

CompTIA Security+ Exam SY0-701

# Lesson 9



## Evaluate Network Security Capabilities

Lesson 9

# Topic 9A

## Network Security Baselines

# Benchmarks and Secure Configuration Guides (1 of 2)

- Secure baseline
  - Collection of standard configurations and settings for operating systems, network devices, software, cloud instances, patching and updates, access controls, logging, monitoring, password policies, encryption, endpoint protection, and many others
- Center for Internet Security (CIS)
- Security Technical Implementation Guides (STIGs)
- Vendor provided guidance

# Benchmarks and Secure Configuration Guides (2 of 2)

- Configuration management
  - Help manage, deploy, and measure compliance with established secure baselines
    - Puppet
    - Chef
    - Ansible
- Security Content Automation Protocol (SCAP)
  - OpenSCAP
  - CIS-CAT Pro
  - SCAP Compliance Checker (SCC)

# Switches and Routers

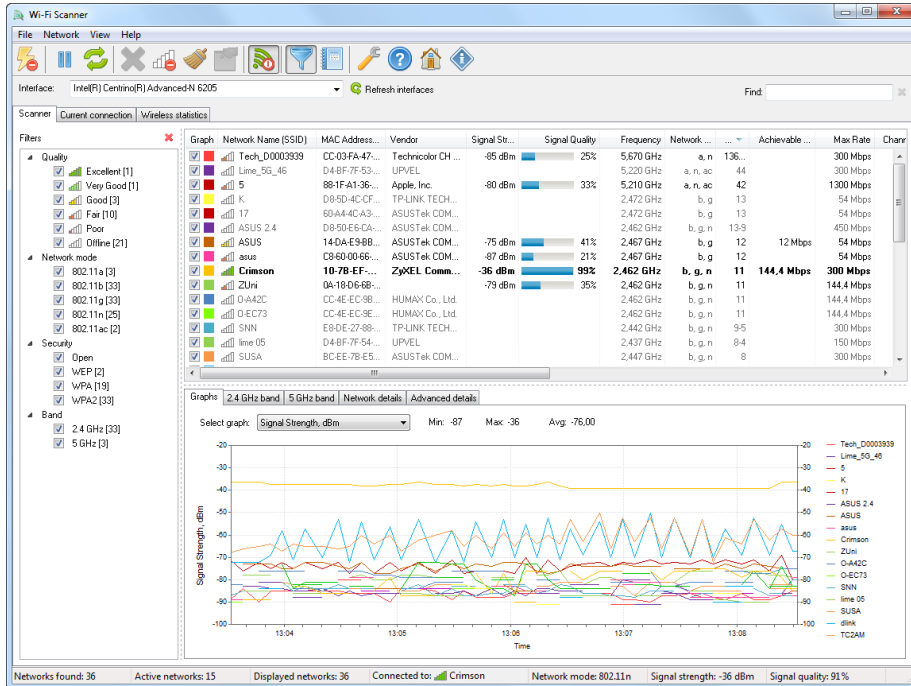
- Examples of changes designed to improve security:
- Change Default Credentials
- Disable Unnecessary
- Use Secure Management Protocols
- Implement Access Control Lists (ACLs)
- Enable Logging and Monitoring
- Configure Port Security
- Strong Password
- Physically Secure Equipment

# Server Hardware and Operating Systems

- Examples of changes designed to improve security:
  - Change Default Credentials
  - Disable Unnecessary Services
  - Apply Software Security Patches and Updates Regularly
  - Least Privilege Principle
  - Use Firewalls and Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS)
  - Secure Configuration using CIS or STIG baselines
  - Strong Access Controls
  - Enable Logging and Monitoring
  - Use Antivirus and Antimalware Solutions
  - Physical Security of server equipment racks, server rooms, and datacenters

# Wireless Network Installation Considerations

- Wireless Access Point (WAP) Placement
- Site Surveys and Heat Maps



Example output from Lizard System's Wi-Fi Scanner tool. (Screenshot courtesy of Lizard Systems.)

# Wireless Encryption

- Open
- WEP
- WPS
- WPA & WPA2
- WPA3
  - Device Provisioning Protocol (DPP)  
a.k.a. “Easy Connect” to replace WPS
  - Simultaneous Authentication of Equals (SAE)
  - Enhanced Open

Personalize settings for each band or enable Smart Connect to configure the same settings for all bands.

The screenshot displays the wireless settings for a TP-Link SOHO access point, organized into two sections for the 2.4GHz and 5GHz bands. At the top, there are global settings: 'OFDMA' is checked and set to 'Enable', and 'Smart Connect' is unchecked. The 2.4GHz band is also checked and set to 'Enable'. To the right of these settings are links for 'Sharing Network' and 'Hide SSID'. The 2.4GHz configuration includes: Network Name (SSID) 'TP-Link\_22DD', Security 'WPA/WPA2-Personal', Version 'WPA2-PSK', Encryption 'AES', Password 'tplinkpassword', Transmit Power 'High', Channel Width 'Auto', Channel 'Auto', and Mode '802.11b/g/n mixed'. The 5GHz band is checked and set to 'Enable'. Its configuration includes: Network Name (SSID) 'TP-Link\_22DD\_5G', Security 'WPA2/WPA3-Personal', Version 'WPA3-SAE', Password 'tplinkpassword', Transmit Power 'High', Channel Width 'Auto', Channel 'Auto', and Mode '802.11ax only'. Both bands have 'Hide SSID' unchecked.

Band	OFDMA	Smart Connect	2.4GHz	Network Name (SSID)	Security	Version	Encryption	Password	Transmit Power	Channel Width	Channel	Mode
2.4GHz	Enable	Unchecked	Enable	TP-Link_22DD	WPA/WPA2-Personal	WPA2-PSK	AES	tplinkpassword	High	Auto	Auto	802.11b/g/n mixed
5GHz	Enable	Unchecked	Enable	TP-Link_22DD_5G	WPA2/WPA3-Personal	WPA3-SAE		tplinkpassword	High	Auto	Auto	802.11ax only

*Configuring a TP-LINK SOHO access point with wireless encryption and authentication settings. In this example, the 2.4 GHz band allows legacy connections with WPA2-Personal security, while the 5 GHz network is for 802.11ax (Wi-Fi 6) capable devices using WPA3-SAE authentication. (Screenshot used with permission from TP-Link Technologies.)*

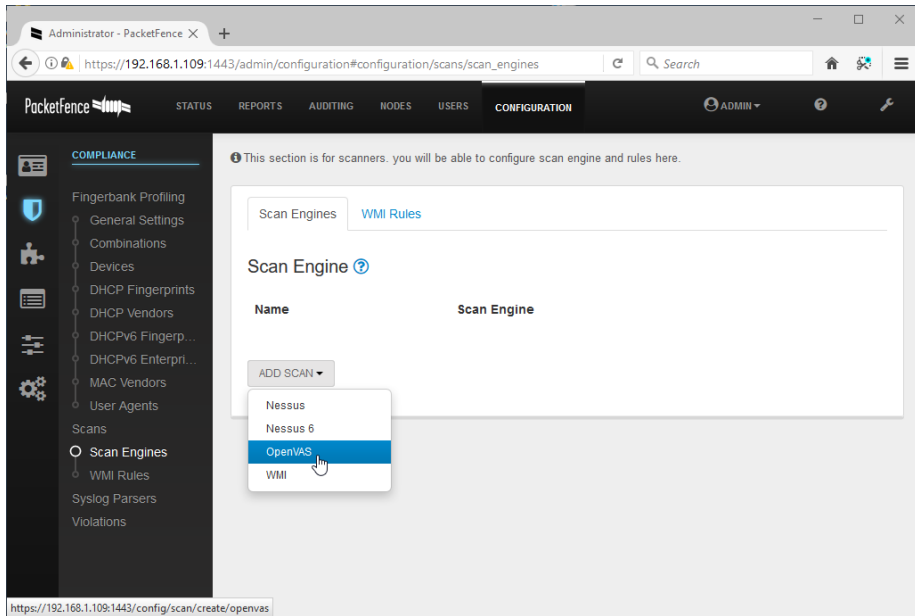


# Wi-Fi Authentication Methods

- WPA2 Pre-Shared Key Authentication
- WPA3 Personal Authentication
- WPA2/WPA3-Enterprise
  - RADIUS
  - EAP

# Network Access Control

- Authenticates users/devices before allowing them access to the network
- Agent versus agentless



*PacketFence supports the use of several scanning techniques, including vulnerability scanners, such as Nessus and OpenVAS, Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI) queries, and log parsers. (Screenshot used with permission from packetfence.org.)*

## Review Activity: Network Security Baselines

- Benchmarks and Secure Configuration Guides
- Wireless Network Installation Considerations
- Wireless Encryption
- Wi-Fi Authentication Methods
- Network Access Control

## Lab Activity

- Assisted Lab: Understanding Security Baselines

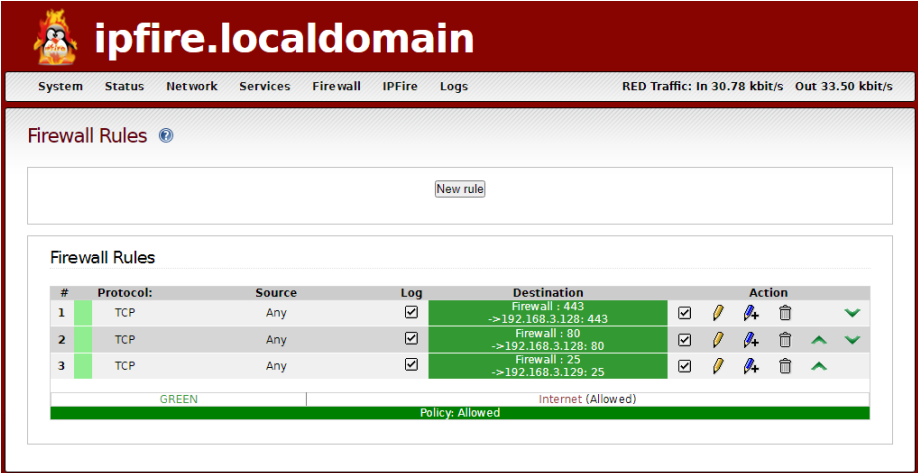
## Lesson 9

# Topic 9B

## Network Security Capability Enhancement

# Access Control Lists

- ACL
  - List of permissions associated with a network device, such as a router or a switch, that controls traffic at a network interface level
- Firewall Rule
  - Dictates how inbound or outbound network traffic for specific IP addresses, IP ranges, or network interfaces
- Screened Subnet
  - A neutral zone, separating public-facing servers from sensitive internal network resources



The screenshot shows the IPFire web interface for 'ipfire.localdomain'. The top navigation bar includes links for System, Status, Network, Services, Firewall, IPFire, and Logs. A status bar on the right indicates 'RED Traffic: In 30.78 kbit/s Out 33.50 kbit/s'. The main section is titled 'Firewall Rules' and contains a 'New rule' button. Below this is a table of existing rules:

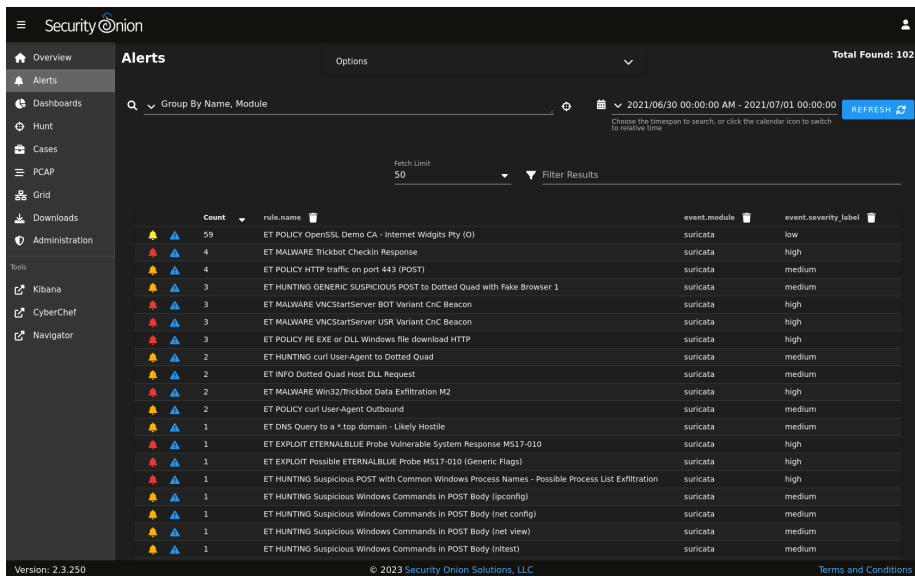
#	Protocol	Source	Log	Destination	Action
1	TCP	Any	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Firewall : 443 ->192.168.3.128: 443	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	TCP	Any	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Firewall : 80 ->192.168.3.128: 80	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	TCP	Any	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Firewall : 25 ->192.168.3.129: 25	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Below the table, a status bar shows 'GREEN' and 'Policy: Allowed'. At the bottom, it indicates 'Internet (Allowed)'.

*Sample firewall rules configured on IPFire. This ruleset allows any HTTP, HTTPS, or SMTP traffic to specific internal addresses. (Screenshot used with permission from IPFire)*

# Intrusion Detection and Prevention Systems

- Host-based
- Network-based
- Both look for suspicious patterns or activities that could indicate a network or system intrusion
- They differ in their responses to perceived threats
- Snort
- Suricata
- OSSEC



The screenshot shows the Security Onion Alerts dashboard. The interface includes a sidebar with navigation options like Overview, Alerts, Dashboards, Hunt, Cases, PCAP, Grid, Downloads, and Administration. The main area displays a table of alerts with columns for Count, rule.name, event.module, and event.severity\_label. The table lists various alerts such as ET POLICY OpenSSL Demo CA, ET MALWARE Trickbot Checkin Response, and ET HUNTING GENERIC SUSPICIOUS POST. The dashboard also shows a search bar, a date range selector, and a refresh button.

Count	rule.name	event.module	event.severity_label
59	ET POLICY OpenSSL Demo CA - Internet Widgits Pty (O)	suricata	low
4	ET MALWARE Trickbot Checkin Response	suricata	high
4	ET POLICY HTTP traffic on port 443 (POST)	suricata	medium
3	ET HUNTING GENERIC SUSPICIOUS POST to Dotted Quad with fake Browser 1	suricata	medium
3	ET MALWARE VNCStartServer BOT Variant CnC Beacon	suricata	high
3	ET MALWARE VNCStartServer USB Variant CnC Beacon	suricata	high
3	ET POLICY PE EXE or DLL Windows file download HTTP	suricata	high
2	ET HUNTING curl User-Agent to Dotted Quad	suricata	medium
2	ET INFO Dotted Quad Host DLL Request	suricata	medium
2	ET MALWARE Win32/Trickbot Data Exfiltration M2	suricata	high
2	ET POLICY curl User-Agent Outbound	suricata	medium
1	ET DNS Query to a *top domain - Likely Hostile	suricata	medium
1	ET EXPLOIT ETERNALBLUE Probe Vulnerable System Response MS17-010	suricata	high
1	ET EXPLOIT Possible ETERNALBLUE Probe MS17-010 (generic flags)	suricata	high
1	ET HUNTING Suspicious POST with Common Windows Process Names - Possible Process List Exfiltration	suricata	high
1	ET HUNTING Suspicious Windows Commands in POST Body (ipconfig)	suricata	medium
1	ET HUNTING Suspicious Windows Commands in POST Body (net config)	suricata	medium
1	ET HUNTING Suspicious Windows Commands in POST Body (net view)	suricata	medium
1	ET HUNTING Suspicious Windows Commands in POST Body (nbtstat)	suricata	medium

*The Security Onion Alerts dashboard displaying several alerts captured using the Emerging Threats (ET) ruleset and Suricata. (Screenshot used with permission from Security Onion.)*

# IDS and IPS Detection Methods

- Signature-Based Detection
- Anomaly-based detection
- Trend Analysis
- Behavioral-based detection
  - Network Behavior and Anomaly Detection (NBAD)
  - User and Entity Behavior Analytics (UEBA)

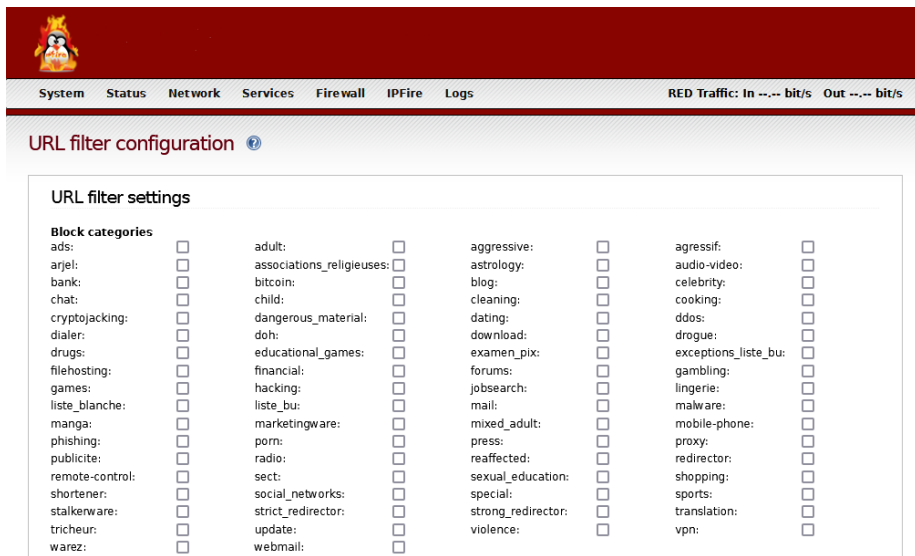
```
GNU nano 2.5.3 File: downloaded.rules
# ----- Begin ET-emerging-activex Rules Category ----- #
# -- Begin GID:1 Based Rules -- #
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Internet Explorer Plugin.ocx Heap Overfls
alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX winhlp32 ActiveX control attack - phase 1$
alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX winhlp32 ActiveX control attack - phase 2$
alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX winhlp32 ActiveX control attack - phase 3$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX MciWndx ActiveX Control"; flow:from_serv$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX COM Object Instantiation Memory Corrupti$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Danim.dll and Dxtmsft.dll COM Objects"; $
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX JuniperSetup Control Buffer Overflow"; f$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Wmm2fxa.dll COM Object Instantiation Mem$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Microsoft Multimedia Controls - ActiveX $
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Microsoft Multimedia Controls - ActiveX $
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Microsoft WMIScriptUtils.WMIObjectBroker$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Microsoft VsmIDE.DTE object call CSLID";$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Microsoft DEXplore.AppObj.8.0 object cal$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Microsoft VisualStudio.DTE.8.0 object ca$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Microsoft Microsoft.DbgClr.DTE.8.0 objec$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Microsoft VsaIDE.DTE object call CSLID";$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Microsoft Business Object Factory object$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Microsoft Outlook Data Object object cal$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Microsoft Outlook.Application object cal$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX ACTIVEX Possible Microsoft IE Install En$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Possible Microsoft IE Install Engine Ins$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Possible Microsoft IE Shell.Application $
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX ACTIVEX Possible Microsoft IE Shell.Apple$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX NCTAudioFile2 ActiveX SetFormatLikeSample$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Possible Microsoft Internet Explorer ADOS$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Sony ImageStation (SonyISUpload.cab 1.0.$
#alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET $HTTP_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET ACTIVEX Citrix Presentation Server Client Wfica.$
```

Read 27185 lines (Warning: No write permission)

*Short rules file supplied by the open-source Emerging Threats community feed.*



# Web Filtering



*Web filter content categories using the IPFire open-source firewall. (Screenshot used with permission from IPFire.)*

- Block users from accessing malicious or inappropriate websites
- Enforce compliance with acceptable use
- Block malware
- Protection from phishing attacks
- Agent-Based Filtering
- Centralized Web Filtering
- URL Scanning
- Content Categorization
- Block Rules
- Reputation-Based Filtering
- Decrypting and inspecting HTTPS traffic

## **Review Activity: Network Security Capability Enhancement**

- Access Control Lists
- Intrusion Detection and Prevention Systems
- IDS and IPS Detection Methods
- Web Filtering

## Lab Activity

- Applied Lab: Implementing a Firewall

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# Lesson 9



## Summary