



CLS Controls v8 - IG3

Policies and Procedures



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Table of Contents

01	Purpose
02	Scope
03	Sanctions/Compliance
04	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 01 - Inventory and Control of Enterprise Assets
05	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 02 - Inventory and Control of Software Assets
06	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 03 - Data Protection
07	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 04 - Secure Configuration of Enterprise Assets and Software
08	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 05 - Account Management
09	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 06 - Access Control Management
10	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 07 - Continuous Vulnerability Management
11	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 08 - Audit Log Management
12	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 09 - Email and Web Browser Protections
13	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 10 - Malware Defenses
14	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 11 - Data Recovery
15	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 12 - Network Infrastructure Management
16	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 13 - Network Monitoring and Defense
17	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 14 - Security Awareness and Skills Training
18	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 15 - Service Provider Management
19	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 16 - Application Software Security
20	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 17 - Incident Response Management
21	CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 18 - Penetration Testing



Purpose

Implementation Groups (IGs) are the recommended guidance to prioritize implementation of the CIS Critical Security Controls (CIS Controls)



Scope

IG3 is comprised of an additional 23 Safeguards. It builds upon the Safeguards identified in IG1 (56) and IG2 (74) totaling the 153 Safeguards in CIS Controls v8.

An IG3 enterprise commonly employs security experts that specialize in the different facets of cybersecurity (e.g., risk management, penetration testing, application security). IG3 assets and data contain sensitive information or functions that are subject to regulatory and compliance oversight. An IG3 enterprise must address availability of services and the confidentiality and integrity of sensitive data. Successful attacks can cause significant harm to the public welfare.



Sanctions/Compliance

Failure to comply with this or any other security policy will result in disciplinary actions as per the Sanction Policy. Legal actions also may be taken for violations of applicable regulations and laws.

CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 01 - Inventory and Control of Enterprise Assets

CIS Controls v8 - IG3	Other Requirements
CIS Control 01	N/A
Inventory and Control of Enterprise Assets	

Policy

The organization will implement internal controls to satisfy the following requirement:

Actively manage (inventory, track, and correct) all enterprise assets (end-user devices, including portable and mobile; network devices; non-computing/Internet of Things (IoT) devices; and servers) connected to the infrastructure physically, virtually, remotely, and those within cloud environments, to accurately know the totality of assets that need to be monitored and protected within the enterprise. This will also support identifying unauthorized and unmanaged assets to remove or remediate.

Guidance

Enterprises cannot defend what they do not know they have. Managed control of all enterprise assets also plays a critical role in security monitoring, incident response, system backup, and recovery. Enterprises should know what data is critical to them (CIS Control 3), and proper asset management will help identify those enterprise assets that hold or manage this critical data, so that appropriate security controls can be applied.

Responsibilities

The Security Officer is responsible for ensuring the implementation of this policy.

Related Internal Controls

- CIS1.1 - Establish and Maintain Detailed Enterprise Asset Inventory: Establish and maintain an accurate, detailed, and up-to-date inventory of all enterprise assets with the potential to store or process data, to include: end-user devices (including portable and mobile), network devices, non-computing/IoT devices, and servers. Ensure the inventory records the network address (if static), hardware address, machine name, enterprise asset owner, department for each asset, and whether the asset has been approved to connect to the network. For mobile end-user devices, MDM type tools can support this process, where appropriate. This inventory includes assets connected to the infrastructure physically, virtually, remotely, and those within cloud environments. Additionally, it includes assets that are regularly connected to the enterprise's network infrastructure, even if they are not under control of the enterprise. Review and update the inventory of all enterprise assets bi-annually, or more frequently.
- CIS1.2 - Address Unauthorized Assets: Ensure that a process exists to address unauthorized assets on a weekly basis. The enterprise may choose to remove the asset from the network, deny the asset from connecting remotely to the network, or quarantine the asset.



- CIS1.3 - Utilize an Active Discovery Tool: Utilize an active discovery tool to identify assets connected to the enterprise's network. Configure the active discovery tool to execute daily, or more frequently.
- CIS1.4 - Use Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) Logging to Update Enterprise Asset Inventory: Use DHCP logging on all DHCP servers or Internet Protocol (IP) address management tools to update the enterprise's asset inventory. Review and use logs to update the enterprise's asset inventory weekly, or more frequently.
- CIS1.5 - Use a Passive Asset Discovery Tool: Use a passive discovery tool to identify assets connected to the enterprise's network. Review and use scans to update the enterprise's asset inventory at least weekly, or more frequently.

References

- CIS Controls Cloud Companion Guide - - <https://www.cisecurity.org/insights/white-papers/cis-controls-v8-cloud-companion-guide>
- CIS Critical Security Controls v8 Mobile Companion Guide - - <https://www.cisecurity.org/insights/white-papers/cis-controls-v8-mobile-companion-guide>
- CIS Controls v8 Internet of Things Companion Guide - - <https://www.cisecurity.org/insights/white-papers/cis-controls-v8-internet-of-things-companion-guide>

CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 02 - Inventory and Control of Software Assets

CIS Controls v8 - IG3	Other Requirements
CIS Control 02	N/A
Inventory and Control of Software Assets	

Policy

The organization will implement internal controls to satisfy the following requirement:

Actively manage (inventory, track, and correct) all software (operating systems and applications) on the network so that only authorized software is installed and can execute, and that unauthorized and unmanaged software is found and prevented from installation or execution.

Guidance

A complete software inventory is a critical foundation for preventing attacks. Attackers continuously scan target enterprises looking for vulnerable versions of software that can be remotely exploited. For example, if a user opens a malicious website or attachment with a vulnerable browser, an attacker can often install backdoor programs and bots that give the attacker long-term control of the system. Attackers can also use this access to move laterally through the network. One of the key defenses against these attacks is updating and patching software (CIS Control 7). However, without a complete inventory of software assets, an enterprise cannot determine if they have vulnerable software, or if there are potential licensing violations.

Responsibilities

The Security Officer is responsible for ensuring the implementation of this policy.

Related Internal Controls

- CIS2.1 - Establish and Maintain a Software Inventory: Establish and maintain a detailed inventory of all licensed software installed on enterprise assets. The software inventory must document the title, publisher, initial install/use date, and business purpose for each entry; where appropriate, include the Uniform Resource Locator (URL), app store(s), version(s), deployment mechanism, and decommission date. Review and update the software inventory bi-annually, or more frequently.
- CIS2.2 - Ensure Authorized Software is Currently Supported : Ensure that only currently supported software is designated as authorized in the software inventory for enterprise assets. If software is unsupported, yet necessary for the fulfillment of the enterprise's mission, document an exception detailing mitigating controls and residual risk acceptance. For any unsupported software without an exception documentation, designate as unauthorized. Review the software list to verify software support at least monthly, or more frequently.



- CIS2.3 - Address Unauthorized Software: Ensure that unauthorized software is either removed from use on enterprise assets or receives a documented exception. Review monthly, or more frequently.
- CIS2.4 - Utilize Automated Software Inventory Tools: Utilize software inventory tools, when possible, throughout the enterprise to automate the discovery and documentation of installed software.
- CIS2.5 - Allowlist Authorized Software: Use technical controls, such as application allowlisting, to ensure that only authorized software can execute or be accessed. Reassess bi-annually, or more frequently.
- CIS2.6 - Allowlist Authorized Libraries: Use technical controls to ensure that only authorized software libraries, such as specific .dll, .ocx, .so, etc., files, are allowed to load into a system process. Block unauthorized libraries from loading into a system process. Reassess bi-annually, or more frequently.
- CIS2.7 - Allowlist Authorized Scripts: Use technical controls, such as digital signatures and version control, to ensure that only authorized scripts, such as specific .ps1, .py, etc., files, are allowed to execute. Block unauthorized scripts from executing. Reassess bi-annually, or more frequently.

References

- CIS Controls Cloud Companion Guide - - <https://www.cisecurity.org/insights/white-papers/cis-controls-v8-cloud-companion-guide>
- CIS Critical Security Controls v8 Mobile Companion Guide - - <https://www.cisecurity.org/insights/white-papers/cis-controls-v8-mobile-companion-guide>
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CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 03 - Data Protection

CIS Controls v8 - IG3	Other Requirements
CIS Control 03	N/A
Data Protection	

Policy

The organization will implement internal controls to satisfy the following requirement:

Develop processes and technical controls to identify, classify, securely handle, retain, and dispose of data.

Guidance

Data is no longer only contained within an enterprise's border; it is in the cloud, on portable end-user devices where users work from home, and is often shared with partners or online services that might have it anywhere in the world. In addition to sensitive data an enterprise holds related to finances, intellectual property, and customer data, there also might be numerous international regulations for protection of personal data. Data privacy has become increasingly important, and enterprises are learning that privacy is about the appropriate use and management of data, not just encryption. Data must be appropriately managed through its entire life cycle. These privacy rules can be complicated for multi-national enterprises of any size; however, there are fundamentals that can apply to all.

Responsibilities

The Security Officer is responsible for ensuring the implementation of this policy.

Related Internal Controls

- CIS3.1 - Establish and Maintain a Data Management Process: Establish and maintain a data management process. In the process, address data sensitivity, data owner, handling of data, data retention limits, and disposal requirements, based on sensitivity and retention standards for the enterprise. Review and update documentation annually, or when significant enterprise changes occur that could impact this Safeguard.
- CIS3.2 - Establish and Maintain a Data Inventory: Establish and maintain a data inventory, based on the enterprise's data management process. Inventory sensitive data, at a minimum. Review and update inventory annually, at a minimum, with a priority on sensitive data.
- CIS3.3 - Configure Data Access Control Lists: Configure data access control lists based on a user's need to know. Apply data access control lists, also known as access permissions, to local and remote file systems, databases, and applications.
- CIS3.4 - Enforce Data Retention: Retain data according to the enterprise's data management process. Data retention must include both minimum and maximum timelines.



- CIS3.5 - Securely Dispose of Data: Securely dispose of data as outlined in the enterprise's data management process. Ensure the disposal process and method are commensurate with the data sensitivity.
- CIS3.6 - Encrypt Data on End-User Devices: Encrypt data on end-user devices containing sensitive data. Example implementations can include: Windows BitLocker®, Apple FileVault®, Linux® dm-crypt.
- CIS3.7 - Establish and Maintain a Data Classification Scheme: Establish and maintain an overall data classification scheme for the enterprise. Enterprises may use labels, such as "Sensitive," "Confidential," and "Public," and classify their data according to those labels. Review and update the classification scheme annually, or when significant enterprise changes occur that could impact this Safeguard.
- CIS3.8 - Document Data Flows: Document data flows. Data flow documentation includes service provider data flows and should be based on the enterprise's data management process. Review and update documentation annually, or when significant enterprise changes occur that could impact this Safeguard.
- CIS3.9 - Encrypt Data on Removable Media: Encrypt data on removable media.
- CIS3.10 - Encrypt Sensitive Data in Transit: Encrypt sensitive data in transit. Example implementations can include: Transport Layer Security (TLS) and Open Secure Shell (OpenSSH).
- CIS3.11 - Encrypt Sensitive Data at Rest: Encrypt sensitive data at rest on servers, applications, and databases containing sensitive data. Storage-layer encryption, also known as server-side encryption, meets the minimum requirement of this Safeguard. Additional encryption methods may include application-layer encryption, also known as client-side encryption, where access to the data storage device(s) does not permit access to the plain-text data.
- CIS3.12 - Segment Data Processing and Storage Based on Sensitivity: Segment data processing and storage based on the sensitivity of the data. Do not process sensitive data on enterprise assets intended for lower sensitivity data.
- CIS3.13 - Deploy a Data Loss Prevention Solution: Implement an automated tool, such as a host-based Data Loss Prevention (DLP) tool to identify all sensitive data stored, processed, or transmitted through enterprise assets, including those located onsite or at a remote service provider, and update the enterprise's sensitive data inventory.
- CIS3.14 - Log Sensitive Data Access: Log sensitive data access, including modification and disposal.

References

- CIS Controls Cloud Companion Guide - - <https://www.cisecurity.org/insights/white-papers/cis-controls-v8-cloud-companion-guide>
- CIS Critical Security Controls v8 Mobile Companion Guide - - <https://www.cisecurity.org/insights/white-papers/cis-controls-v8-mobile-companion-guide>
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CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 04 - Secure Configuration of Enterprise Assets and Software

CIS Controls v8 - IG3	Other Requirements
CIS Control 04	N/A
Secure Configuration of Enterprise Assets and Software	

Policy

The organization will implement internal controls to satisfy the following requirement:

Establish and maintain the secure configuration of enterprise assets (end-user devices, including portable and mobile; network devices; non-computing/IoT devices; and servers) and software (operating systems and applications).

Guidance

As delivered from manufacturers and resellers, the default configurations for enterprise assets and software are normally geared towards ease-of-deployment and ease-of-use, rather than security. Basic controls, open services and ports, default accounts or passwords, pre-configured Domain Name System (DNS) settings, older (vulnerable) protocols, and pre installation of unnecessary software can all be exploitable if left in their default state. Further, these security configuration updates need to be managed and maintained over the life cycle of enterprise assets and software. Configuration updates need to be tracked and approved through configuration management workflow process to maintain a record that can be reviewed for compliance, leveraged for incident response, and to support audits. This CIS Control is important to on-premises devices, as well as remote devices, network devices, and cloud environments.

Responsibilities

The Security Officer is responsible for ensuring the implementation of this policy.

Related Internal Controls

- CIS4.1 - Establish and Maintain a Secure Configuration Process: Establish and maintain a secure configuration process for enterprise assets (end-user devices, including portable and mobile, non-computing/IoT devices, and servers) and software (operating systems and applications). Review and update documentation annually, or when significant enterprise changes occur that could impact this Safeguard.
- CIS4.2 - Establish and Maintain a Secure Configuration Process for Network Infrastructure: Establish and maintain a secure configuration process for network devices. Review and update documentation annually, or when significant enterprise changes occur that could impact this Safeguard.
- CIS4.3 - Configure Automatic Session Locking on Enterprise Assets: Configure automatic session locking on enterprise assets after a defined period of inactivity. For general purpose



operating systems, the period must not exceed 15 minutes. For mobile end-user devices, the period must not exceed 2 minutes.

- CIS4.4 - Implement and Manage a Firewall on Servers: Implement and manage a firewall on servers, where supported. Example implementations include a virtual firewall, operating system firewall, or a third-party firewall agent.
- CIS4.5 - Implement and Manage a Firewall on End-User Devices: Implement and manage a host-based firewall or port-filtering tool on end-user devices, with a default-deny rule that drops all traffic except those services and ports that are explicitly allowed.
- CIS4.6 - Securely Manage Enterprise Assets and Software: Securely manage enterprise assets and software. Example implementations include managing configuration through version-controlled-infrastructure-as-code and accessing administrative interfaces over secure network protocols, such as Secure Shell (SSH) and Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS). Do not use insecure management protocols, such as Telnet (Teletype Network) and HTTP, unless operationally essential.
- CIS4.7 - Manage Default Accounts on Enterprise Assets and Software: Manage default accounts on enterprise assets and software, such as root, administrator, and other pre-configured vendor accounts. Example implementations can include: disabling default accounts or making them unusable.
- CIS4.8 - Uninstall or Disable Unnecessary Services on Enterprise Assets and Software: Uninstall or disable unnecessary services on enterprise assets and software, such as an unused file sharing service, web application module, or service function.
- CIS4.9 - Configure Trusted DNS Servers on Enterprise Assets: Configure trusted DNS servers on enterprise assets. Example implementations include: configuring assets to use enterprise-controlled DNS servers and/or reputable externally accessible DNS servers.
- CIS4.10 - Enforce Automatic Device Lockout on Portable End-User Devices: Enforce automatic device lockout following a predetermined threshold of local failed authentication attempts on portable end-user devices, where supported. For laptops, do not allow more than 20 failed authentication attempts; for tablets and smartphones, no more than 10 failed authentication attempts. Example implementations include Microsoft® InTune Device Lock and Apple® Configuration Profile maxFailedAttempts.
- CIS4.11 - Enforce Remote Wipe Capability on Portable End-User Devices: Remotely wipe enterprise data from enterprise-owned portable end-user devices when deemed appropriate such as lost or stolen devices, or when an individual no longer supports the enterprise.
- CIS4.12 - Separate Enterprise Workspaces on Mobile End-User Devices: Ensure separate enterprise workspaces are used on mobile end-user devices, where supported. Example implementations include using an Apple® Configuration Profile or Android™ Work Profile to separate enterprise applications and data from personal applications and data.

References

- CIS Controls Cloud Companion Guide - - <https://www.cisecurity.org/insights/white-papers/cis-controls-v8-cloud-companion-guide>
- CIS Critical Security Controls v8 Mobile Companion Guide - - <https://www.cisecurity.org/insights/white-papers/cis-controls-v8-mobile-companion-guide>
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CIS Controls v8 CIS Control 05 - Account Management

CIS Controls v8 - IG3	Other Requirements
CIS Control 05	N/A
Account Management	

Policy

The organization will implement internal controls to satisfy the following requirement:

Use processes and tools to assign and manage authorization to credentials for user accounts, including administrator accounts, as well as service accounts, to enterprise assets and software.

Guidance

It is easier for an external or internal threat actor to gain unauthorized access to enterprise assets or data through using valid user credentials than through hacking the environment. There are many ways to covertly obtain access to user accounts, including: weak passwords, accounts still valid after a user leaves the enterprise, dormant or lingering test accounts, shared accounts that have not been changed in months or years, service accounts embedded in applications for scripts, a user having the same password as one they use for an online account that has been compromised (in a public password dump), using social engineering techniques to obtain a password, or using malware to capture passwords or tokens in memory or over the network. Defenders need to ensure that controls are in place to protect enterprise accounts, especially those with higher privileges.

Responsibilities

The Security Officer is responsible for ensuring the implementation of this policy.

Related Internal Controls

- CIS5.1 - Establish and Maintain an Inventory of Accounts: Establish and maintain an inventory of all accounts managed in the enterprise. The inventory must include both user and administrator accounts. The inventory, at a minimum, should contain the person's name, username, start/stop dates, and department. Validate that all active accounts are authorized, on a recurring schedule at a minimum quarterly, or more frequently.
- CIS5.2 - Use Unique Passwords: Use unique passwords for all enterprise assets. Best practice implementation includes, at a minimum, an 8-character password for accounts using MFA and a 14-character password for accounts not using MFA.
- CIS5.3 - Disable Dormant Accounts: Delete or disable any dormant accounts after a period of 45 days of inactivity, where supported.
- CIS5.4 - Restrict Administrator Privileges to Dedicated Administrator Accounts: Restrict administrator privileges to dedicated administrator accounts on enterprise assets. Conduct general computing activities, such as internet browsing, email, and productivity suite use, from the user's primary, non-privileged account.



- CIS5.5 - Establish and Maintain an Inventory of Service Accounts: Establish and maintain an inventory of service accounts. The inventory, at a minimum, must contain department owner, review date, and purpose. Perform service account reviews to validate that all active accounts are authorized, on a recurring schedule at a minimum quarterly, or more frequently.
- CIS5.6 - Centralize Account Management: Centralize account management through a directory or identity service.

References

- CIS Controls Cloud Companion Guide - - <https://www.cisecurity.org/insights/white-papers/cis-controls-v8-cloud-companion-guide>
- CIS Critical Security Controls v8 Mobile Companion Guide - - <https://www.cisecurity.org/insights/white-papers/cis-controls-v8-mobile-companion-guide>
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Truncated Sample Report