2019 – present

[Sofitto, Belgium](#)

Sofitto is a lead European startup that decentralizes payment systems and digitizes cash, creating a next-generation money ecosystem. One of its patented products is the Sugi Card; which takes over the storage of cryptocurrency and ERC20 tokens. It holds private keys in order to enable secure, simple, and fast cryptocurrency transactions on the go via the dedicated Sugi Wallet mobile app.

### **President & Co-Founder** 05/2016 – 07/2018

[Ateon, Saudi Arabia](#)

I built the first Blockchain solutions provider in Saudi Arabia ([www.ateon.net](http://www.ateon.net)) to address business needs. Recruited and coached a small team of experts and secured contracts within the second year of operation, and became a leader in the Blockchain space. In July 2018, it was acquired by Alhamrani Universal. <http://www.ateon.net/latest-news/>

### **Vice President** 06/2002 – 03/2005

[Kahmas Technology, Saudi Arabia](#)

Built a technology solutions provider for the Ez Alsahra Holding Group of Companies. Recruited sales and technical professionals and worked on a \$70 million project for the Ministry of Interior to automate national ID cards and deploy latest solutions for civil and criminal fingerprinting.

## Director - Data Networks & Security

01/1998 – 06/2002

Vinnell Corporation (Saudi National Guard), Saudi Arabia

Recruited from USA as an Expert Advisor to the National Guard via Vinnell Corporation.  
Appointed as Director for Data Networks and Security.

- Tutored the young Saudi staff on data networks, data cabling, and security to enhance their skills to meet work requirements.
- Interacted with 5-star Generals.
- Engineered and managed infrastructure automation of the numerous sites for the National Guard in the Kingdom.
- Played a vital role in the initiatives to modernize technology services in the National Guard.



### Work experience

## Assistant Professor & Telecom Advisor

01/1987 – 12/1997

Southern University, Louisiana, United States

- Repeatedly, recognized as an outstanding professor of Electrical Engineering.
- Taught four courses in Digital Systems, Microprocessors Design, Numerical Methods, and Digital Communication.
- Served as Telecommunication Advisor to the University's President
- Served as Director for the Engineering Data Center.
- Brought Internet to the university in 1991 via a grant from the National Science Foundation.
- Worked with professors at Cornell University, Stanford University, UC Berkley, and others to build online multimedia-based course repository.
- Secured more than USD 100 million in grant research funds from IBM, NASA, Department of Defense, Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation.



### Startups Co-Founded

- BlocMint, 2017
- Ateon, 2016
- eSaraha, 2015
- AidMaid, 2014
- Chillax, 2013
- GloboNet, 1986

## Served as a consultant, contractor, or member of technical staff:



### Consulting

- Intelligent Bilingual Computing, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (USA)
- IBM Corporation in Kingston, New York (USA)
- Bell Communications Research, Piscataway, New Jersey (USA)
- Department of Energy (USA)
- National Science Foundation (USA)
- National Aeronautic & Space Agency - NASA (USA)
- Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (USA)
- Louisiana Board of Regents, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (USA)



### Education

## Computer Science

01/1991 – 05/1998

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, United States

## Computer Science

08/1984 – 12/1986

Southern University, Baton Rouge, United States

## Electrical Engineering

08/1979 – 08/1984

Southern University, Baton Rouge, United States

## Jack Benton

Owner, 4TH Quarter, Inc.

Dr. Yaghi is working on the frontier of Blockchain Technology. I know him to have a great passion and knowledge about both the possibilities and disruptive characteristics of this next new phase of advanced, 21st century technology. His long term background is embedded in the electronic payments world, which pioneered many of the encryption technologies, for example, RSA, which are the historical foundation of what makes the Blockchain work.



### Recommendations (on LinkedIn)

## Armin Ebrahimi CEO at ShoCard

I've had the opportunity to partner with Ateon under Husam's leadership over the past 18 months. Husam has been a forward-looking technology and businessman who is good at spotting opportunities and focusing on how to solve them in a manner that is a win for their clients and partners.

In particular, Husam is good at creating cultural bridges when working across different industries and borders. It's been a pleasure working with Husam and as the CEO of ShoCard, I look forward to growing our business and partnership with his leadership.

**Mike Feliciano**  
**Vice President at Early Warning**

As COO of Alhamrani Universal, I worked with Dr. Husam for over four years. Initially, in his capacity as Group CIO, and during this period his thought leadership and principles such as thinking big, earning trust, and driving results were motivating. Although it was during the integration of the Group IT division into Universal where our working partnership developed into a lasting friendship, when we successfully bid, closed, and implemented the largest security system integration contract in the company's history. On a personal level, I found him curious about new possibilities, open to other perspectives, and extremely committed to the company's long-term viability. It was an absolute pleasure to work with Dr. Husam.

**Maqsood Ahmed**  
**Technical Sales Consultant, Ateon**

Dr. Husam is a visionary in realizing potential of Blockchain and making tireless efforts in establishing ATEON as a pioneer in the Digital Transformation space in Saudi Arabia. He is passionate, hardworking, sincere, diligent, and a great manager who works with highest levels of integrity and is the biggest asset a company can have. He is a very well respected CIO and is one of the most talented individual in my knowledge. I wish him even greater success in future. Thank you for providing continuous support and guidance.

**Al Marcella, Ph.D., CISA, CFSA, CDP**  
**Principal/CEO, Business Automation Consultants, LLC**  
**(a distinguished author in Forensics security & IT audit)**

It is with great pleasure that I can wholeheartedly and with great confidence and satisfaction recommend to you my long time friend Dr. Husam M. Yaghi. Dr. Yaghi has served with distinction in leadership roles throughout his career. Dr. Yaghi has demonstrated both the technical expertise as well and the business prowess, making him a much sought after business executive. Throughout Dr. Yaghi's distinguished career, he has served his profession with honor, leadership, and strong guidance and is selfless in giving of his time to assist others. Dr. Yaghi's grasp of both the technical complexities of the IT profession as well as the subtleties required to manage technical professionals, lead successful projects, and interact with senior management are testaments to his enduring business acumen. As a leader and decision maker, I can confidently state that Dr. Yaghi will be a formidable addition and asset to any progressive, forward thinking, and global enterprise.

**Zuhair Maghrabi**  
**Formerly Group HR Director, Alhamrani Group**

Throughout my career in HR, I came across very few IT professionals who have true business sense, and have the ability to look at IT from a business prospective, Husam definitely was one of those professionals. He has very strong capabilities in handling change resistance, as well as illustrating the added values of IT initiatives. Further and above to his very sound technical knowledge, he is very assertive, hands on as well strategic professional, and most important he sees things to the end. I have truly enjoyed working with him, and wish him all the best in his career.

**Waleed T. Al Alami**  
**Formerly Executive**  
**Assistant to Group COO, Alhamrani Group**

Dr. Husam is a learned scholar, who is also a seasoned professional with a vast experience, he works in a quite but most effective way- it was always my pleasure to see his great presentations, work with him on projects as he had defined goals, always planned well, executed with quality and on time. I know that any corporation which he works with must be of high professional standings, with good HR to attract him and simply lucky.

**Orhan Karadogan**  
**Formerly Vice President, Alhamrani Universal Co.**

I have known Husam for just a couple of years. In deed he is a treasure to have as a friend, a colleague, and a business partner. Husam is a well rounded think tank who is easy going



Recommendations  
(on LinkedIn)

and always eager to help, yet a thought visionary leader, a strategic CIO, and a good motivator to staff. Husam's commitment to excellence and pursuit of innovation and positive change is best in class. His multicultural experience and educational attainment has helped him leave distinguished footprints everywhere he has worked.

**Ibrahim Al Asseri**  
**Formerly Director of Business Operations, Hughes Aircraft Company**

Dr. Husam has been always one of the business innovative leaders. He keeps enhancing business operations through valuable data analysis and constructive recommendations. He leads teams to overcome challenges and bringing results beyond expectations. He works long hours and under stress with wisdom and team spirit. His technical background and abilities always raise clients confidence level of the organizations he represents.

**Tariq Abdat**  
**COO, Alhamrani Universal Company**

Dr. Husam is a real IT professional with a business mind who contributes to the growth of any organization he works for. He is dedicated, hard-working and a loyal officer. I highly recommend him as a CIO for those organizations looking for senior experienced executives.

**Issam Qasem**  
**Formerly Assistant Professor / Acting Chairman, Southern A&M University**

It gives me great satisfaction and distinct gratification to recommend my esteemed long time friend Husam M. Yaghi. In my capacity as Assistant Professor and Acting Chairman of Electronics Engineering Department, I have worked closely with Dr. Yaghi for five years while he served as an Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering and Director of the Engineering Computing Center. Dr. Yaghi is one of the most professional people I ever worked with; he is very intellectual, well organized, and exceptionally capable. I view Dr. Yaghi as a scholar with abundant capabilities and as a great innovator in both business and technology. I really do think the world of Dr. Yaghi and respect him and his capabilities significantly. Dr. Yaghi is a trustworthy gentleman with strong conviction and I would without any reservation recommend him. He would be a tremendous asset in any organization.



Recommendations  
(on LinkedIn)

**Jamal Zayed**  
**General Manager, IT Infrastructure, Alhamrani Group Of Companies**

Dr. Husam is one of the most outstanding IT Managers I've ever met. I have known him for over 10 years. He's a strategist and a leader. Husam who is a talented team player, is a great asset to a team of executives at any high profile Group in the region. No doubt, he uses his rich technical skills coupled with business knowledge to make significant contributions which always distinguishes him.

**Mohammad Al-Kharashi**  
**Senior Advisor, Saudi Telecom**  
**Formerly, Director, Information Technology, Saudi Arabian National Guard**

I knew Dr. Husam Yaghi as a hardworking dedicated person. He is always sharp and does things in a timely manner, regardless of the time needed to finish the work. He is fun to be around, he will extend an arm and a leg to help his colleague and work even outside working hours. Dr. Husam is an asset for any one working with him.

**Khalid Mansour**  
**GM - Commercial Division at Basamh**  
**Formerly, VP Operations, EzAlSahra Holding Group**

Husam is a true professional with a larger-than-life aptitude for results. He is focused, self-driven and possesses many core competencies which the industry is hungry for indeed.

**Kokab Mirza**  
**Chief Operating Officer, Ez Alsahra Holding Company**

Husam was one of the pioneers in the start-up activities of the telecommunications line at Ez AlSahra Group. Any new venture is a painstaking task. Telecom sector being more so, because of rapidly changing and intensely competitive environment. This required highest level of technical competencies, knowledge of customers, service providers, suppliers and market at large. Above all, it required unwavering commitment, mental toughness, analytical skills and ability to work long and smart. These are the very

qualities that Husam brought to bear on this business venture.

**Feda Khallad**  
**Sales Director for Middle East – iDirect Technologies**  
**Formerly, Accounts Manager, Marconi Middle East**



Recommendations  
(on LinkedIn)

I have worked with Dr. Yaghi over a period of two years during which we had developed several new business opportunities. During the span of the two year period, Dr. Yaghi had displayed a world class level of professionalism and capability in managing new opportunities from their early delicate infancy stage to later stages that needed robustness and persistence materialized. His well-rounded technical knowledge coupled with good business acumen made a difference in our partnership. Though on a personal note, I always had enjoyed working with Husam and I would not hesitate to work with him again and again when opportunities arise. He is honest at work and honest with friends, a quality I admire.

**Chris Findlay**  
**CFO, Alhmrani Company for Investment in Trade**

Husam is a highly knowledgeable IT professional with a great ability to understand business requirements and to provide appropriate IT solutions. He is a measured and patient person who deals comfortably and capably with non-technical, operational and business issues. It is always a pleasure to work with him.



Social Media



hyaghi



@hyaghi



husam.yaghi