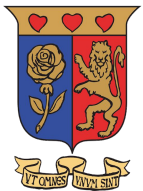


# Vulnerability Analysis

Jayson Waigwa - Security Analyst



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# Outline



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SESSION	CONTENT
1	Vulnerability Research, Vulnerability Assessment, and scoring System
2	Vulnerability Management Life Cycle (Assessment Phases)
3	Types of Vulnerabilities and Assessment Techniques
4	Different approaches of Vulnerability Assessment Solutions
5	Types of VA tools and criterias for selection
6	Generating and Analyzing VA reports.

# Introduction



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- In today's world, organizations depend heavily on IT for protecting vital information.

# Vulnerability Assessment



- There are 2 main causes for vulnerable systems:
  - Misconfiguration and
  - Poor programming practices.

# Vulnerability Research



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- The process of analyzing protocols, services, and configurations to **discover vulnerabilities and design flaws** that will expose an operating system and its applications to exploit, attack, or misuse
- Vulnerabilities are classified based on **severity level** (low, medium, or high) and **exploit range** (local or remote)

## An administrator needs vulnerability research:

- 1** To gather information concerning **security trends, threats, attack surfaces**, attack vectors and techniques
- 2** To discover **weaknesses** in the OS and applications, and alert the network administrator before a **network attack**
- 3** To **gather information** to aid in the prevention of security issues
- 4** To know **how to recover** from a network attack

Why does an ethical hacker need to keep up with most recently discovered vulnerabilities and exploits?



cont'd

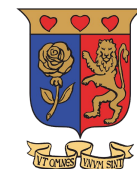


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- Security experts and vulnerability scanners classify vulnerabilities by:
  - Severity level (Low, Medium and High)
  - Exploit range (Local or Remote)



# Resources for VR



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**Microsoft Vulnerability Research (MSVR)**  
<https://www.microsoft.com>



**Security Magazine**  
<https://www.securitymagazine.com>



**SecurityFocus**  
<https://www.securityfocus.com>



**Dark Reading**  
<https://www.darkreading.com>



**PenTest Magazine**  
<https://pentestmag.com>



**Help Net Security**  
<https://www.helpnetsecurity.com>



**SecurityTracker**  
<https://securitytracker.com>



**SC Magazine**  
<https://www.scmagazine.com>



**HackerStorm**  
<http://www.hackerstorm.co.uk>



**Trend Micro**  
<https://www.trendmicro.com>



**Exploit Database**  
<https://www.exploit-db.com>



**Computerworld**  
<https://www.computerworld.com>



# Vulnerability Assessment



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- Vulnerability assessment is an in-depth **examination of the ability of a system or application**, including current security procedures and controls, to withstand the exploitation
- It recognizes, measures, and classifies security vulnerabilities in a **computer system, network, and communication channels**

## A vulnerability assessment may be used to:

- Identify weaknesses that could be exploited
- Predict the effectiveness of additional security measures in protecting information resources from attacks



## Information obtained from the vulnerability scanner includes:

- Network vulnerabilities
- Open ports and running services
- Application and services vulnerabilities
- Application and services configuration errors

# Types of Network Vulnerability Scanning

- Active Scanning
- Passive Scanning



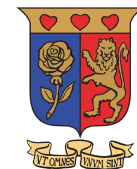
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# What are some of the limitations of Vulnerability assessments?



# Vulnerability Scoring Systems and DB



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## Common Vulnerability Scoring System (CVSS)

- CVSS provides an open framework **for communicating the characteristics and impacts** of IT vulnerabilities
- Its quantitative model ensures repeatable accurate measurement, while enabling users to view the **underlying vulnerability characteristics used to generate the scores**

### CVSS v3.0 Ratings

Severity	Base Score Range
None	0.0
Low	0.1-3.9
Medium	4.0-6.9
High	7.0-8.9
Critical	9.0-10.0

### CVSS v2.0 Ratings

Severity	Base Score Range
Low	0.0-3.9
Medium	4.0-6.9
High	7.0-10

<https://www.first.org>

### Common Vulnerability Scoring System Calculator Version 2 CVE-2017-0144

This page shows the components of the CVSS score for example and allows you to refine the CVSS base score. Please read the CVSS standards guide to fully understand how to score CVSS vulnerabilities and to interpret CVSS scores. The scores are computed in sequence such that the Base Score is used to calculate the Temporal Score and the Temporal Score is used to calculate the Environmental Score.



CVSS v3.0 Score  
Base Score: 8.5 (CVSS v3.0)

#### Base Score Metrics

##### Exploitability Metrics

Attack Vector (AV)?

Network (N) | Adjacent Network (AN) | Local (L) | Physical (P)

Attack Complexity (AC)?

Low (L) | High (H)

Privileges Required (PR)?

None (N) | Low (L) | High (H)

User Interaction (UI)?

None (N) | Required (R)

Scope (S)?

Unchanged (U) | Changed (C)

Impact Metrics

Confidentiality Impact (CI)?

None (N) | Low (L) | High (H)

Integrity Impact (II)?

None (N) | Low (L) | High (H)

Availability Impact (A)?

None (N) | Low (L) | High (H)

\* All Base Metrics are required to generate a Base Score

<https://nvd.nist.gov>

# cont'd CVE



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## Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVE)

A publicly available and free-to-use **list or dictionary of standardized identifiers** for common software vulnerabilities and exposures



[CVE List](#)

[CNAs About](#)

[VIGs News & Blog](#)

[Board](#)

**NVD**

Go to for:  
[CVE Search](#)  
[CVE Info](#)  
[Advanced Search](#)

[Search CVE List](#)

[Download CVE](#)

[Data Feeds](#)

[Request CVE IDs](#)

[Update a CVE Entry](#)

TOTAL CVE Entries: 118175

[HOME](#) > [CVE](#) > [SEARCH RESULTS](#)

## Search Results

There are **414** CVE entries that match your search.

Name	Description
<a href="#">CVE-2019-9565</a>	Druid Antidote RX, HD, 8 before 8.05.2287, 9 before 9.5.3937 and 10 before 10.1.2147 allows remote attackers to steal NTLM hashes or perform SMB relay attacks upon a direct launch of the product, or upon an indirect launch via an integration such as Chrome, Firefox, Word, Outlook, etc. This occurs because the product attempts to access a share with the PLUG-INS subdomain name; an attacker may be able to use Active Directory Domain Services to register that name.
<a href="#">CVE-2019-7097</a>	Adobe Dreamweaver versions 19.0 and earlier have an insecure protocol implementation vulnerability. Successful exploitation could lead to sensitive data disclosure if smb request is subject to a relay attack.
<a href="#">CVE-2019-6452</a>	Kyocera Command Center RX TASKalfa4501i and TASKalfa5052ci allows remote attackers to abuse the Test button in the machine address book to obtain a cleartext FTP or SMB password.

<https://cve.mitre.org>



# Cont'd NVD



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## National Vulnerability Database (NVD)

- A **U.S. government repository** of standards-based vulnerability management data represented using the **Security Content Automation Protocol (SCAP)**
- These data **enable the automation of vulnerability management**, security measurement, and compliance
- The NVD includes **databases of security checklist** references, security-related software flaws, misconfigurations, product names, and impact metrics

**NVD**

**NIST**  
Information Technology Laboratory  
**NATIONAL VULNERABILITY DATABASE**

**Vulnerability Identifier**  
CVE-2019-6452

**Vulnerability Published Date**  
06/06/2019

**Current Description**  
Rsyslog Command (enter RS T4SKuht4000 and T4SKuht4000) allows remote attackers to abuse the Test button in the machine address book to obtain a cleartext FTP or SMB password.

**Source:** NVD  
[View Analysis Discussion](#)

**Impact**  
CVSS v2.0 Severity and Metrics:  
Base Score: 5.8 (High)  
Vector: AV:N/AC:L/PR:L/SR:N/EP:C/RSK:AV/VE:None/Impact:High  
Impact Score: 5.8  
Exploitability Score: 2.8

**CVSS v2 Score**  
CVSS v2.0 Severity and Metrics:  
Base Score: 4.3 (Medium)  
Vector: AV:N/AC:L/PR:L/SR:N/EP:C/RSK:AV/VE:None/Impact:High  
Impact Subscore: 2.8  
Exploitability Subscore: 0.8

**CVSS v2 Score**  
Access Vector (AV): Network  
Access Complexity (AC): Low  
Authentication (AU): None  
Confidentiality (C): Partial  
Integrity (I): None

**QUICK INFO**  
CVE Dictionary Entry:  
CVE: 2019-6452  
NVD Published Date:  
06/06/2019  
NVD Last Modified:  
06/25/2019

# Cont'd CWE



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## Common Weakness Enumeration (CWE)

- A **category system** for **software vulnerabilities and weaknesses**
- It is sponsored by the **National Cybersecurity FFRDC**, which is owned by **The MITRE Corporation**, with support from **US-CERT** and the **National Cyber Security Division** of the **U.S. Department of Homeland Security**
- It has over **600 categories** of weaknesses, which enable CWE to be effectively employed by the community as a **baseline for weakness identification, mitigation, and prevention efforts**



The screenshot shows the official CWE website. At the top, the title 'Common Weakness Enumeration' is displayed with the subtitle 'A Community-Developed List of Software Weakness Types'. A navigation bar includes links for Home, About, CWE List, Scoring, Community, News, and Search. A search bar on the right shows '25' results. The main content area describes CWE as a community-developed list of common software security weaknesses. Below this, there are buttons to 'View the List of Weaknesses' categorized by Research, Development, or Architectural Concepts. A 'Search CWE' section provides instructions on how to search by keyword or CWE-ID. The search results for 'SMB' are displayed, showing three entries: CWE-422 (Unauthenticated Search Path Element), CWE-130 (Improper Handling of Length Parameter), and CWE-294 (Authentication Bypass by Custom reply).

**CWE Common Weakness Enumeration**  
*A Community-Developed List of Software Weakness Types*

25 results

Home | About | **CWE List** | Scoring | Community | News | Search

**CWE™** is a community-developed list of common software security weaknesses. It serves as a common language, a measuring stick for software security tools, and as a baseline for weakness identification, mitigation, and prevention efforts.

**View the List of Weaknesses**

By Research Concepts | By Development Concepts | By Architectural Concepts

**Search CWE**

Easily find a specific software weakness by performing a search of the CWE List by keyword(s) or by CWE-ID Number. To search by multiple keywords, separate each by a space.

About 33 results (0.17 seconds)

**CWE-422 Unauthenticated Search Path Element (3.2) - CWE**  
<https://nvd.nist.gov/vuln/detail/CWE-422> View  
In some cases, the attack can be conducted remotely, such as when SMB or WebDAV network shares are used. In some Unix-based systems, a PATH might be ...

**CWE-130 Improper Handling of Length Parameter (3.0) - CWE**  
<https://nvd.nist.gov/vuln/detail/CWE-130> View  
Product allows remote attackers to cause a denial of service and possibly execute arbitrary code via an SMB packet that specifies a buffer size larger than ...

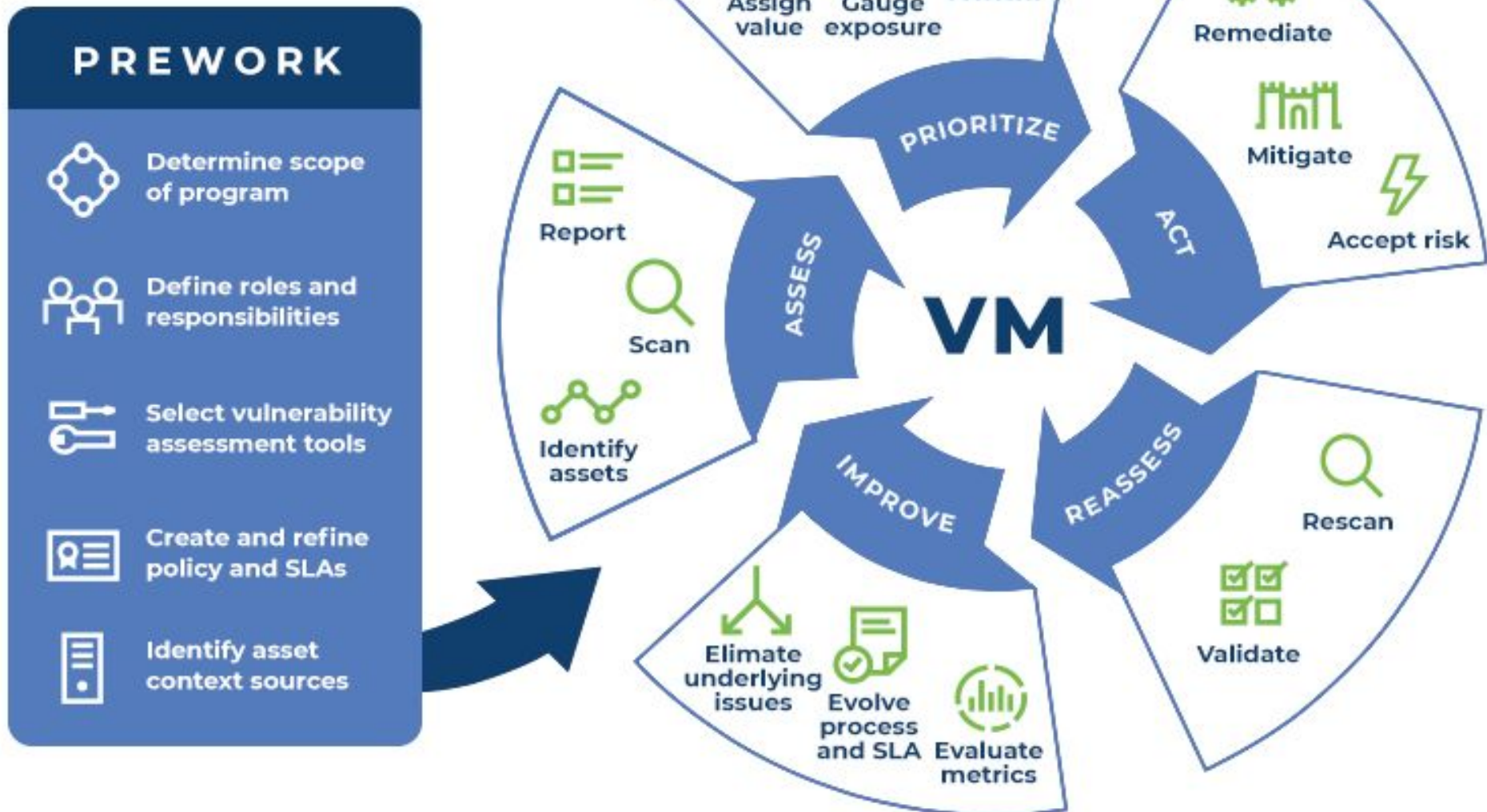
**CWE-294 Authentication Bypass by Custom reply (3.2) - CWE**  
<https://nvd.nist.gov/vuln/detail/CWE-294> View  
A capture replay flaw exists where the design of the software makes it possible for a malicious user to sniff network traffic and bypass authentication by replaying ...



# The Vulnerability Management Cycle

(Figure 1)

Source: Gartner  
ID: 410271



# Vulnerability Classification



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1

**Misconfiguration**



2

**Default Installations**



3

**Buffer Overflows**



4

**Unpatched Servers**



5

**Design Flaws**



6

**Operating System Flaws**



7

**Application Flaws**



8

**Open Services**



9

**Default Passwords**



# Types of Vulnerability Assessment



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## Active Assessment

Uses a **network scanner** to find hosts, services, and vulnerabilities

## External Assessment

**Assesses the network** from a hacker's perspective to discover exploits and vulnerabilities that are accessible to the outside world

## Host-based Assessment

Conducts a **configuration-level check** to identify system configurations, user directories, file systems, registry settings, etc., to evaluate the possibility of compromise

## Application Assessment

Tests and analyzes all elements of the **web infrastructure** for any **misconfiguration, outdated content, or known vulnerabilities**

## Passive Assessment

Used to **sniff the network traffic** to discover present active systems, network services, applications, and vulnerabilities present

## Internal Assessment

Scans the **internal infrastructure** to discover exploits and vulnerabilities

## Network-based Assessment

Determines possible **network security attacks** that may occur on the organization's system

## Database Assessment

Focuses on testing databases, such as **MYSQL, MSSQL, ORACLE, POSTGRESQL**, etc., for the presence of **data exposure or injection** type vulnerabilities



# Cont'd



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## Wireless Network Assessment

Determines the vulnerabilities in the organization's **wireless networks**

## Distributed Assessment

Assesses the **distributed organization assets**, such as client and server applications, simultaneously through appropriate synchronization techniques

## Credentialed Assessment

Assesses the network by **obtaining the credentials** of all machines present in the network

## Non-Credentialed Assessment

Assesses the network without acquiring **any credentials** of the assets present in the enterprise network

## Manual Assessment

In this type of assessment, the ethical hacker **manually** assesses the **vulnerabilities, vulnerability ranking, vulnerability score**, etc.

## Automated Assessment

In this type of assessment, the ethical hacker employs various **vulnerability assessment tools**, such as **Nessus, Qualys, GFI LanGuard**, etc.

# Vulnerability Assessment Solutions



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## Product-Based versus Service-Based Assessment Solutions

### Product-Based Solutions

- Installed in the **organization's internal network**
- Installed in **private or non-routable space** or the Internet-addressable portion of an organization's network
- If installed in the private network or, in other words, behind the firewall, it cannot always **detect outside attacks**



### Service-Based Solutions

- **Offered by third parties**, such as auditing or security consulting firms
- Some solutions are hosted **inside the network**, while others are hosted outside the network
- A drawback of this solution is that attackers can audit the **network from outside**



# Cont'd



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## Tree-Based versus Inference-Based Assessment

### Tree-Based Assessment

- The auditor **selects different strategies** for each machine or component of the information system
- For example, the administrator selects a scanner for servers running Windows, databases, and web services, and uses another scanner for Linux servers
- This approach relies on the **administrator providing a starting shot of intelligence**, and then scanning continuously without incorporating any information found at the time of scanning



### Inference-Based Assessment

- **Scanning starts by building an inventory of protocols** found on the machine
- After finding a protocol, the scanning process detects **which ports are attached to services**, such as an email server, web server, or database server
- After finding services, the process **selects vulnerabilities on each machine** and starts to execute only the relevant tests



# Characteristics of a good VA Solution



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- 1 Ensures **correct outcomes by testing the network**, network resources, ports, protocols, and operating systems
- 2 Uses a well-organized **inference-based approach** for testing
- 3 Automatically scans against continuously **updated databases**
- 4 Creates brief, actionable, and customizable reports, including **vulnerabilities, by severity level**, and trend analysis
- 5 Supports multiple **networks**
- 6 Suggests **appropriate remedies** and **workarounds** to correct vulnerabilities
- 7 Imitates the **outside view of attackers**





# Types of VA tools

## Host-Based Vulnerability Assessment Tools

- Find and identifies the **OS running on a particular host computer** and tests it for known deficiencies
- Searches for common applications and services

## Depth Assessment Tools

- Find and identifies previously **unknown vulnerabilities in a system**
- These types of tools include "fuzzers"



## Application-Layer Vulnerability Assessment Tools

- Directed toward **web servers or databases**



## Scope Assessment Tools

- Provides **security to the IT system** by testing for vulnerabilities in the applications and OS



## Active and Passive Tools

- Active scanners perform vulnerability checks on the network that **consume resources on the network**
- Passive scanners do not affect system resources considerably; they only **observe system data and perform data processing** on a separate analysis machine

## Location and Data Examination Tools

- Network-based scanner
- Agent-based scanner
- Proxy scanner
- Cluster scanner





**What determines a  
good Vulnerability  
Assessment tool?**



- 1** Types of vulnerabilities being assessed
- 2** Testing capability of scanning
- 3** Ability to provide accurate reports
- 4** Efficient and accurate scanning
- 5** Capability to perform a smart search
- 6** Functionality for writing its own tests
- 7** Test run scheduling



# Best Practices for selecting a good VA tool



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- Ensure that it **does not damage your network or system** while running tools ✓
- Understand the functionality**, and decide on the information that needs to be collected before beginning ✓
- Decide the **source location** of the scan, taking into consideration the information that needs to be collected ✓
- Enable logging** every time a computer is scanned ✓
- Users should **scan their systems frequently** for vulnerabilities ✓



# VA Tools

- OpenVAS by greenbone security
- Nikto
- GFI Languard
- Qualys
- Acunetix
- Nexpose
- Nessus

# VA tools for Mobile



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## Vulners Scanner

An android app that **performs passive vulnerability detection** based on the fingerprint of the software version



## Security Metrics Mobile

An android app that **complies with PCI SSC guidelines to generate a scan report**





# Vulnerability Assessments Reports



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1

The vulnerability assessment report **discloses the risks detected after scanning** a network



2

The report **alerts the organization** of possible attacks and suggests **countermeasures**



3

Information available in the reports is used to fix **security flaws**



**Vulnerability Assessment Report**

**Scan Information**

**Target Information**

**Results**



## Cont'd

The Vulnerability report must include but not limited to the following:

- Vulnerability's name and its mapped CVE ID.
- Date of discovery.
- CVE score.
- Description.
- Impact.
- Details of the affected system.
- PoC if possible.

# Sample vulnerability report



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## TAISOC SECURITY ADVISORY REPORT



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Thank you!

Any  
Questions?