

Security risk assessment report

Part 1: Select up to three hardening tools and methods to implement

The following are three hardening tools an organization can choose to implement to address known vulnerabilities:

1. Password policies with stronger requirements.
2. Maintain and update firewalls regularly.
3. Implement MFA for all users.

Password requirements can include a certain length, addition of numbers, addition of upper and lower case letters, and the addition of symbols (@#\$%&*). Also the discouragement of sharing passwords amongst the organization's employees. Also, the addition of rules regarding unsuccessful login attempts, locking the user out.

Firewall maintenance/management to check for incoming and outgoing traffic. The addition of port filtering rules to allow/disallow traffic through certain ports, along with updating security configurations.

MFA requires additional authentication and verification of credentials to access sensitive information. This extra layer of security can be easy to implement and can prevent a multitude of malicious actions.

Part 2: Explain your recommendations

Implementing and enforcing a stricter password policy with stricter requirements will mitigate the potential for malicious actors to gain access to the network. Locking a user out of their account after unsuccessful login attempts can prevent brute force attacks. Increasing the complexity of passwords can prevent dictionary attacks.

Implementing regular firewall maintenance will mitigate risks associated with flooding attacks such as DoS or DDoS attacks. Updating security configurations can help to stay ahead of known/upcoming vulnerabilities.

Implementing MFA is an extra layer of security that can be easy to implement and can prevent a multitude of malicious actions. It reduces the potential for malicious actors to conduct a brute force or dictionary attack. This will also mitigate the risk associated with employees sharing passwords. The shared password alone will not grant access if MFA is implemented.