

RLC | Hardened

Rocky Linux from CIQ - Hardened (RLC-H) is Enterprise Linux optimized for security and compliance. It is delivered securely, always up to date, and proactively protects apps and services from malicious threats.

As the speed, sophistication, and volume of attacks on corporate systems accelerate, CISOs and IT security teams need to stay ahead by applying effective and consistent hardening and security policies across all their Linux servers. RLC-H solves this by providing a secure, pre-configured, and expertly supported Enterprise Linux platform, ensuring proactive threat protection.



Proactive security

Pre-configured against key threat vectors & delivers hardened memory & kernel integrity checking.



Current and up-to-date

Delivers the latest version of Rocky Linux and is actively updated with all updates and patches.



Speed delivery

Use a pre-hardened Linux OS, so you eliminate the need to manually update a fleet of servers.

Security for all workloads

RLC-H is a hardened version of community, open source Rocky Linux for your workloads. It hardens critical system packages to proactively protect and mitigate entire vulnerability classes while maintaining system performance and operational stability across the distribution. RLC-H helps you minimize zero-day attacks, ensure you stay ahead of security updates, and deploy advanced threat detection capabilities.

Privilege boundary protection

RLC-H includes patches and configuration changes for critical packages like glibc, where we remove unsafe environment variables when crossing a privilege boundary.

Reduced SSH attack surface

CIQ has hardened upstream OpenSSH by removing non-essential libraries, reducing the attack surface and minimizing attack vectors.

Kernel exploit detection and response

Linux Kernel Runtime Guard (LKRG) detects kernel vulnerability exploits and identifies and responds to unauthorized modifications of a running kernel and its security-critical data.

Hardened memory allocator	A secure memory allocator (hardened_malloc) provides advanced heap protection strategies to defend against memory corruption exploits, widely proven in production by GrapheneOS.
Password security	RLC-H includes passwdqc for stronger password policies and yescrypt hashing for enhanced resistance to GPU password cracking.
Accelerated CVE mitigation	CIQ team delivers patches for especially important CVEs ahead of standard updates, significantly reducing exposure time.
Customizable security controls	RLC-H offers a control framework that includes a set of predefined facilities for password security and reduced exposure of local privileged programs (such as SUID root).
Package validation	All packages are CIQ-verified and cryptographically signed, ensuring package integrity from verified CIQ repositories. In addition to a checksum, each image ships with an SBOM.

Compliance for regulated deployments

RLC-H eliminates manual work so you can speed compliance, automate ongoing efforts and help meet audit requirements with pre-hardened, pre-remediated images for frameworks like DISA STIG or CIS, along with FIPS 140-3 compliant packages. CIQ provides the scripts, expertise and support to further customize the remediations for your compliance requirements.



STIG



“Our engineers spent most of their time chasing vulnerabilities, patching and preparing for audits across dozens of servers. With RLC-H, It’s like having an additional team of Linux security experts on staff.”

Financial Services Firm

Built and supported by enterprise Linux security experts

The CIQ Linux Security team is composed of kernel and security experts who are dedicated to delivering the right security components and optimizations for all organizations.

RLC-H is also backed by our support team to help you get started and address any issues you might encounter. They have deep experience securing Linux in some of the most demanding and stringent environments on the planet.

Need long-term support (LTS)? It can be added to RLC-H for specific point releases to enable you to stay compliant for four additional years.

RLC-H includes indemnification

RLC-H comes with the protection and indemnification guarantees that eliminate your risk and liability in the case of legal issues against the open source software. CIQ is accountable and delivers the coverage to keep your legal and compliance teams satisfied.

Get RLC-H now

Organizations seeking an enterprise-supported, pre-hardened Linux OS can get a demo or consult with CIQ security engineers for deployment options.

✉ info@ciq.com 🌐 ciq.com/products/rocky-linux/hardened/

 linkedin.com/company/ctrlq

 twitter.com/ctrlq

 youtube.com/c/ctrlq