Vanguard Configuration Manager Implementation

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Wisconsin Physicians Service

• WPS
  • Who We Are
  • Our Challenge
  • Our Opportunity

• What is VCM?

• Our Experience
WPS

- Major Health Insurance Provider in Mid-West
- Over 5 million Claims Processed Per Month
  - WPS Health Insurance
  - TRICARE
  - Medicare
Our Challenge

• Multiple Government Agency Security Compliance

• Audits Overwhelming
  • More than 18 Different Audits Annually
  • Most Comprehensive Used to Respond to All
  • Government Most Complex/Consuming
    • TRICARE - DIACAP Requirements (ATO)
    • Medicare – CMSR, Section 912, etc.
Our Challenge

• DIACAP Authority to Operate (ATO) Most Comprehensive
  • TRICARE Management Authority (TMA)
  • Annual Multiple Month Process
  • Significant Manual Effort
  • Significant Impact on Normal Operations
Our Challenge

- TMA Monthly Site CD
  - CA-Examine Based Scripts
  - Based on DoD/DISA STIGs
    - Department of Defense (DoD)
    - Defense Information System Agency (DISA)
    - Security Technical Implementation Guide (STIG)
  - Results Used for Other Audits, But Clumsy
Our Opportunity

• TMA Shifted Annual Certification to Contractors
  • Discontinued DIACAP ATO On-Site Visits
  • Switch to National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Based Requirements
  • Annual Site Visits Replaced with WPS Assessment
  • WPS Executives Attest to Security Posture
    • Can Be Audited Anytime
    • Responsibility Now Ours!
• Opened Prospect of Improving Internal Processes
Our Opportunity

• Medicare Became Most Comprehensive Audit
  • CMS Minimum Security Requirements (CMSR)
  • Covers All of TRICARE National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Based Requirements
  • NIST /CMSRs Tie Back To DoD/DISA STIGs
  • If We Focused on CMSRs, Results Available for All Audits
Our Opportunity

• Getting More Complex/Time Consuming!
  • With No TMA Monthly Site-CD, Manual Effort Unacceptable
  • Needed More Effective Technology
  • Researched Industry Options
  • Acquired VCM
What is VCM?

• Vanguard Configuration Manager
  • Automated Vulnerability Assessment Solution
  • Assists in Passing a Security Readiness Review (SRR)
  • Tailored to DoD/DISA z/OS RACF STIG Checklist
  • Supports IBM OS/390 and z/OS RACF
Overview of Phases

Common Configuration

Collection

Execution

Results

Input PDS

1 ISPF

RACF DB

Results

2 ISPF or Batch

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VCM – Other features

1. History Processing
2. Compare Processing
3. Filter Processing
Our Experience – ‘The Old Days’

• TRICARE - DIACAP ATO Process
  • Very Time Consuming
  • Used CA-Examine and SRR Scripts for 6 LPARs
  • Additional Week to Understand/Resolve Findings
  • Consumed Staff of Over 15 Techs and Security Staff

• Medicare Efforts Duplicated/Convoluted Effort

• High Risk of Missing Mitigation Requirements

• Potential Adverse Impact on Contracts/Future Business
Our Experience – Today

• VCM Runs Concurrently on All LPARs
  • 1-2 Hours Total
  • Findings Are Immediate and Clearly Described
  • Now Run Weekly for Proactive Scanning

• Reports Sent to Administrators For Resolution
  • Mainframe System Programmers
  • IT Security Personnel
  • Imported to Internal Central Vulnerability Data Base
  • Combined with Multi-Platform Reporting
Our Experience – Today

• Quarterly Submission Requirements Easily Met
• High Confidence Levels for TRICARE/Medicare Needs
• CMS May Require Monthly Scans
  • Not Possible with Old Method
  • Can Do Easy With VCM
• Reduced Staff Involvement from 15+ to 3
  • Old Process Required Manual Reviews
  • VCM Tailored to DoD/DISA STIGs
  • Reviews Automated
Our Experience – VCM Acquisition

• Internal Proof of Concept
  • Two Trainers for a Week
  • Installation/Configuration/Collection Very Smooth
  • Outstanding Results!

• Acquired/Continued Running

• Superb Support Since
  • Problems Fixed Within a Week
  • Some Immediate
  • New STIGs Supported Within a Month or Less
  • Updates Come as Single SMP/E PTF
Wrap-Up

- Government Security Requirements Complex!
- Getting More So
- Lack of Appropriate Technology Costly
  - Staffing
  - Loss of Contract
  - Future Business Unlikely
- VCM Put WPS in Proactive Position
  - Minimized Staff Impact
  - Improved Security Posture
  - Well Positioned for Upcoming Changes