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CompTIA CAS-005 Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	Security Operations: This domain is designed for CompTIA security architects and covers analyzing data to support monitoring and response activities, as well as assessing vulnerabilities and recommending solutions to reduce attack surfaces. Candidates will apply threat-hunting techniques and utilize threat intelligence concepts to enhance operational security.
Topic 2	Security Architecture: This domain focuses on analyzing requirements to design resilient systems, including the configuration of firewalls and intrusion detection systems.
Topic 3	Security Engineering: This section measures the skills of CompTIA security architects that involve troubleshooting common issues related to identity and access management (IAM) components within an enterprise environment. Candidates will analyze requirements to enhance endpoint and server security while implementing hardware security technologies. This domain also emphasizes the importance of advanced cryptographic concepts in securing systems.
Topic 4	Governance, Risk, and Compliance: This section of the exam measures the skills of CompTIA security architects that cover the implementation of governance components based on organizational security requirements, including developing policies, procedures, and standards. Candidates will learn about managing security programs, including awareness training on phishing and social engineering.

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CompTIA SecurityX Certification Exam Sample Questions (Q204-Q209):

NEW QUESTION # 204

A security analyst is reviewing the following vulnerability assessment report:

192.168.1.5, Host = Server1, CVSS 7.5, Web Server, Remotely Executable = Yes, Exploit = Yes

205.1.3.5, Host = Server2, CVSS 6.5, Bind Server, Remotely Executable = Yes, Exploit = POC

207.1.5.7, Host = Server3, CVSS 5.5, Email Server, Remotely Executable = Yes, Exploit = Yes

192.168.1.6, Host = Server4, CVSS 9.8, Domain Controller, Remotely Executable = Yes, Exploit = Yes Which of the following should be patched first to minimize attacks against internet-facing hosts?

- A. Server2
- B. Server1
- C. Server3
- D. Server4

Answer: A

Explanation:

The question focuses on internet-facing hosts, implying external exposure. CVSS scores, remote executability, and exploit availability guide prioritization. Server2 (205.1.3.5, CVSS 6.5, Bind Server) has a public IP, suggesting it's internet-facing, unlike Server1 and Server4 (192.168.x.x, private IPs). Server3 (207.1.5.7, CVSS 5.5) is also public but has a lower score and risk compared to Server2's proof-of-concept (POC) exploit. Server2's Bind Server (DNS) role is critical and commonly targeted, making it the priority.

* Option A: Server1 (CVSS 7.5) is private, not internet-facing.

* Option B: Server2 (CVSS 6.5) is internet-facing with an exploit POC, warranting immediate patching.

* Option C: Server3 (CVSS 5.5) is internet-facing but less severe.

* Option D: Server4 (CVSS 9.8) is critical but private, not internet-facing.

Reference: CompTIA SecurityX CAS-005 Domain 1: Risk Management - Vulnerability Prioritization.

NEW QUESTION # 205

A company migrating to a remote work model requires that company-owned devices connect to a VPN before logging in to the device itself. The VPN gateway requires that a specific key extension is deployed to the machine certificates in the internal PKI. Which of the following best explains this requirement?

- A. The VPN client selected the certificate with the correct key usage without user interaction.
- B. The certificate is an additional factor to meet regulatory MFA requirements for VPN access.
- C. The server connection uses SSL VPN, which uses certificates for secure communication.
- D. The internal PKI certificate deployment allows for Wi-Fi connectivity before logging in to other systems.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation:

This scenario describes an enterprise VPN setup that requires machine authentication before a user logs in. The best explanation for this requirement is that the VPN client selects the appropriate certificate automatically based on the key extension in the machine certificate.

* Understanding the Key Extension Requirement:

* PKI (Public Key Infrastructure) issues machine certificates that include specific key usages such as Client Authentication or IPsec IKE Intermediate.

* Key usage extensions define how a certificate can be used, ensuring that only valid certificates are selected by the VPN client.

* Why Option B is Correct:

* The VPN automatically selects the correct machine certificate with the appropriate key extension.

* The process occurs without user intervention, ensuring seamless VPN authentication before login.

* Why Other Options Are Incorrect:

* A (MFA requirement): Certificates used in this scenario are for machine authentication, not user MFA. MFA typically involves user credentials plus a second factor (like OTPs or biometrics), which is not applicable here.

* C (Wi-Fi connectivity before login): This refers to pre-login networking, which is a separate concept where devices authenticate to a Wi-Fi network before login, usually via 802.1X EAP-TLS. However, this question specifically mentions VPN authentication, not Wi-Fi authentication.

* D (SSL VPN with certificates): While SSL VPNs do use certificates, this scenario involves machine certificates issued by an internal PKI, which are commonly used in IPsec VPNs, not SSL VPNs.

Reference:

CompTIA SecurityX CAS-005 Official Study Guide: Section on Machine Certificate Authentication in VPNs NIST SP 800-53:

Guidelines on authentication mechanisms RFC 5280: Internet X.509 Public Key Infrastructure Certificate and CRL Profile

NEW QUESTION # 206

A security engineer wants to reduce the attack surface of a public-facing containerized application. Which of the following will best reduce the application's privilege escalation attack surface?

- A. Designing a multicontainer solution, with one set of containers that runs the main application, and another set of containers that perform automatic remediation by replacing compromised containers or disabling compromised accounts
- B. Running the container in an isolated network and placing a load balancer in a public-facing network. Adding the following ACL to the load balancer: PZKZI HTTP from 0-0.0.0.0/0 port 443
- C. Implementing the following commands in the Dockerfile: `RUN echo user:x:1000:1000:user/home/user:/dev/null > /etc/passwd`
- D. Installing an EDR on the container's host with reporting configured to log to a centralized SIEM and implementing the following alerting rules: `TF PROCESS_USEB=rooC ALERT_TYPE=critical`

Answer: C

Explanation:

Implementing the given commands in the Dockerfile ensures that the container runs with non-root user privileges. Running applications as a non-root user reduces the risk of privilege escalation attacks because even if an attacker compromises the application, they would have limited privileges and would not be able to perform actions that require root access.

A. Implementing the following commands in the Dockerfile: This directly addresses the privilege escalation attack surface by ensuring the application does not run with elevated privileges.

B. Installing an EDR on the container's host: While useful for detecting threats, this does not reduce the privilege escalation attack surface within the containerized application.

C. Designing a multi-container solution: While beneficial for modularity and remediation, it does not specifically address privilege escalation.

D. Running the container in an isolated network: This improves network security but does not directly reduce the privilege escalation attack surface.

Reference:

CompTIA Security+ Study Guide

Docker documentation on security best practices

NIST SP 800-190, "Application Container Security Guide"

NEW QUESTION # 207

A vulnerability can on a web server identified the following:

```

+ TLS 1.2 Cipher Suites:
The server accepted the following cipher suites:
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA      56
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA      100
TLS_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA     102
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA 100

```

Which of the following actions would most likely eliminate on path decryption attacks? (Select two).

- A. Adding TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA256
- B. Implementing HIPS rules to identify and block BEAST attack attempts
- C. Increasing the key length to 256 for TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA
- D. Disallowing cipher suites that use ephemeral modes of operation for key agreement
- E. Removing support for CBC-based key exchange and signing algorithms
- F. Restricting cipher suites to only allow TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA

Answer: A,E

Explanation:

On-path decryption attacks, such as BEAST (Browser Exploit Against SSL/TLS) and other related vulnerabilities, often exploit weaknesses in the implementation of CBC (Cipher Block Chaining) mode. To mitigate these attacks, the following actions are recommended:

Removing support for CBC-based key exchange and signing algorithms: CBC mode is vulnerable to certain attacks like BEAST. By removing support for CBC-based ciphers, you can eliminate one of the primary vectors for these attacks. Instead, use modern cipher modes like GCM (Galois/Counter Mode) which offer better security properties.

Adding TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA256: This cipher suite uses Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman Ephemeral (ECDHE) for key exchange, which provides perfect forward secrecy. It also uses AES in GCM mode, which is not susceptible to the same attacks as CBC.

SHA-256 is a strong hash function that ensures data integrity.

NEW QUESTION # 208

A user reports application access issues to the help desk. The help desk reviews the logs for the user:

Time	Internal IP	Public IP	IP geolocation	Application	Action
8:47 p.m.	192.168.1.5	104.18.16.29	Toronto	VPN	Allow
8:48 p.m.	10.10.2.21	95.67.137.12	Los Angeles	Email	Allow
8:48 p.m.	10.10.2.21	95.67.137.12	Los Angeles	Human resources system	Allow
8:49 p.m.	10.10.2.21	95.67.137.12	Los Angeles	Email	Allow
8:52 p.m.	192.168.1.5	104.18.16.29	Toronto	Human resources system	Deny

Which of the following is most likely the reason for the issue?

- A. A threat actor has compromised the user's account and attempted to log in
- B. The user is not allowed to access the human resources system outside of business hours
- C. The user inadvertently tripped the impossible travel security rule in the SSO system
- D. The user did not attempt to connect from an approved subnet

Answer: C

Explanation:

Based on the provided logs, the user has accessed various applications from different geographic locations within a very short timeframe. This pattern is indicative of the "impossible travel" security rule, a common feature in Single Sign-On (SSO) systems designed to detect and prevent fraudulent access attempts.

Analysis of Logs:

At 8:47 p.m., the user accessed a VPN from Toronto.

At 8:48 p.m., the user accessed email from Los Angeles.

At 8:48 p.m., the user accessed the human resources system from Los Angeles.

At 8:49 p.m., the user accessed email again from Los Angeles.

At 8:52 p.m., the user attempted to access the human resources system from Toronto, which was denied.

These rapid changes in location are physically impossible and typically trigger security measures to prevent unauthorized access. The SSO system detected these inconsistencies and likely flagged the activity as suspicious, resulting in access denial.

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