

# Findings



## Providing Actionable Data From XCCDF/OVAL Results



# Findings



- Motivation – why is it needed
- Constraints on the architecture/design
- High Level Design
- Detailed Design
- Samples of Findings generated from XCCDF benchmarks
- Inter product operability (CFEs?)

# Motivation – Why is it needed?



- Provide data to satisfy Auditors
  - Auditors often require more detailed information about a pass or a fail
  - A configuration item passes, but what value does it have?
- Provide data needed to remediate systems
  - Why does the antivirus check fail?
    - because there is no AV?
    - Is the AV present but not a valid version?
    - Are the signature files up to date?
  - Why does the file permissions check fail?
    - Do unexpected accounts have access?
    - Does the file exist?
    - Does each expected account have proper permissions
- Simply provide clarifying data about the state of systems

# Constraints on the architecture/design



- For SCAP implementers
  - Findings must “fit in” with the rest of the SCAP infrastructure
  - Implementable with commonly available tools
- For Content Creators
  - Should have a low learning curve
- For SCAP Users
  - Should not require large resources at run time
  - Should reduce the volume of results to only significant data (high signal to noise ratio)
- For IT and Security personnel
  - Results should be clear, simple, and complete
  - Results should be localizable
- Appropriate for any checking system (OVAL, scripts, OCIL?)

# High Level Design



- Process the OVAL results documents via XSL stylesheets to extract only the 'useful' information
- Each OVAL definition needing detailed results will have its own stylesheet
- XCCDF Results schema
  - We're currently using the Check-content element as a container for findings
  - Rule-result should be extended to provide a specific location for findings results

# High Level Design



XCCDF Benchmark with OVAL  
Definitions

OVAL Engine

OVAL Results Document(s)

Findings  
Stylesheet  
Transformation

Findings in XCCDF Result

# Detailed Design (1) - Components



- Findings schema
  - Supports instance data
    - Which file
    - Which account
  - Supports actual data
    - Actual permission collected for the file/account
  - Supports input (expected) data
    - The permission the file/account was expected to have
- Findings messages
  - Substitution for instance, actual and expected data
    - For file *xyz.abc*, account *USER1* had read and execute permission when **read only** was expected
- Mapping of OVAL Definition to XSL Stylesheet
  - Our implementation used an explicit mapping of ovalid to file name
    - oval:abc.xyz:def:101 to oval\_abc\_xyz\_def\_101.xsl
    - Xsl stylesheets are also stored in our database with the check id as the key
- Library of reusable stylesheets
  - Example - Many definitions check for file permissions, but a single library stylesheet template can handle all of them

# Detailed Design (2) - Components



- For OVAL:
  - Use XSL Stylesheet to extract findings from OVAL results
  - Our implementation used an explicit mapping of ovalid to file name
    - oval:abc.xyz:def:101 to oval\_abc\_xyz\_def\_101.xsl
    - Xsl stylesheets are also stored in our database with the check id as the key
  - Library of reusable stylesheets
    - Example - Many definitions check for file permissions, but a single library stylesheet template can handle all of them



# Detailed Design (3)



- Handle incomplete or partial results with attribute in the Findings document
- Indicate finding type (violation or compliance, and possibly others) with attribute in finding element
- Message and findings ids conventionally use URI style to provide for globally unique ids (not currently schema enforced)
- Finding messages are associated with a finding summary corresponding to the OVAL (or other) check id.

# Findings generated from XCCDF benchmarks



- The account **Power Users** access to **C:\WINDOWS\wmsetup.log** is **XRQNWATBDE(Modify)** access, but no access is expected.
- The account **Users** access to **C:\WINDOWS\wmsetup.log** is **XRQNE(Read&Execute)** access, but **XRQNWATBDE(Modify)** is expected.

```
<findings xmlns="http://results.pa.mcafee.com/findings/5.2" id="oval:com.mcafee.oval:def:89558">
  <finding isViolation="true" messageId="com.mcafee.pa.msg.winfilenonerightsviolation">
    <instanceValue key="account">Power Users</instanceValue>
    <instanceValue key="filename">C:\WINDOWS\wmsetup.log</instanceValue>
    <actualValue key="permissions">XRQNWATBDE(Modify)</actualValue>
  </finding>
  <finding isViolation="true" messageId="com.mcafee.pa.msg.winfilerightsviolation">
    <instanceValue key="account">Users</instanceValue>
    <instanceValue key="filename">C:\WINDOWS\wmsetup.log</instanceValue>
    <instanceValue key="permissions">XRQNWATBDE(Modify)</instanceValue>
    <actualValue key="permissions">XRQNE(Read&Execute / List Folder Contents)</actualValue>
  </finding>
  <findingsSummary isViolationSetComplete="1" totalViolations="3"/>
</findings>
```

# Findings generated from XCCDF benchmarks



- The account **Users** access to **C:\WINDOWS\help\** is **XRQNE(Read & Execute / List Folder Contents)** access, but **RQNE(Read)** is expected.

```
<findings xmlns="http://results.pa.mcafee.com/findings/5.2 " id="oval:com.mcafee.oval:def:89206">
  <finding isViolation="true" messageId="com.mcafee.pa.msg.winfilenonerightsviolation">
    <instanceValue key="account">Power Users</instanceValue>
    <instanceValue key="filename">C:\WINDOWS\help\</instanceValue>
    <actualValue key="permissions">XRQNWATBDE(Modify)</actualValue>
  </finding>
</findings>
```

# Findings generated from XCCDF benchmarks



- Password history length should be 6 or greater but is set to 0. (Failure)

```
<findings xmlns= "http://results.pa.mcafee.com/findings/5.2" id="oval:com.mcafee.oval.win:def:6001" >
  <finding isViolation="true" messageId="com.mcafee.pa.msg.winpasswdhistlengreaterthansetting">
    <instanceValue key="inputValue">6</instanceValue>
    <actualValue key="actualValue">0</actualValue>
  </finding>
  <findingsSummary isViolationSetComplete="1" totalViolations="1"/>
</findings>
```

# Findings generated from XCCDF benchmarks



- Maximum password age should be less than **3888000 seconds (45 days)** and is set to **3710851 seconds (43 days.)** (Pass)

```
<findings xmlns="http://results.pa.mcafee.com/findings/5.2" id="oval:com.mcafee.oval.windows:def:17">
  <finding isViolation="false" messageId="com.mcafee.pa.msg.winmaxpasswdagelessthansetting">
    <instanceValue key="inputValue">3888000 seconds (45 days) </instanceValue>
    <actualValue key="actualValue">3710851 seconds (43 days) </actualValue>
  </finding>
  <findingsSummary isViolationSetComplete="1" totalViolations="0"/>
</findings>
```

- As long as we have a consistent location for including findings in the XCCDF result doc, we will have a level of syntactic inter-operability
- However, to achieve semantic interoperability, we will need to have a common enumeration for findings.
  - Finding message ids
  - Standard substitutions
- Let's look at the minimum password length as an example

# Inter Product Operability - Example



- Vendor A might produce the following Findings document:

```
<findings xmlns= "http://results.findings.org/findings/" id="oval:gov.usgcb.oval.win:def:6001" >  
  <finding isViolation="true" messageId="com.vendorA.msg.invalidminimumpwlenght">  
    <instanceValue key="required">8</instanceValue>  
    <actualValue key="actual">4</actualValue>  
  </finding>  
  <findingsSummary isViolationSetComplete="1" totalViolations="1"/>  
</findings>
```

- Vendor B might produce this Findings document:

```
<findings xmlns= "http://results.findings.org/findings" id=" oval:gov.usgcb.oval.win:def:6001 " >  
  <finding isViolation="true" messageId="com.vendorB.msg.minpwlenviolation">  
    <instanceValue key="expectedValue">8</instanceValue>  
    <actualValue key="actualValue">4</actualValue>  
  </finding>  
  <findingsSummary isViolationSetComplete="1" totalViolations="1"/>  
</findings>
```

# Inter Product Operability - Example



- Both results are valid and correct
  - For humans, they say the same thing.
  - For machines, they do not say the same thing.
- In particular, remediation engines would need multiple findings mappings to be able to remediate the issue
- For reporting there might be 2 (or more) sets of the same logical finding type
- To address these problems, we might consider CFE, Common Finding Enumeration



# Inter Product Operability - Example



- A new enumeration – Common Finding enumeration

# Status of Findings Today



- An integrated feature in the McAfee Policy Auditor 5.2 and 5.3 versions
- Being actively used by iPost today
- Extends the integration of OVAL and XCCDF to provide users with a missing capability
- Makes SCAP content more useful to customers without forcing them to munge XML results to get what they operationally need
- Being contributed to extend the SCAP set of standards
- Open specification is being provided not just to customers but to the community for others to integrate and benefit from

# Questions ???



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