Waleid Al Mesmari

President, Space and Cyber Technologies, EDGE

Waleid Al Mesmari is President of the Space and Cyber Technologies (S&CT) cluster at EDGE. In his current role, he provides oversight and strategic direction on the development and business functions of the five entities within the cluster, KATIM, BEACON RED, ORYXLABS, FADA and HIGHLANDER. In this role, he is responsible for leading initiatives with internal teams in the S&CT cluster to plan, scope, and manage for highest quality client experience and results.

Prior to joining EDGE, he served as Manager of Business Analysis and Strategic Planning at UAE Government, where he specialised in the cybersecurity field. During his tenure, he was mandated to shape the strategic plans for the organisation in collaboration with its diverse stakeholders. He was required to ensure the effective governance frameworks were in place to enable successful implementation of the overall strategy, along with the ability to learn and keep pace with emerging trends to identify long-term opportunities and align organisational requirements with desired outcomes.

Al Mesmari worked for Etisalat as head of Ankabut Network setting up The UAE National Research & Educational Network (NREN) to provide effective communication and collaboration between students, researchers, and educational institutions as the first IPv6 Ready UAE telecommunication core network.

Waleid Al Mesmari holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from Abu Dhabi School of Management. He also has a Bachelor of Computer Engineering degree from the Etisalat University College in Sharjah. In addition, he successfully completed an Executive Development Program from Columbia Business School in New York, as well as the Future Foresight Program conducted by the UAE Prime Minister's Office in collaboration with the University of Oxford in the UK.