

6.2.15 Ensure all groups in /etc/passwd exist in /etc/group (Scored)

Profile Applicability

Level 1 - Server
Level 1 - Workstation

Description

Over time, system administration errors and changes can lead to groups being defined in /etc/passwd but not in /etc/group.

Rationale

Groups defined in the /etc/passwd file but not in the /etc/group file pose a threat to system security since group permissions are not properly managed.

Audit

Run the following script and verify no results are returned:

```
#!/bin/bash
for i in $(cut -s -d: -f4 /etc/passwd | sort -u ); do
    grep -q -P "^..*?:[^:]*:$i:" /etc/group
    if [ $? -ne 0 ]; then
        echo "Group $i is referenced by /etc/passwd but does not exist in
/etc/group"
    fi
done
```

Remediation

Analyze the output of the Audit step above and perform the appropriate action to correct any discrepancies found.

From:

<https://secscan.acron.pl/> - **SecScan**

Permanent link:

<https://secscan.acron.pl/ubuntu1604/6/2/15>

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