

Scenario

Your organization has recently had an external Penetration Test and Vulnerability Assessment on your entire organization. This assessment found a number of critical issues, many of them have already been addressed by various groups within the organization. However, one specific vulnerability was found prolifically across one of the organization's most critical systems, and the team responsible for that environment is stating it is fragile and can't be touched without disrupting that specific critical service. That team has also indicated that due to a major restructuring they are stretched thin adapting IT systems to support the new organizational needs. Any efforts that were spent on remediation would detract from these mission goals.

Your team believes this specific vulnerability is critical and represents a large risk to the overall organization. You have been given a 20-minute slot to present to the CEO, CIO, CISO to help them understand the risk that this vulnerability represents to the organization and how you recommend they address the risk. A representative from the team that is resistant to fixing this vulnerability is expected to also be present.

Additional Details

You will be assigned a company that you're supposed to imagine that this situation occurred within, as well as a CVE from an exploitable vulnerability that is found within the CISA's Known Vulnerability Catalog of actively exploited vulnerabilities:

<https://www.cisa.gov/known-exploited-vulnerabilities-catalog>

Scoring Process

Your team's rank for the presentation will be determined by your performance in the following three categories, Presentation, Technical, and Overall Solutions; as is further outlined under "Grading Criteria". This rank will be determined by an independent board of judges made up of industry experts. At least one of those experts will represent the company you've been assigned and will have insight on the threat actors unique to that organization.

Once a rank is determined, each team will be given a fixed amount of points based on their rank. In the event of a tie at a given level, the team after the tie will be given the points based on the appropriate rank based on the count of teams above them. For example, if one team receives 1st place, and 2 teams tie for 2nd place; the next team will receive the points for 4th place while both the teams in 2nd place will receive the points for 2nd place. No one will receive the points allocated for 3rd place.

Grading Criteria

The following section outlines the criteria that will be used for grading. Numerical values will be assigned by each judge for each statement under a section, utilizing the questions below that section to guide the thoughts about the statement. The numerical value will be assigned as is covered in the section about "Statement Rating". Each section's score will be tallied and averaged among the judges to determine the final score for a team; and therefore, the overall rank.

Presentation Skills – 30%

- Presentation Delivery
 - Was the tone / pace of the presentation appropriate?
 - Was there regular eye-contact and engagement of the audience?

- Was body language appropriate for the content?
- Did the presenter(s) seem properly prepared?
- Did the presenter avoid repetitive filler words such as “umm”.
- Presentation Organization & Adherence to Time Limits
 - Did the presentation appear to be in a logical / cohesive order?
 - Were there gaps in the assumptions, or was it a good flow?
 - Were there the proper introduction / conclusion / recommendations?
 - Did the presentation properly fill the allocated time, allowing for a question or two or did it finish early, run over, or otherwise have to be cut off?
- Presentation Composition
 - Were the appropriate graphics or other illustrations used to communicate the message?
 - Were slides or other materials visually appealing?
 - Were the slides missing grammatical, spelling, or other common typographical errors.

Technical – 30%

- Presenters Technical Knowledge
 - How confident did you feel of the presenter’s knowledge in the topic that was presented?
 - Is this something where you’d trust the technical recommendations of this team in the future?
- Appropriate Level of Detail
 - Was the material presented at the appropriate level of detail for the intended audience?
 - Was it too technical or too simplified?
- Technically Sound
 - Were the descriptions of the vulnerabilities technically sound?
 - Were the solutions technically sound?

Overall Viability – 40%

- Viability of the Solution
 - Based only on the presentation how likely would this be to be successful in the organization?
- Capturing of the Risks
 - Did the presentation accurately capture the risks of this vulnerability to the organization?
 - Did they understand the likelihood of this vulnerability being exploited by the organization, by whom, and what would be done with it?
 - Did they recognize and accurately capture the business risk of this issue?
- Political Acceptance
 - Was the presentation presented in a way where it is more likely to avoid internal political issues?
- Trust of the Team
 - After this presentation are you likely to trust the recommendations of this team with less review in the future, or more likely to desire additional details to make a decision?

Statement Rating

The numerical values will have the following approximate interpretation:

- 1 – There were significant problems in this area that significantly detracted from the presentation. 2 – There were problems in this area that detracted from the presentation. 3 – This area was adequately addressed but may have missed some minor details. 4 – This area was adequately addressed, with some small areas that were above adequate. 5 – This area of the presentation was exceptional and very well done. 6 – I could not imagine this area being addressed better than it was done in this presentation.

Scoring

- 1st Place – 15% of the final score of the top scoring team in the CTF.
2nd Place – 13% of the final score of the top scoring team in the CTF.
3rd Place – 10% of the final score of the top scoring team in the CTF.
4th Place – 7% of the final score of the top scoring team in the CTF.
5th Place – 3% of the final score of the top scoring team in the CTF.
6th Place – 1% of the final score of the top scoring team in the CTF.