| **assessment case** | | |
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| ASSESSMENT – Base Control, Part 1 of 1 | | |
| Assessment Information from Special Publication 800-53A Rev. 1 (June 2010) | | |
| **AU-8** | TIME STAMPS | |
| **AU-8.1**  **AU-8.1.1** | **ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE:**  *Determine if the information system uses internal system clocks to generate time stamps for audit records.*  **POTENTIAL ASSESSMENT METHODS AND OBJECTS:**  **Examine**: [*select from:* Audit and accountability policy; procedures addressing time stamp generation; information system design documentation; information system configuration settings and associated documentation; information system audit records; other relevant documents or records].  **Test**: [*select from:* Automated mechanisms implementing time stamp generation]. | |
| **Additional Assessment Case Information** | | |
|  | | **POTENTIAL ASSESSMENT SEQUENCING:**  precursor controls: AU-2  concurrent controls: AU-3, AU-14, CM-6, SI-4  successor controls: AU-4, AU-5, AU-6, AU-7, AU-10, AU-11, AU-12 |
| **Action Step** | | **Potential Assessor Evidence Gathering Actions**  **\*\*See “**[**Assessment Case Overview**](http://csrc.nist.gov/groups/SMA/fisma/assessment-cases-overview.html)**” for selecting, tailoring and executing action steps\*\*** |
|  | | *\*\*Assessment Case Assessor Note:* More convincing evidence (i.e., greater assurance) of correct implementation and operating as intended can be obtained through the assessment case actions by:   1. **Replacing bracketed values in action gathering statements to apply greater rigor in the assessment** (e.g, . replacing [“*reviewing*”] with “*studying*” or “*analyzing*”; replacing [“*observing*”] with “*inspecting*” or “*analyzing*”; replacing [“*basic*”] with “*focused*” or “*comprehensive*”); 2. **Replacing bracketed values in action gathering statements to apply greater sample coverage in the assessment** (e.g, . replacing [“*basic”*] sample with “*focused*” or “*sufficiently large”* sample); 3. **Defining additional action steps to the list of action steps suggested herein that exercise additional test methods** (i.e., Examine, Interview or Test) on additional assessment objects. |
| **AU-8.1.1.1** | | **Examine** security plan, information system design documentation, or other relevant documents; reviewing for the automated mechanisms and their configuration settings identified in AU-3.1.1.1 to be employed by using internal system clocks to generate time stamps in audit records as identified in AU-3.1.1.1.b. |
| **AU-8.1.1.2** | | **Examine** documentation describing the current configuration settings for an agreed-upon [*basic*] sample of the automated mechanisms identified in AU-8.1.1.1; [*reviewing*] for evidence that these mechanisms use internal system clocks as identified in AU-8.1.1 to generate time stamps as the date and time information in audit records. |
| **AU-8.1.1.3** | | **Test** an agreed-upon [*basic*] sample of the automated mechanisms and their configuration settings identified in AU-8.1.1.1; conducting [*basic*] testing for evidence that these mechanisms are using internal system clocks as identified in AU-8.1.1.1 to generate time stamps as the date and time information in audit records.  Note to assessor: This test must be coordinated with all responsible personnel associated with the information system. Testing of this nature may impose risk to the information system and, as such, the testing of any specific auditing mechanism should be carefully planned and executed. |
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| **ASSESSMENT – Control Enhancement 1** | | |
| **Assessment Information from Special Publication 800-53A Rev. 1 (June 2010)** | | |
| **AU-8(1)** | | TIME STAMPS |
| **AU-8(1).1**  **AU-8(1).1.1**  **AU-8(1).1.2**  **AU-8(1).1.3** | | **ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE:**  *Determine if:*   1. *the organization defines the frequency of internal clock synchronization for the information system;* 2. *the organization defines the authoritative time source for internal clock synchronization; and* 3. *the organization synchronizes internal information system clocks with the organization-defined authoritative time source in accordance with the organization-defined frequency.*   **POTENTIAL ASSESSMENT METHODS AND OBJECTS:**  **Examine**: [*select from:* Audit and accountability policy; procedures addressing time stamp generation; security plan; information system design documentation; information system configuration settings and associated documentation; other relevant documents or records].  **Test**: [*select from:* Automated mechanisms implementing internal information system clock synchronization]. |
| **Additional Assessment Case Information** | | |
|  | | **POTENTIAL ASSESSMENT SEQUENCING:**  precursor controls: AU-2  concurrent controls: AU-3, AU-14, CM-6, SI-4  successor controls: AU-4, AU-5, AU-6, AU-7, AU-10, AU-11, AU-12 |
| **Action Step** | | **Potential Assessor Evidence Gathering Actions** |
| **AU-8(1).1.1.1** | | **Examine** audit and accountability policy, procedures addressing time stamp generation, security plan, or other relevant documents; [*reviewing*] for the frequency of internal clock synchronization for the information system. |
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| **AU-8(1).1.2.1** | | **Examine** audit and accountability policy, procedures addressing time stamp generation, security plan, or other relevant documents; [*reviewing*] for the authoritative time source for internal clock synchronization. |
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| **AU-8(1).1.3.1** | | **Examine** security plan, information system design documentation, or other relevant documents; [*reviewing*] for the automated mechanisms and their configuration settings to be employed to synchronize internal information system clocks with the authoritative time source identified in AU-8(1).1.2.1 and in accordance with the frequency identified in AU-8(1).1.1.1. |
| **AU-8(1).1.3.2** | | **Examine** documentation describing the current configuration settings for an agreed-upon [*basic*] sample of the automated mechanisms identified in AU-8(1).1.3.1; [*reviewing*] for evidence that these mechanisms are configured as identified in AU-8(1).1.3.1. |
| **AU-8(1).1.3.3** | | **Test** an agreed-upon [*basic*] sample of the automated mechanisms and their configuration settings identified in AU-8(1).1.3.1; conducting [*basic*] testing for evidence that these mechanisms are operating as intended.  Note to assessor: This test must be coordinated with all responsible personnel associated with the information system. Testing of this nature may impose risk to the information system and, as such, the testing of any specific auditing mechanism should be carefully planned and executed. |