Operation, Update, and Monitoring

Hardening an SAP Environment



Basic considerations

Minimal Installation

- pick "Minimal Install"
 - What's not installed cannot be attacekd
- Have the system roles install additional required packages
- Tests have shown that a minimal viable system is the minimal install plus
 - o compat-sap-c++
 - libtool-ltdl
- additional functions may fail, so additional packages may be required
- changes are possible tested on RHEL 8.4 only

Basic considerations

Disable Unnecessary Network Services

- Network Services should be reviewed and always seen as a possible attack path from outside (DoS, DDoS) and turn off unused services
- Avoid inherently insecure services which send sensitive data unencrypted over the network such as telnet, ftp, http, smtp.
- Secure services such as NFS or SMB

Disable Telnet

- unsecured protocol listens and sends on tcp/23
- replace with SSH
- procedure for disabling telnet:

Restrict sudo

- providing trusted users with limited administrative access
- restrict access to the commands to the group wheel
 # chgrp wheel /usr/bin/sudo /usr/bin/su
- Ensure that only the root user and the wheel group can execute the sudo and su commands:
 - # chmod 4550 /usr/bin/sudo /usr/bin/su
- Edit the /etc/sudoers file.# visudo
- Ensure that the following line is present in the /etc/sudoers file:
 %wheel ALL=(ALL) ALL
- Add all system administrator users to the wheel group in the /etc/group file: wheel:x:10:<user names of sysadmin users>

Disabling root logins via SSH

- per default root access is allowed from the outside world
- Make the following changes in the /etc/ssh/sshd_config file:
 PermitRootLogin no

Lock out a User to Log in after a Set Number of Failed Attempts

- mechanism provided via pam_faillock pam modul
- counts number of failed logins and can lock a user at a number of failed log in attempts
- enable faillock: # authselect enable-feature with-faillock
- configure failock in /etc/faillock.conf:

```
deny=4
unlock_time=1200
silent
```

- Using the faillock Command to Reset or View Authentication Failure Records
 # faillock --user username --reset
- sshd configuration adjustment in /etc/ssh/sshd_config
 ChallengeResponseAuthentication yes
 PasswordAuthentication no
- restart sshd# systemctl restart sshd

Network Bound Disk Encryption (NBDE)

- enables key-management for LUKS encryption as part of policy based decryption (PBD)
- requires a running tang server (we use tang.srv in this example)
- Steps to configure automatic unlocking of LUKS-encrypted volumes
 - o install the client software: # dnf install clevis clevis-luks
 - Identify the LUKS encrypted volume (e.g. /dev/sda2)
 - O Bind the volume to a Tang server
 # clevis luks bind -d /dev/sda2 tang '{"url":"http://tang.srv"}'

Network Bound Disk Encryption (NBDE)

Priority: Medium

The clevis luks bind command performs the following steps:

- 1. Creates a key with the same entropy as the LUKS master key.
- 2. Encrypts the new key with Clevis.
- 3. Stores the Clevis JWE object in the LUKS2 header token, or uses LUKSMeta if the non-default LUKS1 header is used.
- 4. Enables the new key for use with LUKS.

Network Bound Disk Encryption (NBDE)

- configure access to the protected disk during the early boot phase
 # echo "hostonly_cmdline=yes" > /etc/dracut.conf.d/clevis.conf
 # dracut -fv --regenerate-all --hostonly-cmdline
- verify that the Clevis JWE object is successfully placed in a LUKS header
 # levis luks list -d /dev/sda2
 1: tang '{"url":"http://tang.srv:port"}'

fapolicyd Service

- concept of trust: an application is trusted when it is installed or updated via rpm
- other installations must create custom rules for fapolicyd
- the hana system role makr the HANA binaries as trusted
- Install and enable the fapolicyd package:
 - # yum install fapolicyd
 - # systemctl enable --now fapolicyd

SAP HANA Network and Communication Security

Communication channels

- internal communication channels
 - between hosts in multiple-host systems
 - between systems in system-replication scenarios
- external access channels
 - Connections for administrative purposes
 - Connections for data provisioning
 - Connections from database clients that access the SQL/MDX interface for the SAP HANA database
 - Connections from HTTP/S clients
 - Outbound connections

Network Security

Configure VPN

- Install Libreswan# yum install libreswan
- Initialize the NSS database# rm /etc/ipsec.d/*db# ipsec initnss
- start the ipsec daemon from Libreswan# systemctl start ipsec
- confirm that the daemon is running properly
 # systemctl status ipsec
- ensure that Libreswan starts at boot# systemctl enable ipsec

Network Security

SSL Configuration on the SAP HANA Server

- TLS/SSL configuration can be configured with SAP Cryptographic Library CommonCryptoLib (libsapcrypto.so) between HANA and clients that access the SQL interface of the database.
- must be configured on client and server
- OpenSSL is still supported if you are using trust and key stores in the file system instead of in the database
- Follow the SAP installation guide for details on h

Secure Operating System User

- the *sid*adm user on the OS level can control any aspects of the database
- It is defined or created during DB install with an initial password
- change the password after installation
- limit the users which can assume *sid*adm

SELinux

- SE Linux is meanwhile supported on RHEL 8.2+ by SAP
- SE Linux implements Mandatory Access Control
- SAP Hana processes run in the unconfined_t SELinux policy
- read the documentation to get familiar with SE Linux

Security Updates

- Do regular security updates
- Check, if new security fixes are available:

```
# yum check-update --security
```

- If a security patch impacts SAP HANA operation, then SAP will publish an SAP note where it is stated
- Use the update procedure explained in the last section
- Limit an update to security relevant fixes:

```
# yum update --security
```







Thank You!

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