# Scenario:

Douglas Financials Inc (DFI from here forward) has experienced successful growth and as a result is ready to add a Security Analyst position. Previously Information Security responsibilities fell on our System Administration team. Due to compliance and the growth of DFI we are happy to bring you on as our first InfoSec employee! Once you are settled in and finished orientation we have your first 2-Weeks assignments ready.

## Week One:

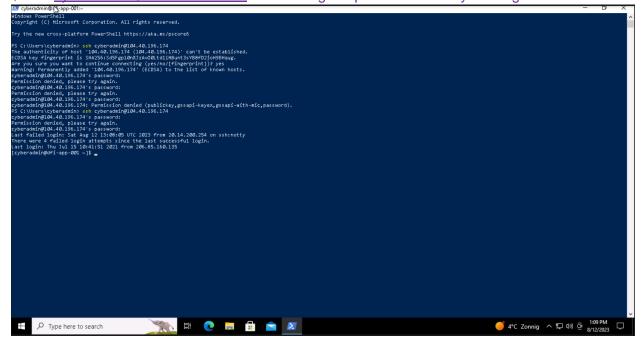
### 1. Connect:

All of the subsequent steps will take place in the DFI environment. You will need to RDP into the Windows 10 workstation and use it to connect with the Windows and Linux servers provided using RDP and SSH (via PowerShell) respectively.

[Please Provide Screenshots of the RDP and SSH here as evidence that you completed this step.]

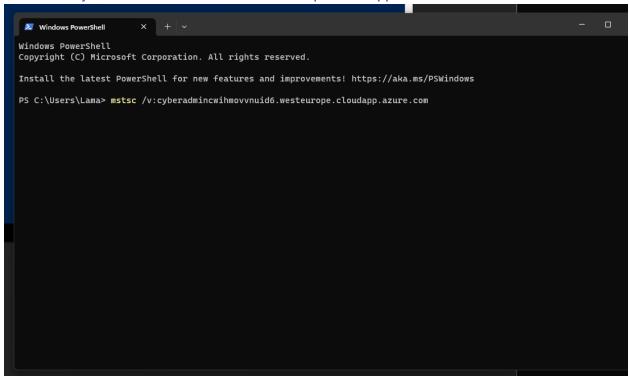
#### To login to the linux machine

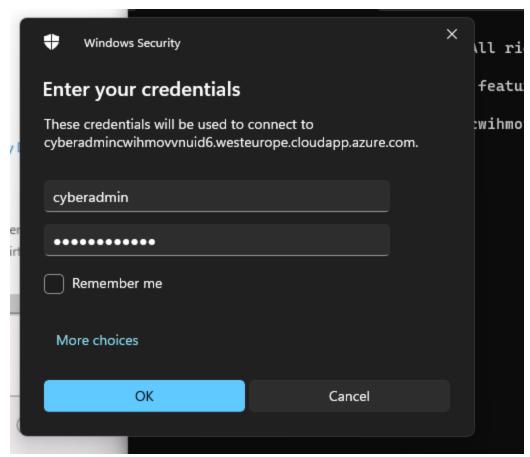
\$ ssh <a href="mailto:cyberadmin@104.40.196.174">cyberadmin@104.40.196.174</a> then writing the password udacitylearning.1!!



## To login to the windows server machine

\$ mstsc /v:cyberadmincwihmovvnuid6.westeurope.cloudapp.azure.com





Using the below credentials Cyberadmin xxvn09FKL\*Dz

# 2. Security Analysis:

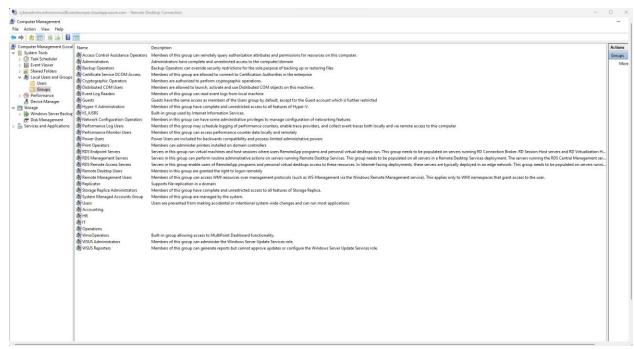
DFI has an excellent SysAdmin team, but they have been focused on system reliability and scaling to meet our growing needs and as a result, security may not be as tight as we'd like. Your first assignment is to familiarize yourself with our file and application servers.

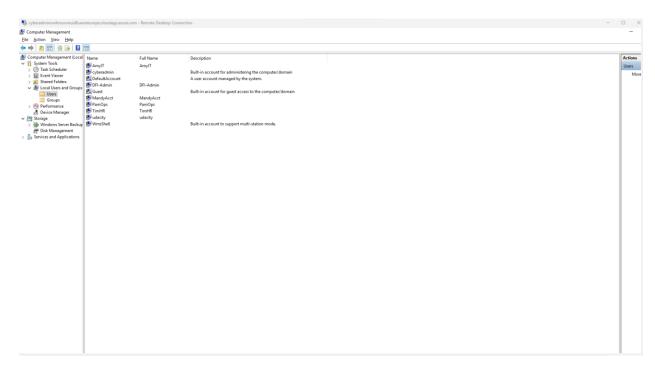
Please perform an analysis of the Windows server and provide a written report detailing any security configuration issues found and a brief explanation and justification of the changes you recommend. DFI is a PCI compliant organization and will likely be Sarbanes-Oxley in the near future.

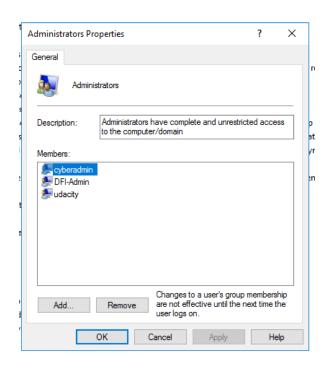
Use NIST, Microsoft, Defense-in-Depth, Principle of Least Privilege and other resources to determine the changes that should be made. Note changes can be to **add/remove/change** services, permissions and other settings. <u>Defense-in-Depth documentation</u>. <u>NIST 800-123</u> (other NIST documents could also apply.)

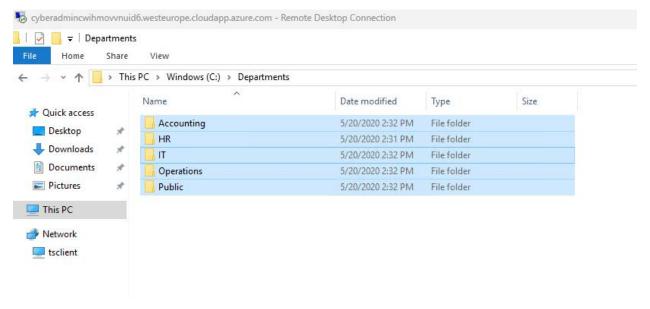
### [Place your security analysis here]

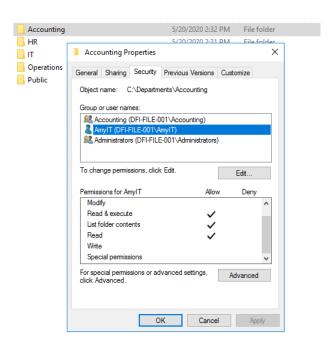
## Principle of lease privilege



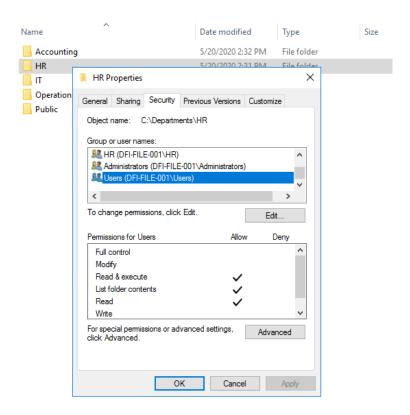


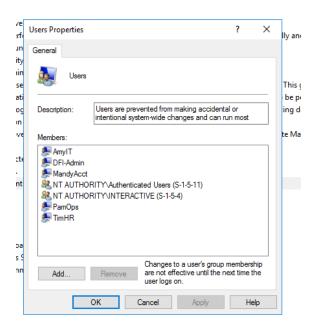




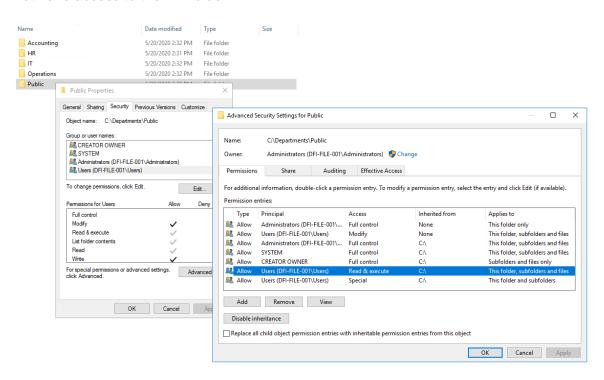


After analyzing all groups and users I tried to figure out which members are in accounting group, and I figured out AmyIT should not have access to the accounting folder.





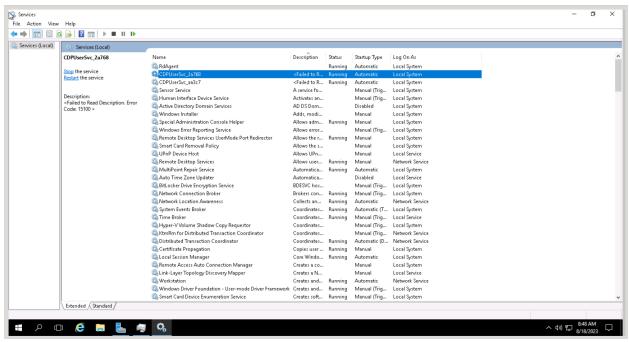
Users group is also having several accounts such as (AmylT, MandyAcct, PamOps) that should not have access to the HR folder.



Moreover, Users group should not get a Modify and Special privileges in the public folder and should only get a read access if there was no sensitive data will be shared in that folder.

Finally, I have found that administrator group have access to all folders with full control, and even though they are an administrator they should not have access to all folders that belongs to different departments.

### Defense-in-Depth



Any unnecessary services should be disabled.

#### 3. Firewall Rules:

DFI does not have a dedicated networking department just yet, once again these tasks normally fall under the SysAdmin group. Now that we have you as a security professional, you'll take over the creation of our firewall rules. We recently entered into a new partnership and require new IP connections.

Using Cisco syntax, create the text of a firewall rule allowing a new DFI partner WBC International, access to DFI-File-001 access via port tcp-9082.

The partner's IP is 21.19.241.63 and DFI-File-001's IP is 172.21.30.44.

For this exercise assume the two IP objects **have not** been created in the firewall. **Note\*** Use *DFI-Ingress* as the interface for the rule. For documentation purposes, please explain the syntax for non-technical management on the change control board that meets weekly.

### [Place your firewall rules and explanation here]

Partner IP: 21.19.241.63 → source ip

Partner Host: WBC-International → the name that we want to call the source ip

DFI IP: 172.21.30.44 → destination ip

DFI Host: DFI-File-001 → the name that we want to call the destination ip

Interface: DFI-Ingress

Port: tcp 9082 → the port where the source will connect to the destination

After gathering all needed information, the firewall rule syntax should be: Name 21.19.241.63 WBC-International Name 172.21.30.44 DFI-File-001 Access-list DFIIngress extended permit tcp host WBC-International host DFI-File-001 eq 9082

This firewall rule will allow the partner to connect to the system.

## 4. VPN Encryption Recommendation:

DFI is creating a payroll processing partnership with Payroll-USA, this will involve creating a VPN connection between the two. Research, recommend and justify an encryption solution for the connection that is using the latest available encryption for Cisco. Use the Cisco documentation as a guide.

### [Place your VPN Encryption Recommendation here]

According to Cisco guidelines, I recommend using the following recommendations: -

- For an authentication algorithm, I recommend using HMAC-SHA-256 because it provides a high level of security due to the strength of the SHA-256 hash function and is also resistant to various cryptographic attacks, including collision and preimage attacks.
- For an encryption algorithm, I suggest using AES-256 bit because it performs 14 rounds of encryption, making it resistant to brute-force attacks. Moreover, it protects sensitive, unclassified, and classified information.

#### 5. IDS Rule:

The System Administrator gave you a heads up that DFI-File-001 with an IP address of 172.21.30.44 has been receiving a high volume of ICMP traffic and is concerned that a DDoS attack is imminent. She has requested an IDS rule for this specific server.

The VoIP Administrator is also concerned that an attacker is attempting to connect to her primary VoIP server which resides at 172.21.30.55 via TFTP. She has requested an IDS rule for this traffic.

For documentation purposes, please explain the syntax for non-technical management on the change control board that meets weekly.

### [Place your System Admin rule and explanation here]

Alert ICMP any any -> 172.21.30.44 any (msg:"ICMP traffic found"; sid:1000000;)

Explanations: -

Alert: alert generating

ICMP: a port that generates error messages, it is commonly used for network devices.

Any: used for the source IP address Any: used for the source port number

->: a direction

172.21.30.44: destination IP

Any: since ICMP doesn't use a specific port I put any so it will monitor all ports.

### [Place your VoIP Admin rule and explanation here]

Alert UDP any any -> 172.21.30.55 69 (msg:"UDP traffic found"; sid:1000001;)

Explanations: -

Alert: alert generating

UDP: I chose UDP rather than TCP because it is commonly used for VoIP (voice over internet

protocol).

Any: used for the source IP address Any: used for the source port number

->: a direction

172.21.30.55: destination IP 69: the port number for TFTP

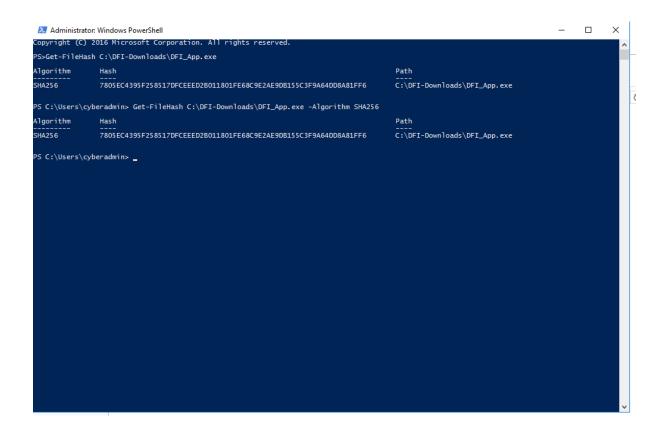
#### 6. File Hash verification:

A software vendor has supplied DFI with a custom application. They have provided the file on their public FTP site and e-mailed you directly a file hash to verify the integrity and authenticity. The hash provided is a SHA256.

Hash: 7805EC4395F258517DFCEEED2B011801FE68C9E2AE9DB155C3F9A64DD8A81FF6

Perform a file hash verification and submit a screenshot of your command and output. The File is stored on the Windows 2016 Server in C Drive under DFI-Download.

[Place your screenshot verification here]



\$ Get-FileHash C:\DFI-Downloads\DFI\_App.exe -Algorithm SHA256

## Week Two:

Now that you've performed a light audit and crafted Firewall and IDS Signatures we're ready for you to make some additional recommendations to tighten up our security.

### 7. Automation:

The IT Manager has tasked you with some introductory research on areas that could be improved via automation.

Research and recommend products, technologies and areas within DFI that could be improved via automation.

#### Recommended areas are:

- SOAR products and specifically what could be done with them
- Automation of mitigation actions for IDS and firewall alerts.
- Feel free to elaborate on other areas that could be improved.

Complete the chart below including the area/technology within DFI and a proposed solution, with a minimum of 3 areas. Provide a brief explanation for your choices.

DFI Area/Technology	Solution	Justification for Recommendation
SOAR	Devo	The entire threat lifecycle can be automated which will make it easier for the blue team to make a threat case
IDS	Snort	Because it provides opportunities for automation and manual threat hunting and its free to use
Firewall	Vmware NSX	Enables the creation of entire networks in software and embeds them in the hypervisor layer, abstracted from the underlying physical hardware.
SOAR	Fortinet FortiSOAR	Role-based dashboard, reporting capabilities, and incident management. this allows to track metrics, analyze performance, create data models, generate weekly reports
SIEM	Datadog security monitoring	A cloud-native network monitoring and management system that includes real-time security monitoring and log management. Comes with over 600 vendor integrations out-of-the-box.
NDR	Cisco Stealthwatch Enterprise	Because it protects against DDoS attacks, intrusion, malware, and insider threats. It also runs on Cisco's cloud platform.
EDR	Cisco Secure Endpoint	Because it monitors the behavior of each protected device for malicious activities, ensuring that threats are identified quickly. When a

		threat is found, Secure Endpoint isolates the infected endpoint from the rest of the network, allowing security teams to mitigate the issue before it can spread to other machines.
XDR	Heimdal Security XDR	This cloud-based system provides an XDR service by extending protection to each endpoint on a network through on-device agents and coordinating threat intelligence and responses between devices.
Sandbox	FortiSandbox	Is high performance security solution which comes with Al and Machines learning technology, which makes FortiSandbox robust and help organization to identify and isolate the advanced threats in real time.

# 8. Logging RDP Attempts:

The IT Manager suspects that someone has been attempting to login to DFI-File-001 via RDP.

Prepare a report that lists unsuccessful attempts in connecting over the last 24-hours. Using <a href="Powershell or Eventviewer">Powershell or Eventviewer</a>, search the Windows Security Log for Event 4625. Export to CSV.

For your deliverable, open the CSV with notepad and take a screenshot from your personal computer for your explanation. Please also include this file in your submission. Then in your report below explain your findings, recommendations and justifications to the IT Manager.

[Place IT Manager Report Here]

Get-EventLog Security | Where-Object {\$\_.EventID -eq "4625"} | Export-CSV "C:\Users\cyberadmin\Desktop\SystemEvents8.CSV"

```
PS C:\Users\cyberadmin> qwinsta
SESSIONNAME USERNAME
                                                     ID
                                                          STATE
                                                                    TYPE
                                                                                   DEVICE
 services
                                                          Disc
                                                      0
 console
                      WmsShell
                                                          Active
>rdp-tcp#8
31c5ce94259d4...
                       cyberadmin
                                                          Active
                                                 65536
65537
                                                          Listen
 rdp-tcp
                                                          Listen
wms-tcp
                                                  65538 Listen
PS C:\Users\cyberadmin> _
```





SystemEvents8.CSV

## 9. Windows Updates:

Using NIST 800-40r3 and Microsoft Security Update Guide, analyze the windows servers and provide your answers in the table below of available updates (KB and CVE) that should be installed as well as any updates that can be safely ignored for DFI's purpose. To assist, be aware that DFI is concerned with stability and security, any update that is not labeled as a 'critical' or 'security' can be left off.

Justify your recommendations as to why you are making your choices.

Add as many rows or additional columns as you need to the table.

Available Updates	Update/Ignore	Justification
Windows Server 2022/ Remote Code Execution / CVE-2023-36910	update	This update is important because the attack complexity is low and doesn't require any privilege or user interaction which makes it easy for the threat actor to exploit this vulnerability and attacks the confidentiality, availability and integrity of the

		system.
Windows 10 Version 1809 for 32-bit Systems / Remote Code Execution / CVE-2023-36910	update	This vulnerability is associated with the network, and it doesn't require any privileges or user interaction and has a low complexity, which makes it an easy exploit for the threat actor to attack the confidentiality, availability and the integrity of the system.
Windows Remote Desktop / Security Feature Bypass / CVE-2023-35352	update	Since this attack has a low complexity and doesn't require any privileges or user interaction it will be easy for the attacker to exploit it and attack the integrity of the system.
Windows Server 2019 (Server Core installation) / Remote Code Execution / CVE-2023-36910	update	This vulnerability attacks the network and has a low attack complexity that doesn't require any user interaction and privileges, which will make it an easy for the threat actor to attack the confidentiality, integrity, and the availability of the system.
Memory Integrity System Readiness Scan Tool Defense in Depth Update / ADV230004	Ignore	This update is used to check for compatibility issues with memory integrity and is not related to security.
Microsoft Edge (Chromiumbased) Spoofing Vulnerability / Spoofing / CVE-2023-35392	Ignore	This vulnerability is a network-based attack that involves user interaction and has low severity. So, I don't think it needs much attention if the organization has a strong security defense system and employees that are knowledgeable about certain attacks.

Windows Server 2019 / Defense in Depth / ADV230001	Ignore	There is no need for an update because the server is using Windows Server 2016, and this update is related to Windows Server 2019.
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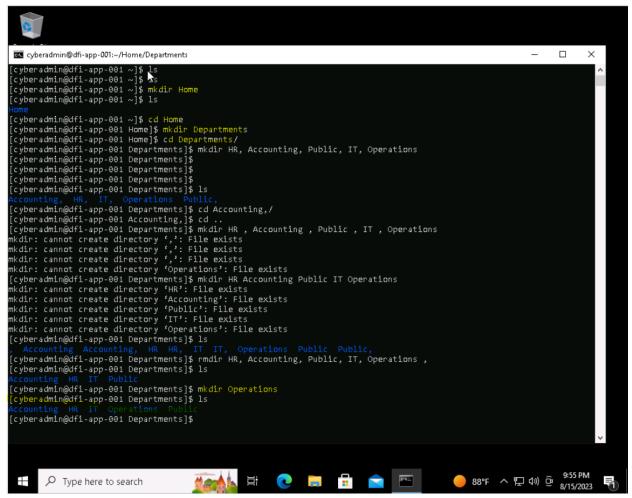
### 10. Linux Data Directories:

The IT Manager has requested your help with creating directories on the CentOS server DFI-App-001 (reachable by ssh from the Windows 10 machine. in the DFI subnet.)

- The root directory should be 'Home'
- The first subdirectory should be "Departments" with subdirectories: HR, Accounting, Public, IT and Operations.
- Set owner permissions for the groups IT, HR, Operations and Accounting
- Create the users AmylT, PamOps, MandyAcct and TimHR in the appropriate groups so that they can read/write/execute in their respective departmental folders.

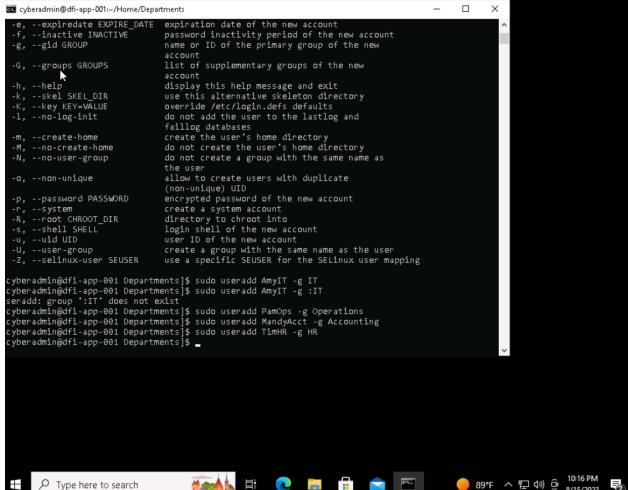
For documentation purposes, please explain the syntax for non-technical management on the change control board that meets weekly.

[Provide a screenshot(s) of completed tasks and the correctly set permissions here] [Provide your non-technical syntax explanation for management here]

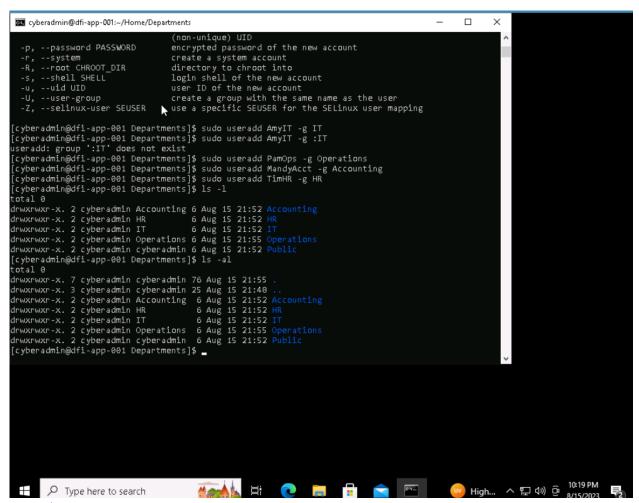


At first I made a directory in root file and called it Home, then changed the directory to Home and made a sub folder and called it Departments. After that I made 4 subdirectories in the Departments folder and I tagged them with HR, Accounting, Public, IT, Operations. All of that just by using mkdir command for making the directory and cd command to move from one directory to another.

I made multiple groups with a sudo privilege then assigned them to their own folders by using groupadd to create the users and chown for the assigning part.



I created multiple users and assigned them to their own group by using sudo privilege, after that I wrote useradd command to add them then followed the command with the name of the user and -g command to assign the user to their own primary group and followed it by the name of the group.



Used \$ Is -al to display the complete list of the directory.

# 11. Firewall Alert Response:

The IT Manager took a look at firewall alerts and was concerned with some traffic she saw, please take a look and provide a mitigation response to the below firewall report. Remember to justify your mitigation strategy.

This file is available from the project resources title: **DFI\_FW\_Report.xlsx**. Please download and use this file to complete this task.

#### [Firewall mitigation response and justification goes here]

- 1. The server connection should be open for the required user as well as for a particular source IP address and port.
- 2. The max login attempt should be limited. Ex: no more than 3 attempts per 30 minutes.
- 3. Any unusual traffic comes from an inbound IP address or port should get blocked.
- 4. Organizations should permit the connection of inbound IP address for the ones needed by the organization.

- 5. User activities while connection should be logged.
- 6. Root remote login should get disabled.
- 7. Users should use a strong password to login.
- 8. Any brute force attempt should get blocked automatically.
- 9. Since port 22 is vulnerable to unauthorized access, it is recommended to close the port and run the server using another port that is only accessible via an authorized IP and port.
- 10. A VPN should be used to connect to the server so all traffic will be encrypted to prevent potential MITM attacks.

Note: Unusual IP addresses should get blocked for a long time (ex: not more than 24 hours) and only if it is determined that they are a malicious IP source by looking at their status using several tools such as AbuseIPDB, VirusTotal, IPInfo, etc. Otherwise, it is recommended to block them for a short time only Ex: no more than 30 minutes.

## 12. Status Report and where to go from here:

As your first two weeks wind down, the IT Manager, HR Manager as well as other management are interested in your experience. With your position being the first dedicated Information Security role, they would like a 'big picture' view of what you've done as well as the security posture of DFI.

Similar to Defense-in-Depth, an organization has multiple layers of security from the edge of their web presence all the way to permissions on a file.

In your own words explain the work you've done, the recommendations made and how DFI should proceed from a security standpoint. This is your opportunity to provide a thoughtful analysis that shows your understanding of Cyber Security and how all of the tasks you've performed contribute to the security of DFI. As this will be reviewed by non-technical management please keep the technical jargon to a minimum.

#### [Provide your Status Report Here]

After exploring the system and following standard security procedures, I applied the following changes: -

- Implementing the concept of least privilege by assigning users to their folders and removing any unauthorized access.
- Adopting the principle of defense-in-depth on Windows services.
- Suggested the best option for VPN encryption algorithm using Cisco guidelines.
- Configured several IDS rules.
- Recommended several DFI technologies.
- Recommended several Windows updates.
- Created several directories for Linux system using the principle of least privilege.

• Suggested a firewall mitigation response for unusual attempts from inbound traffic.

In addition, I recommend applying the NIST and ISO 27001 frameworks along with the following products from Cisco to elevate security: -

- 1. Cisco Security Packet Analyzer
- 2. Cisco Secure Firewall ASDM

## 13. File Encryption:

As your final task, assemble all of the deliverables you have created in Steps 1-12 and encrypt them using 7zip with a strong password.

When you submit the file you must also include your password as a note to the reviewer at Udacity or they will not be able to review your project.