

Here's a professional executive report based on the provided data:

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# **\*\*SOC Detection Validation Report\*\***

## **\*\*1. Overview\*\***

### **\*\*Purpose of Testing:\*\***

This report summarizes the results of a SOC detection validation exercise. The goal was to assess the effectiveness of our current Sigma rules against synthetic log data, simulating real-world attack patterns to identify strengths, gaps, and areas for improvement in our detection capabilities.

### **\*\*What Was Tested:\*\***

- **\*\*Logs Processed:\*\*** 10,000 synthetic logs simulating various user and system activities.
- **\*\*Rules Applied:\*\*** 100+ Sigma rules covering common attack vectors (e.g., suspicious processes, unauthorized access, lateral movement).
- **\*\*No YARA Rules:\*\*** File-based detection was not part of this simulation.

## **\*\*2. Key Metrics\*\***

- **\*\*Total Logs Processed:\*\*** 10,000
- **\*\*Total Alerts Generated:\*\*** 0
- **\*\*Alerts by Severity:\*\*** No alerts were triggered.
- **\*\*Alerts by Host:\*\*** No alerts were generated across any host.
- **\*\*Logs by Host:\*\*** Logs were evenly distributed across 20 hosts (no significant concentration).

### **\*\*Observations:\*\***

- **\*\*No alerts were generated\*\***, indicating either:
  - The synthetic logs did not contain trigger conditions for any rules, or
  - The rules were not properly configured to detect the simulated activity.

## **\*\*3. Detection Quality\*\***

### **\*\*Strengths:\*\***

- The test environment was stable, with no false positives or noisy alerts.

### **\*\*Gaps & Weaknesses:\*\***

- **\*\*Zero detections\*\*** suggest potential issues with rule coverage or log quality.
- Possible causes:
  - Rules may not be tuned to detect the simulated attack patterns.
  - Logs may lack sufficient detail for rule triggers.
  - Some attack vectors (e.g., stealthy lateral movement, privilege escalation) may not be covered.

### **\*\*False Positives & Noise:\*\***

- Since no alerts were generated, false positives were not a concern in this test.

## **\*\*4. Risk & Impact\*\***

### **\*\*Risk Exposure:\*\***

- If the synthetic logs contained realistic attack patterns, the lack of alerts indicates a **\*\*critical gap in detection capabilities\*\***.
- Attackers could exploit undetected techniques (e.g., living-off-the-land binaries, fileless attacks, or insider threats).

### **\*\*Potential Attacker Behaviours Slipping Past Defenses:\*\***

- Lateral movement without suspicious process execution.
- Privilege escalation via legitimate tools (e.g., PowerShell, WMI).
- Data exfiltration via encrypted channels (e.g., HTTPS, DNS tunneling).

## **\*\*5. Recommendations\*\***

### **\*\*Immediate Actions:\*\***

- **\*\*Review Sigma Rule Coverage:\*\*** Ensure rules are tuned to detect common attack patterns (e.g., suspicious process execution, unauthorized access).
- **\*\*Test with More Realistic Logs:\*\*** Simulate advanced attack techniques (e.g., lateral movement, privilege escalation) to validate rule effectiveness.

### **\*\*Long-Term Improvements:\*\***

- **\*\*Expand Detection Rules:\*\*** Add rules for stealthy attack vectors (e.g., fileless malware, living-off-the-land techniques).
- **\*\*Integrate Detection Validation into CI/CD:\*\*** Automate rule testing in development pipelines to ensure robustness before deployment.
- **\*\*Enhance Log Collection:\*\*** Ensure logs contain sufficient context (e.g., command-line arguments, process parent-child relationships).

### **\*\*Next Steps:\*\***

- Conduct a follow-up test with refined rules and more realistic attack simulations.
- Review and update the SOC playbook to address identified gaps.

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This report provides a clear, actionable summary for both management and SOC teams.