

CPR E 431

BASICS OF INFORMATION SYSTEM SECURITY

User Authentication, Access Control, and Operating System

Operating System Security

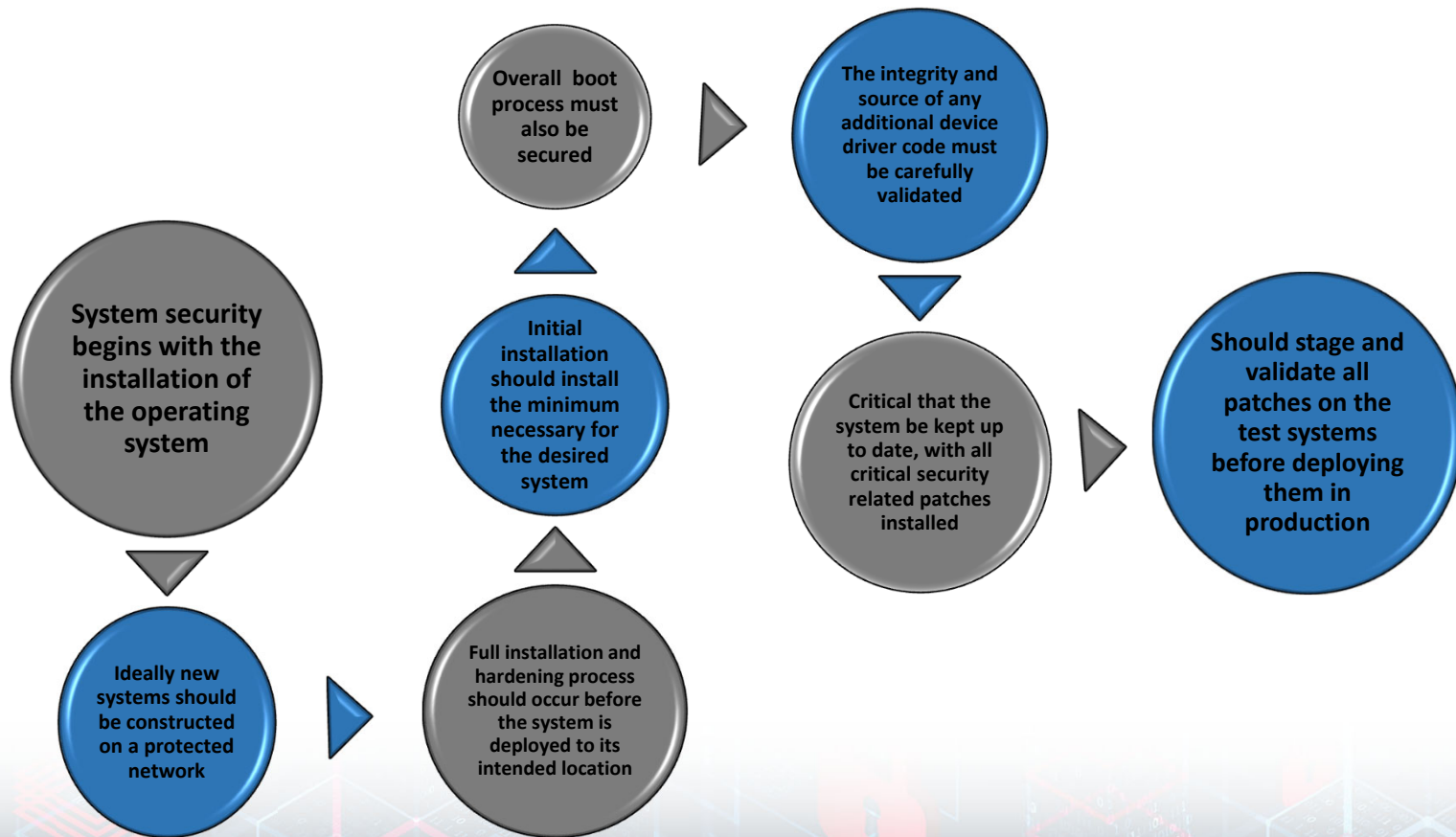


Video Summary

- OS Initial Setup and Patching
- OS Application Configuration
- Encryption Technology
- Security Maintenance
- Logging and Backup



Initial Setup and Patching



Remove
Unnecessary
Services,
Applications,
Protocols

- When performing the initial installation the supplied **defaults should not be used**
 - Default configuration is set to maximize ease of use and functionality rather than security
 - Windows 10 has over 240 services by default
 - If additional packages are needed later they can be installed when they are required



- If **fewer software packages** are available to run the risk is reduced

Access Control

Configure Users,
Groups, and
Authentication

- Not all users with access to a system will have the same access to all data and resources on that system
- **Elevated privileges** should be restricted to only those users that require them, and then only when they are needed to perform a task
- **System planning process should consider:**
 - Categories of users on the system
 - Privileges they have
 - Types of information they can access
 - How and where they are defined and authenticated
- **Default accounts included as part of the system installation should be secured**
 - Those that are not required should be either removed or disabled
 - Policies that apply to authentication credentials configured



Configure Resource Controls



Install Additional Security Controls

- Once the users and groups are defined, appropriate **permissions can be set on data and resources**
- Many of the security hardening guides provide lists of recommended changes to the default access configuration
- Further security possible by installing and configuring additional security tools:
 - Anti-virus software
 - Host-based firewalls
 - IDS or IPS software
 - Application white-listing



- Checklists are included in security hardening guides
- There are programs specifically designed to:
 - Review a system to ensure that a system meets the basic security requirements
 - Scan for known vulnerabilities and poor configuration practices
- Should be done following the initial hardening of the system
- Repeated periodically as part of the security maintenance process

- Final step in the process of initially securing the base operating system is security testing

- Goal:

- Ensure the previous security configuration steps are correctly implemented
 - Identify any possible vulnerabilities

Application Configuration

- Security policy can control app execution
 - Whitelisting and blacklisting
 - Whitelisting nothing run unless it's approved (very restrictive)
 - Blacklisting everything run except those in the blacklist
 - This can be achieved using app hash of certificates (trusted publishers)
- Of particular concern with remotely accessed services such as Web and file transfer services
 - Risk from this form of attack is reduced by ensuring that most of the files can only be read, but not written, by the server



Encryption Technology

Is a key enabling technology that may be used to secure data both in transit and when stored

Must be configured and appropriate cryptographic keys created, signed, and secured

If secure network services are provided using TLS or IPsec suitable public and private keys must be generated for each of them

If secure network services are provided using SSH, appropriate server and client keys must be created

Cryptographic file systems are another use of encryption

- [AdvFS](#) on Digital Tru64 UNIX
- [Novell Storage Services](#) on Novell NetWare and Linux
- [NTFS](#) with [Encrypting File System \(EFS\)](#) for Microsoft Windows
- [ZFS](#) since Pool Version 30
- [Ext4](#), added in [Linux kernel 4.1^{\[1\]}](#) on June 2015
- [F2FS](#), added in [Linux 4.2^{\[2\]}](#)
- [APFS](#), macOS High Sierra (10.13) and later.

Security Maintenance

- Process of maintaining security is continuous
- Security maintenance includes:
 - Monitoring and analyzing logging information
 - Performing regular backups
 - Recovering from security compromises
 - Regularly testing system security
 - Using appropriate software maintenance processes to patch and update all critical software, and to monitor and revise configuration as needed



Security Maintenance

- Process of maintaining security is continuous
- Example secure configuration policies:
 - Stay updated with the latest patches
 - Compromised systems are re-imaged (not cleaned)



Logging

Can only inform you about bad things that have already happened

In the event of a system breach or failure, system administrators can more quickly identify what happened

Key is to ensure you capture the correct data and then appropriately monitor and analyze this data

Information can be generated by the system, network and applications

Range of data acquired should be determined during the system planning stage

Generates significant volumes of information and it is important that sufficient space is allocated for them

Automated analysis is preferred

Data Backup and Archive

Performing regular backups of data is a critical control that assists with maintaining the integrity of the system and user data

May be legal or operational requirements for the retention of data

Backup

The process of making copies of data at regular intervals

Archive

The process of retaining copies of data over extended periods of time in order to meet legal and operational requirements to access past data

Needs and policy relating to backup and archive should be determined during the system planning stage

Kept online or offline

Stored locally or transported to a remote site

- Trade-offs include ease of implementation and cost versus greater security and robustness against different threats

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