

Access controls worksheet

	Note(s)	Issue(s)	Recommendation(s)
Authorization /authentication	Objective: Make 1-2 notes of information that can help identify the threat: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>Who caused this incident?</i>● <i>When did it occur?</i>● <i>What device was used?</i>	Objective: Based on your notes, list 1-2 authorization issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>What level of access did the user have?</i>● <i>Should their account be active?</i>	Objective: Make at least 1 recommendation that could prevent this kind of incident: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>Which technical, operational, or managerial controls could help?</i>

Notes:

1. The threat actor was Robert Taylor Jr., a former legal attorney contractor whose employment ended on 12/27/2019, but accessed the system on 10/03/2023 at 8:29:57 AM (over 3 years after termination)
2. The suspicious computer name "Up2-NoGud" and IP address 152.207.255.255 were used to attempt adding a fraudulent payroll event to "FAUX_BANK"

Issues:

1. Failed account deprovisioning: Robert Taylor Jr.'s account remained active with full Admin privileges 3+ years after his contract ended (12/27/2019)
2. Excessive privilege assignment: ALL employees have "Admin" authorization regardless of their role, violating the principle of least privilege (contractors, part-time, and seasonal workers have same access as full-time)

Recommendations:

1. Implement automated off-boarding procedures:
 - Immediate access revocation upon employment termination
 - Automatic account deactivation on contract end dates
 - Mandatory IT/HR checklist for departing employees
2. Enforce Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) with least privilege:
 - Create tiered authorization levels (User, Power User, Admin)
 - Restrict Admin access to essential personnel only
 - Implement need-to-know basis for sensitive systems like payroll
3. Deploy Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) for all users, especially for financial transactions and administrative functions
4. Establish quarterly access reviews and audit procedures:
 - Regular review of all active accounts
 - Automatic alerts for dormant accounts (30+ days inactive)
 - Immediate investigation of suspicious access patterns