



THE BEST RUN **SAP**

SAP CYBERSECURITY VIRTUAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Task 1 - Protect the keys to the kingdom!

Identify password flaws for your client's most sensitive accounts.

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NIST Special Publication 800-53B

Appendix A review.

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Digital Identity Guidelines

Authentication and Lifecycle Management

Appendix A—Strength of Memorized Secrets

The text provides informative details about the strength of passwords and how they can be improved to enhance security. The author starts by discussing the limitations of humans in memorizing complex and arbitrary passwords, and how online services have introduced rules to increase the complexity of passwords. However, the author notes that composition rules such as requiring a mix of character types may not be effective as users tend to choose predictable passwords.

The author then discusses the importance of password length in determining password strength. Passwords that are too short are vulnerable to brute force and dictionary attacks, and a minimum password length should be required depending on the threat model being addressed. The author also notes that offline attacks are sometimes possible when hashed passwords are obtained by attackers through a database breach.

The author recommends that users should be encouraged to make their passwords as lengthy as they want, within reason. However, extremely long passwords may require excessive processing time to hash. The author also suggests that passwords chosen by users should be compared against a "blacklist" of unacceptable passwords, including those from previous breaches and dictionary words.

The author concludes by noting that highly complex passwords may be less memorable and more likely to be written down or stored electronically in an unsafe manner. Overall, the text provides valuable information and recommendations to improve password strength and enhance security.

Organization Password Policy review.

Organization Password Policy

Overview

Passwords are an important aspect of computer security. They are the front line of protection for user accounts. A poorly chosen password may result in a compromise of [agency name]'s entire network. As such, all employees (including contractors and vendors with access to our systems) are responsible for taking the appropriate steps, as outlined below, to select and secure their password.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish a standard for the creation of strong passwords, the protection of those passwords, and the frequency of change.

Scope

The scope of this policy includes all personnel who have or are responsible for an account (or any form of access that supports or requires a password) on any system that resides at any facility, has access to the network.

The policy document outlines the requirements for creating and protecting passwords for all personnel who have or are responsible for an account (or any form of access that supports or requires a password) on any system that resides at any facility, has access to the network.

The policy covers guidelines for password construction, password protection standards, password deletion, and penalties for policy violations. It emphasizes the importance of strong passwords and provides specific requirements for password creation, including the use of minimum length and the prohibition of dictionary words or proper names.

The policy also stresses the need for regular password changes and prohibits the sharing of passwords or the insertion of passwords into electronic communication. The text also provides specific procedures for deleting passwords when they are no longer needed and the need for using secure methods for password storage.

Overall, the text appears to be well-organized, clear, and concise, and it effectively communicates the importance of password security and the procedures necessary to maintain it.

compliant and non-compliant users

Something extra:

We can check if the passwords match the criteria using a bash script:

```
#!/bin/bash

# Define the regular expressions for password validation
regex_length=".{12,}"
regex_username="^(?i)(.*))\$"
regex_dict="^((?i)admin|password|123456|qwerty|letmein)\$"
regex_name="^((?i)james|john|robert|michael|william)\$"

# Read the input file and process each line
while read line; do
    # Split the line into fields using commas as the delimiter
    IFS=',' read -ra fields <<< "$line"

    # Get the username and password fields
    username="\${fields[9]}"
    password="\${fields[10]}"

    # Check the length of the password
    if [[ ! $password =~ $regex_length ]]; then
        echo "Password for user \${fields[8]} is too short"
        fields+=("too short") # Add "too short" to the end of the array
    # Check if the password is the same as the username
    elif [[ $password =~ $regex_username ]]; then
        echo "Password for user \${fields[8]} cannot be the same as username"
        fields+=("same as username") # Add "same as username" to the end of the array
    # Check if the password is a dictionary word or proper name
    elif [[ $password =~ $regex_dict || $password =~ $regex_name ]]; then
        echo "Password for user \${fields[8]} is not secure"
        fields+=("not secure") # Add "not secure" to the end of the array
    else
        echo "Password for user \${fields[8]} is valid"
        fields+=("valid") # Add "valid" to the end of the array
    fi

    # Join the fields back into a comma-separated string
    new_line=\${IFS=','; echo "\${fields[*]}"}
    
    # Append the new line to the output file
    echo "\$new_line" >> output.csv

done < ClientADIdentities.csv
```

Compliant and non-compliant users

Something extra:

Explanation of the script:

- Three regular expressions are defined to check the length of the password, whether the password is the same as the username, and whether the password is a dictionary word or proper name.
- The while loop reads each line from the input file (ClientADIdentities.csv) and processes it.
- The read command splits each line into fields using commas as the delimiter and stores them in an array (fields).
- The username and password fields are extracted from the array (username="\${fields[9]}" and password="\${fields[10]}"), assuming that the username and password fields are the 10th and 11th fields in the input file.
- The length of the password is checked against the regular expression for password length (regex_length) using the !~ operator. If it does not match, a message is printed indicating that the password is too short, and the string "too short" is added to the end of the array (fields+=("too short")).
- The password is checked against the regular expression for username (regex_username) using the =~ operator. If it matches, a message is printed indicating that the password cannot be the same as the username, and the string "same as username" is added to the end of the array (fields+=("same as username")).
- The password is checked against the regular expressions for dictionary words and proper names (regex_dict and `regex`)