

6.2.16 Ensure no duplicate UIDs exist (Scored)

Profile Applicability

Level 1 - Server
Level 1 - Workstation

Description

Although the useradd program will not let you create a duplicate User ID (UID), it is possible for an administrator to manually edit the /etc/passwd file and change the UID field.

Rationale

Users must be assigned unique UIDs for accountability and to ensure appropriate access protections.

Audit

Run the following script and verify no results are returned:

```
#!/bin/bash
cat /etc/passwd | cut -f3 -d":" | sort -n | uniq -c | while read x ; do
  [ -z "${x}" ] && break
  set - $x
  if [ $1 -gt 1 ]; then
    users=`awk -F: '($3 == n) { print $1 }' n=$2 /etc/passwd | xargs`
    echo "Duplicate UID ($2): ${users}"
  fi
done
```

Remediation

Based on the results of the audit script, establish unique UIDs and review all files owned by the shared UIDs to determine which UID they are supposed to belong to.

From:

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

Permanent link:

<https://secscan.acron.pl/ubuntu1604/6/2/16>

Last update: **2017/05/04 14:00**

