



PCI DSS 4.0

Viewing and managing compliance through an attacker's lens

Understand your exposure to real-world threats

Ensuring that network infrastructure complies with PCI DSS 4.0 is a proven way to strengthen the security of an organization's Cardholder Data Environment (CDE). Whilst prioritizing non-compliances for effective remediating action not only improves compliance posture, it significantly reduces network risk.

It's why Nipper's new PCI DSS 4.0 report has been developed to provide a fast, accurate and efficient way to prioritize identified device vulnerabilities by their risk to compliance. Run at scale across large or multiple CDEs, with a Nipper OmniSight deployment, this report will provide a complete view of compliance risks. However, it may highlight more vulnerabilities than it is possible to mitigate between audits, particularly when Nipper OmniSight's proactive assessment capabilities have been enabled. So knowing which risks are most exploitable can be transformative for organizations that are looking to target resources and fast-track remediation to protect their attack surface. This requires a further layer of analysis.

Risk-prioritized remediation

Historical vulnerability data dating back to 2019 reveals that only 4% of known vulnerabilities have been used by attackers in the wild, and according to CISA, it is known exploited vulnerabilities (KEVs) that should be the top priority for immediate remediation.

KEV data also needs to be overlaid with information about how adversaries operate, if risk owners are to truly understand their CDE's exposure to real-world attacks. By examining the tactics, techniques and procedures (TTPs) that are being used by threat actors and threat groups to target similar organizations, network owners can start to examine their risk posture, asking questions such as:

- What are we doing to prevent 'privilege escalation'?
- What is our current risk posture to this technique that was recently used to exploit our competitor?
- How susceptible are we to particular types of ransomware attack?

Knowledge bases from the likes of MITRE provide a wealth of threat intelligence that helps organizations keep track of TTPs. And using MITRE ATT&CK posture data to augment misconfiguration, non-compliance and vulnerability data creates a very powerful dataset to feed into risk prioritization and remediation plans.

Zero-in on exploitable vulnerabilities

To stay on top of software vulnerabilities requires regular patching of devices. But it is not possible to patch to remediate a weak admin password or an insecure routing protocol. These types of misconfiguration vulnerabilities remain on the device, posing a risk to the network, until they are found and fixed.

Which is why Nipper OmniSight provides MITRE ATT&CK posture from two different vantage points across networking devices: device OS software vulnerabilities and device configurations.

Nipper OmniSight then helps prioritize and expedite remediation with device-specific guidance on how to mitigate the risks, and can proactively re-assess changes to confirm that hardening activities have been successful.

Used to manage 'configuration as code' Nipper OmniSight can also test pre-production changes, aid recovery from operational incidents, and perform root cause analysis of changes that caused the incident.

