Agenda

- **Cloud Migration & Security**
  by Gareth Bowers, Silicon Overdrive

- **My AWS Cloud Journey**
  by Gareth Bowers, Silicon Overdrive

- **Cloud Journey, Lessons & Advice**
  by James Sindani and Gareth Bowers,
  Silicon Overdrive

- **Exam Tips**
  by James Sindani and Gareth Bowers,
  Silicon Overdrive

- **Q & A (Questions & Answers)**
  by Gareth Bowers and James Sindani,
  Silicon Overdrive

Cloud Migration & Security

Cloud Migration & Security

- **Understand what you are needing to build**: Define what you are wanting to build and what is important at what phase; consider things like number of users (scaling), reliability, performance and cost.

- **Consult an AWS Architect or use reference architectures and white papers**: These can be invaluable to provide a blueprint or ideas of how to securely implement your environment and application.

- **Allocate time for experimentation (R&D)**: A bit of time upfront can save lots of time later redoing components, especially with managed services and serverless (like Lambda) where the developers might not be familiar.

- **Always build securely**: Always consider security as it takes more time and cost to implement later.

Cloud Migration & Security

- **Avoid undifferentiated heavy lifting**: Build components that add value to your users.

- **Be frugal**: Use the smallest sizes you can whilst building.

- **Watch the metrics regularly**: Ideally view the metrics daily to understand the workload as it progresses.

- **Watch the bill regularly**: Ideally view the bill daily to understand the costs.

- **Automate and script as much as possible**: From the infrastructure to testing, automate where it will save on iterative tasks.

Cloud Migration & Security

- **Understand architecture or paradigms to handle sudden spikes in traffic**: Auto-scaling will not always protect the workload from sudden spikes in traffic.

- **Implement billing alerts and guardrails**: This simple thing is where everyone wishes they had spent a bit more time configuring when there is a problem.

- Understand the metrics and what they are telling you.

Cloud Migration & Security

Cloud Migration & Security
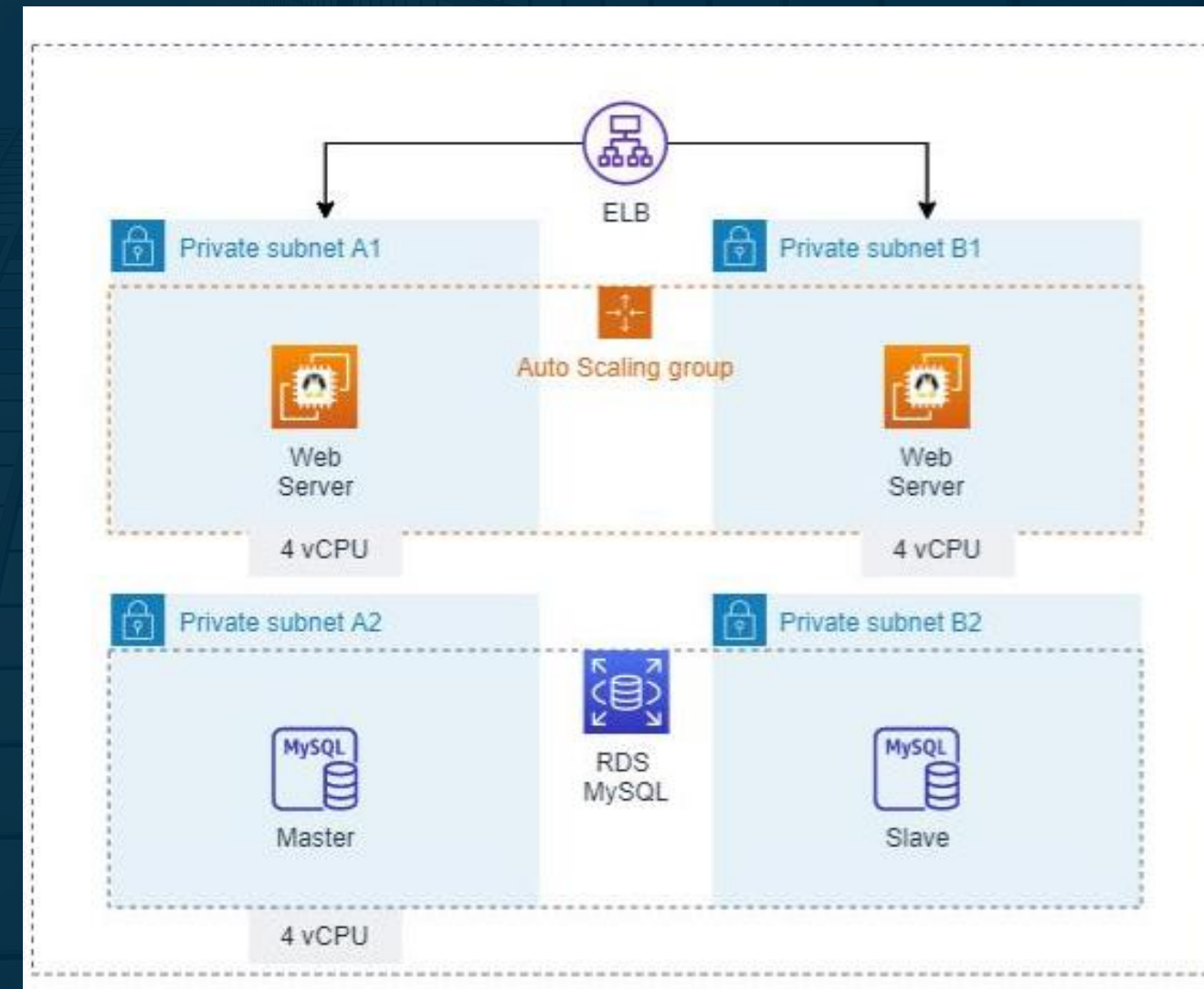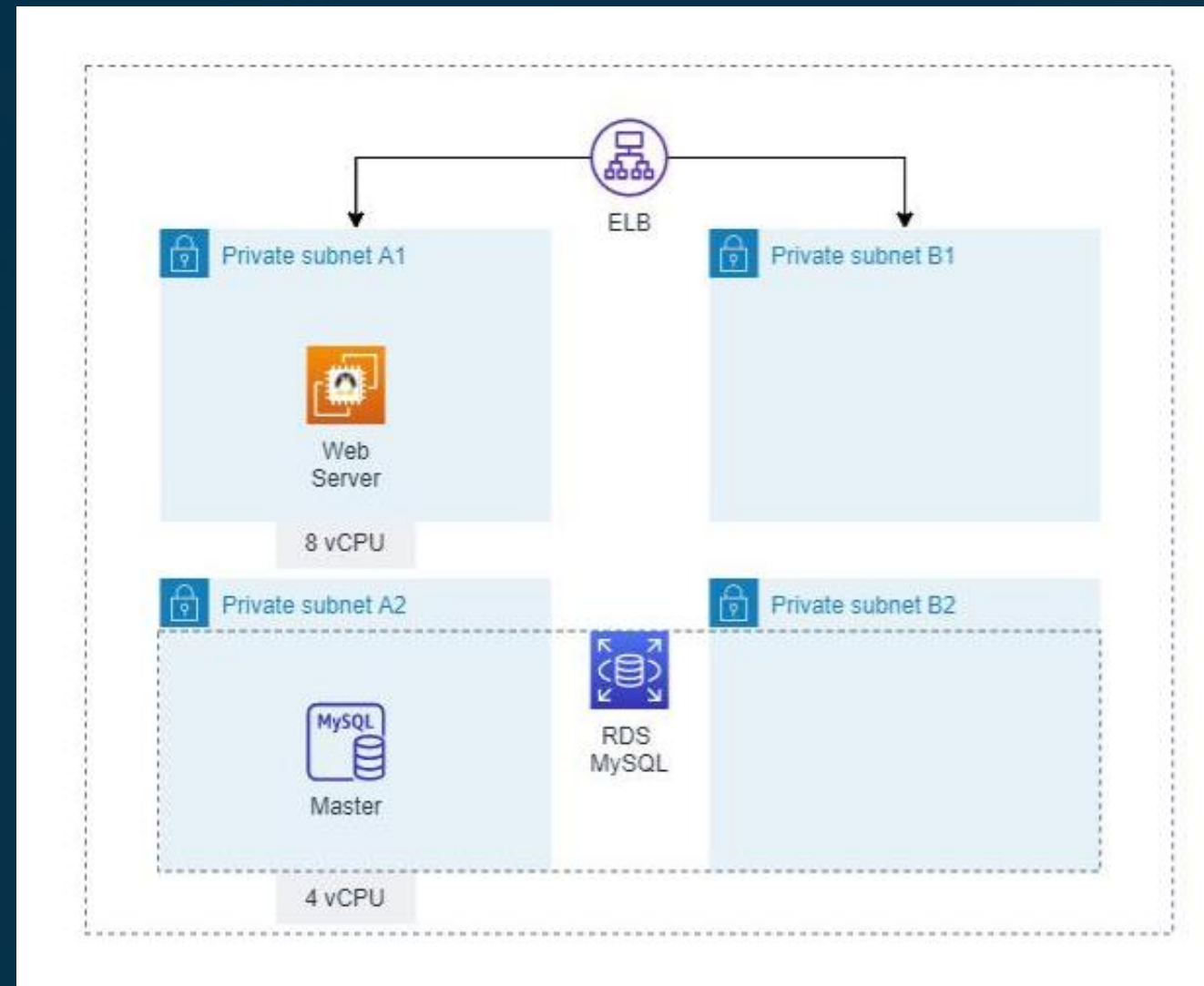
My AWS Cloud Journey

Cloud Journey, Lessons & Advice

Cloud Journey, Lessons and Advice

- **Your Purpose**: I started with Developer and Solutions Architect. I took years before I did additional exams but they do become easier.

- **Read more and wider, attend webinars and conferences**: This helps to keep you informed with new ways of doing things that you might not have thought possible.

- **Enjoy what you do**: Whether its architecting, developing or sysadmin or something in between, follow this because its your passion.

Exam Tips

Exam Tips

- **Use multiple learning sources**: Particularly if you are doing online training and practice exams, test yourself from multiple sources

- **Ensure you can explain why 3 of the options are wrong**: This helps you to gain expertise in the topic if you can articulate this to a colleague or friend.

- **Spend more time on your weak areas**: Do labs or chat to a friend to better understand the topics where you are struggling.

- **Be consistent with your studies**: Create and stick to a routine for your studies. Set yourself goals to achieve and by when.

Exam Tips

- **Do more practice exams than you think you need**: I often see scenario questions or references to a service which I want to read up and learn more about.

- **Your journey and exams are yours**: Whilst everyone wants to pass on their first attempt, don't worry about failing. You can rewrite a few weeks later and you now have more info on where you need to put more attention.

Q & A

About Silicon Overdrive

Founded in 1995, Silicon Overdrive has over 25 years of experience as a leading IT Managed Services business.

Silicon Overdrive has significant experience and expertise in helping customers migrate, secure, optimize, and manage their AWS infrastructure, as well as achieve and maintain security and compliance, including POPIA, GDPR, PCI DSS, ISO 27001, and HIPAA.

We have been awarded the AWS Public Sector Partner of the Year – Sub-Saharan Africa 2021 and AWS Consulting Partner of the Year – Sub-Saharan Africa 2020.

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