

Guidance on how organisations can protect themselves in cyberspace

IN THIS GUIDANCE

Rebasoft Ltd - Cyber Security Asset Management & UK National Cyber Security Centre best practice.

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WRITTEN FOR

Cyber security professionals

This paper looks at the technology use case for Cyber Security Asset Management. It takes input from National Cyber Security Centre, although it does not discuss people and processes.

CYBER SECURITY ASSET MANAGEMENT & NCSC BEST PRACTICE

Security is rarely considered the primary use for asset information, and traditional asset management systems are ill-equipped for the job.

What if you could combine asset information & security into one system: delivering improved security, ease of use and cost savings.

In the cyber security world, knowing “what data and systems you manage, and what business needs they support” is critical for ensuring they are secure.

WHAT THE NCSC SAYS

The UK National Cyber Security Centre's highlights Asset Management as a key aspect in their 10 steps to Cyber Security².

They say: "Asset management encompasses the way you can establish and maintain the required knowledge of your assets. Over time, systems generally grow organically, and it can be hard to maintain an understanding of all the assets within your environment. Incidents can occur as the result of not fully understanding an environment, whether it is an unpatched service, an exposed cloud storage account or a mis-classified document. Ensuring you know about all these assets is a fundamental precursor to being able to understand and address the resulting risks. Understanding when your systems will no longer be supported can help you to better plan for upgrades and replacements, to help avoid running vulnerable legacy systems."

WHAT STEPS SHOULD YOU TAKE?

- 1) Continuously identify what systems are in your organisation, and understand what is most important.
- 2) Ensure they have appropriate, proportionate security controls implemented – such as Anti-Virus and securely locked down configurations to prevent compromise.
- 3) Continuously assess vulnerabilities that may present a risk. To be effective, this needs to be done throughout the lifetime of your systems.

Without the above steps, you increase the likelihood of an unknown system that has not been correctly maintained being exploited, and causing an incident.

HOW CAN YOU DO THIS?

Asset management should be an integral part of your IT processes:

- A simple, automated, continuous discovery process can keep you up to date on every asset ever connected to your infrastructure.
- Collect sufficient information to help you understand its importance, identify any security configuration or control gaps.
- Automatically perform continuous vulnerability assessment on the discovered assets. Known vulnerabilities are announced daily, and hackers are quick to exploit them.

HOW CAN REBASOFT HELP?

With Rebasoft, you can create and maintain an accurate, always up-to-date asset inventory. It will help ensure all your assets are accounted for and contain the information needed to support your cyber security use cases, such as risk management and vulnerability management.

It can:

- a) Eliminate duplication of effort and inaccurate records. For example, a virtual machine might not be scanned for vulnerabilities because it's too difficult for the user to register it for scanning. Or a web server may miss critical updates because the administrator mis-typed the details.

- b) Better understand your critical services and functions and identify the associated data and technology dependencies so you can prioritise these.

- c) Identify unknown assets and reduce the chances of missing anything.

- d) Integrate the process of risk assessment with asset management; do we have Anti-Virus where we need it? Are all our systems compliant with our secure configuration aims?

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

1. <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/10-steps/asset-management/>
2. <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>

Rebasoft delivers more than asset management. Our all-in-one security system helps with Network Security, Asset Security, Vulnerability Management, Network Access Control. It can also save you money through retiring point monitoring solutions.

For more information visit us at: <https://www.rebasoft.net/>