5.6 Ensure access to the su command is restricted (Scored)

Profile Applicability

```
Level 1 - Server
Level 1 - Workstation
```

Description

The `su` command allows a user to run a command or shell as another user. The program has been superseded by `sudo`, which allows for more granular control over privileged access. Normally, the `su` command can be executed by any user. By uncommenting the `pam_wheel.so` statement in `/etc/pam.d/su`, the `su` command will only allow users in the wheel group to execute `su`.

Rationale

Restricting the use of `su`, and using `sudo` in its place, provides system administrators better control of the escalation of user privileges to execute privileged commands. The sudo utility also provides a better logging and audit mechanism, as it can log each command executed via `sudo`, whereas `su` can only record that a user executed the `su` program.

Audit

Run the following command and verify output includes matching line:

```
# grep pam_wheel.so /etc/pam.d/su
auth required pam_wheel.so use_uid
```

Run the following command and verify users in `wheel` group match site policy:

```
# grep wheel /etc/group
wheel:x:10:root,<user list>
```

Remediation

Add the following line to the `/etc/pam.d/su` file:

```
auth required pam_wheel.so use_uid
```

Create a comma separated list of users in the wheel statement in the `/etc/group` file:

```
wheel:x:10:root,<user list>
```

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