

Cisco Security Architecture Assessment Service

Understand and Strengthen Your Organization's Security Infrastructure



An Architectural Approach to Security

Gain a comprehensive view of your security infrastructure:

- **Align security goals with business objectives:** Identify and prioritize risks and remediation opportunities.
- **Assess security business goals directly:** Gain visibility and control using a metrics-based assessment and the Cisco Common Security Framework.
- **Reduce regulatory compliance exposure:** Increase the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of your business processes and information.

Protecting Your Infrastructure

Protecting your critical business applications and data from security intrusions requires a comprehensive security solution. A well-designed security architecture contains controls that protect your infrastructure against ever-changing threats and vulnerabilities, while at the same time supporting alignment with evolving security policy and compliance requirements.

Building a robust security defense for a borderless network begins with a clear understanding of the current vulnerability state of your network architecture. Designing and deploying a multilayer defense solution require more than in-depth knowledge of security products and leading practices; they also require extensive knowledge of the network infrastructure across which the security solution runs.

An organization's security requirements are derived from many sources, including organizational goals and objectives, industry and international standards, and industry and government regulations. The process of designing, implementing, and operating an infrastructure that meets these business and security requirements benefits from the application of a coherent model to view and organize the myriad of security control requirements.

Assess the Effectiveness of Your Security Controls

The Cisco® Security Architecture Assessment Service is performed by Cisco consultants who draw on their extensive security experience in a variety of vertical industries and government agencies. This expertise is supported by a combination of advanced tools, methodologies, and unparalleled access to Cisco product development engineers to help you make the most of the sophisticated security features included in your Cisco products.

Cisco security experts begin by conducting a detailed review of your security goals, identifying critical assets, and gathering business and technical requirements. Based on this information, they complete an in-depth analysis of your security infrastructure, including the network topology, network devices, and security devices and the processes around them.

The assessment methodology is metrics based, focusing on the end-to-end security goals. This approach measures the overall effectiveness of the security infrastructure, independent of the combinations of individual controls that could be implemented to support the business goals. Results are prioritized based on risk to critical assets and evaluated using the Cisco Security Control Framework. The resulting report makes recommendations to remediate identified vulnerabilities through changes to the underlying controls.

Collected data is presented in the form of security metrics that measure the capabilities and effectiveness of the currently deployed technical and operational controls. This assessment is appropriate for Cisco and multivendor infrastructures supporting the core routing, switching, and wireless network infrastructure and the primary functional domains such as the perimeter and edge networks.

By taking this comprehensive approach to assessing the security infrastructure, this service helps your organization improve risk management and satisfy compliance requirements by reducing threats to the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of business processes and information.

Service Activities and Methodology Summary

- Review security business goals, objectives, and requirements
- Review existing security architecture and design documentation, including physical and logical designs, network topology diagrams, device configurations, and blueprints as needed
- Evaluate whether each of the recommended controls in the Cisco Security Control Framework is present in the security infrastructure
- Evaluate the effectiveness of each applicable Cisco Security Control Framework control in providing its designated security function
- Evaluate the security architecture for scalability, performance, and manageability
- Identify vulnerabilities in the security infrastructure
- Provide a metrics-based report that highlights the critical assets, risks, and identifies security gaps
- Provide an executive presentation of findings and prioritized recommendations

Service Benefits Summary

- Create a robust and scalable security architecture using a business-focused, risk-avoidance approach
- More effectively protect your infrastructure by identifying architectural vulnerabilities and deviations from security best practices
- Safeguard employee productivity, primary intellectual property, and sensitive customer data by mitigating security risks
- Address compliance requirements by identifying improved internal controls needed to better protect data
- Strengthen your staff's ability to prevent, detect, and respond to future threats
- Protect your investment by extending the security capabilities of the existing infrastructure

Why Cisco Services

Cisco is a leader in network security. Based on extensive training, sophisticated tools, and years of securing some of the most complex networks in the world, Cisco has developed proven methodologies for actively assessing your infrastructure and conducting a detailed analysis. Our assessment services include prioritized recommendations to help you successfully close security gaps.

Realize the full business value of your technology investments more quickly with intelligent, customized services from Cisco and our partners. Backed by deep networking expertise and a broad ecosystem of partners, Cisco Services enable you to successfully plan, build, and run your network as a powerful business platform. Whether you are looking to quickly seize new opportunities to meet rising customer expectations, improve operational efficiency to lower costs, mitigate risk, or accelerate growth, we have a service that can help you.

Availability and Ordering

Cisco Security Architecture Assessment Service is available through Cisco and Cisco partners globally. Details may vary by region.

For More Information

For more information about Cisco Security Services and the Cisco Security Control Framework, visit www.cisco.com/go/services/security or contact your local account representative.

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