

Edith Cowan University  
CSI1101  
Computer Security  
Assignment 1

Contemporary Issue Report

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# 1 Introduction

The Board of Directors at Blue Ink have recently become aware of the lack of computer security awareness and best practices amongst its employees. As a result, Blue Ink have requested that a sample Virtual Machine (VM) image of a typical computer within their organisation be analysed for security issues.

This report outlines the security issues identified during the analysis of Blue Ink's sample VM image. Vulnerabilities have been found with the operating system itself, and support software packaged with the operating system, such as the Internet browser and anti-virus application. Vulnerabilities have also been identified in outdated software whilst practices regarding the storage of passwords in plain-text files within user documents folders provide opportunities for unwanted access. The security issues identified in this report must be addressed in order to maintain the utmost security.

## 1.1 Assumptions

- A firewall is implemented within the network

# 2 Security analysis

## 2.1 Operating system

### 2.1.1 Windows Vista Business x86 SP0

The VM image provided includes Windows Vista Business 32 bit (x86) Service Pack 0 (SP0) as its operating system. Windows Vista is considered an older operating system with extended support due to end on 11 April, 2017 (Microsoft, 2014). In addition, SP0 support has ended on 13 April, 2010 (Microsoft, 2015)

### 2.1.2 Internet Explorer 7

### 2.1.3 Windows Defender

## 2.2 Applications

### 2.2.1 Anti-virus

### 2.2.2 Adobe Reader 6.0.1

### 2.2.3 OpenOffice 1.1.5

### 2.2.4 mIRC 6.0

## 2.3 User practices

# 3 Conclusion

# 4 Glossary

- Firewall:

- SP0: Service Pack 0 (zero), no service pack updates installed for the base operating system
- Virtual Machine:
- x86: 32-bit operating system

## References

- Microsoft. (2014). *Windows lifecycle fact sheet - Windows Help*. Retrieved 2015-02-27, from <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-au/windows/lifecycle>
- Microsoft. (2015). *Microsoft Support Lifecycle*. Retrieved 2015-02-27, from <http://support.microsoft.com/lifecycle/search/default.aspx?alpha=Vista>