

EMC Security Assessment for Virtualized Environments

Achieving an enterprise-class, secure virtual infrastructure

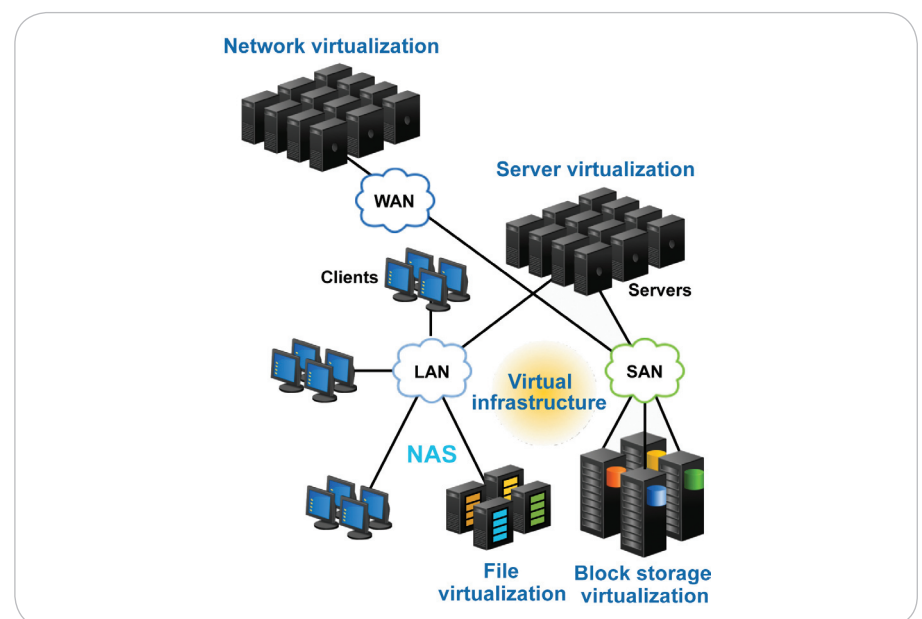
The Big Picture

- Improve security of virtualized environments without compromising virtualization benefits
- Identify security risks and priorities for remediation
- Understand the levels of security needed
- Establish virtualization security policies, management, and technology plans

The benefits associated with virtualization technologies are creating real value across enterprise IT and network environments—increasing flexibility, improving responsiveness to business opportunities, and offering greater operational efficiencies. The greater challenge today is to maximize the benefits of virtualization without compromising security and compliance. While improvements in systems management are addressing numerous challenges in managing virtualized infrastructure, organizations must also consider the potential for security implications and risks within virtualized environments.

Overview

The EMC[®] Security Assessment for Virtualized Environments helps customers understand the security posture of their virtualized infrastructures and establish optimum plans, which achieve policy or compliance objectives, without compromising the value of virtualization technology. By leveraging the security experts of EMC Consulting, and by leveraging best practices and industry standards, the security assessment focuses on the application of virtualization technology in your environment to identify security risk and remediation plans without compromising the business value of virtualization.



The service provides the knowledge needed to protect information—identities, data, and systems—across the entire virtualized infrastructure, including VMware[®], Hyper-V, XenServer systems, and corresponding management structures. This service provides an understanding of the level of protection that is appropriate for a given set of operational requirements and recommends the best combination of policy, management, and technology improvements to assure a comprehensive virtualization security strategy.

Scope and deliverables

The Security Assessment for Virtualized Environments provides a comprehensive approach to assessing the posture of your virtualized infrastructure in the context of security. It provides a thorough review of VM (virtual machine) lifecycle management policies or standards, VM operation management processes, and information security policies and controls with regard to VM infrastructure hardening.

An analysis is performed to identify current VM state and VM operational gaps, with the outcome comprising specific recommendations and roadmap, a list of prioritized next steps, and an overall presentation for discussion and socialization.

EMC security consultants will assess the security of server platforms, virtual host types, virtual and real network configurations, management systems, access controls, and relevant operational and security controls to determine the state of an existing virtualized environment. The assessment process includes the evaluation of policy and technical characteristics of the infrastructure to determine security posture and risk. Once the assessment is completed, a high-level Gap Analysis is presented outlining the current infrastructure vulnerabilities and recommended risk mitigation efforts. The recommendations may include some, or all, of the following areas:

- User and resource security
- Access controls
- Network configuration
- Platform security
- Data security
- Physical security
- Security monitoring
- Security policy management
- Operational controls (change management, asset management, etc.)

An important benefit of the assessment is evaluating the effectiveness of the security mechanisms currently in place against reference criteria, including:

- Deviations from industry best practices (ISO 27002)
- Any known vulnerabilities (such as reported by the CERT or other security-related sites)
- Any security baseline criteria proposed by EMC

EMC Consulting

As part of the world's leading developer and provider of information infrastructure technology and solutions, EMC Consulting transforms information into business results. Our consultants bring a unique mix of industry, business, and technology expertise to solve today's toughest challenges. We use field-tested tools, proven methodologies, best practices, and industry standards to minimize risk and optimize time to value in our engagements. We provide a full range of consulting, design, implementation, and support services.



EMC Corporation
Hopkinton
Massachusetts
01748-9103
1-508-435-1000
In North America 1-866-464-7381
www.EMC.com

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