



Bernard Robinson & Company

IT Risk Advisory Services

As Certified Public Accountants and Advisors, BRC is proud to announce our advisory services focused on Vulnerability Scanning / Vulnerability Management.

Vulnerability Scanning / Vulnerability Management Overview

A vulnerability is typically a programming mistake that can be exploited to cause harm to a computer device. Not all bugs are vulnerable to be exploited and some bugs are found years after the software has been in production. Once a bug has been found, a malicious threat agent (bad guy) can develop a way to exploit the error to capture data or take over the device. The software developers (Microsoft, Oracle, Apple) will develop a fix for the bug in their code and send it out to their customers. This fix is called a patch. The best way to counter the threat of vulnerabilities is to apply the patch to your device as soon as possible after the patch is released. Vulnerabilities are also created through incorrect security configurations or default accounts and passwords

A Vulnerability Scan is a set of testing activities performed against computer systems, networks, and applications to identify potential security weaknesses present in the target environment. A vulnerability assessment is intended to identify and assign a criticality rating (Computer Vulnerability Scoring System or CVSS) to potential security weaknesses in the environment, but not to exploit the weaknesses. Therefore, the assessment provides the organization with a perspective on the technical security posture of the organization's IT systems, but does not validate the likelihood of successful compromise of the identified vulnerabilities. A vulnerability assessment is typically conducted using an automated scanning tool. Vulnerability scans should be conducted on a regular basis. By regularly running vulnerability scans, your organization has a baseline in which to test against in order to identify new vulnerabilities. Once vulnerabilities are identified on a device, the device can be patched, reconfigured correctly or other compensating controls and configurations could be established to mitigate the vulnerability.

A vulnerability scan is important even if you outsource the management of your IT systems. The third-party scanning program creates a report indicating the known vulnerabilities found on the devices along with a suggested risk ranking. This report will help you determine that your IT management provider is maintaining the security of your systems.

BRC Services for Vulnerability Scanning / Vulnerability Management

- Quarterly Vulnerability Management
- Systems Vulnerability Scanning Assessment

Let's get started today! For more information please contact: Ben Hunter III, CPA, CISA, CRISC, CFE at (336).294.4494 (bhunter@brccpa.com) or any of our dedicated service line leaders.

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