

1. Was there a difference in the results between the unauthenticated and authenticated scan on your Windows 10 VM?

Yes, there were differences between the Windows 10 vm authenticated and unauthenticated scans. To start the way the scans were both run were different. One of them used admin permissions and one of them didn't. When scanning with admin permissions more permission is granted to that account therefore a more in-depth and granular scan can be used. In particular, there were more info notes created on with the authenticated scan on the Windows 10 vm than the unauthenticated scan.

2. Why might there be a difference between the two scans?

The scans are different because one of the scans used admin permissions and one of them didn't. By using admin permissions more access is granted to the system and a deeper scan can be performed. In many situations adversaries will not have admin permission so using an unauthorized scan is very useful. In other situations, adversaries may be able to gain admin permission by being an insider threat, obtaining credentials through social engineering, or using other vulnerabilities to gain admin permission. Overall, both scans are very useful although, everything in the unauthenticated scan will also be in the authenticated scan. As the authenticated scan is just a deeper more in-depth scan essentially.