

New Security-Operations-Engineer Test Preparation, Security-Operations-Engineer Valid Study Plan



IT Security Operations Engineer (P2) - (2021/0544 (222367))

Organizations: MTIT-Security Systems Unit
Primary Locations: Austria-Vienna-Vienna-IAEA Headquarters
Job Postings: 2021-11-10, 11:38:24 AM
Closing Date: 2021-12-08, 11:59:00 PM
Duration in Months: 36
Contract Type: Fixed Term - Regular
Probation Period: 1 Year



Organizational Setting

The Division of Information Technology provides support to the IAEA in the field of information and communication technology (ICT), including information systems for technical programmes and management. It is responsible for planning, developing and implementing an ICT strategy, for setting and enforcing common ICT standards throughout the Secretariat and for managing central ICT services. The IAEA's ICT infrastructure comprises hardware and software platforms, and cloud and externally-hosted services. The Division has implemented an IT service management model based on ITIL (IT Infrastructure Library) and Prince2 (Projects in a Controlled Environment) best practices. The Infrastructure Services Section (ISS) is responsible for implementing, maintaining, and administering the ICT systems and services for high availability; designing, implementing, and operating IT security services; and managing the data centre. The platforms include Microsoft Windows servers, Linux servers, Oracle EBS infrastructure, data storage, and transmission networks, serving more than 2500 staff, as well as over 10000 external users around the world. The Section includes three Units: Network and Telecommunications, Enterprise Systems, and Security Systems.

Main Purpose

The purpose of the post is to help the IAEA information and communication technology services define and create repeatable and consistent processes to strengthen IAEA information security posture. Under the supervision of the Security Systems Unit (SSU) Head, the IT Security Operations Engineer acts as the primary IT security events handler and reporter of cyber threats. He/she operates processes related to security operations, such as incident monitoring & response, threats & vulnerabilities management, security research, as well as threat prevention/detection tools administration. He/she will collect and interpret information and events generated by internal security monitoring tools, and external threat intelligence providers. Furthermore he/she will be working with peers and senior security engineers to address information security research, and development and delivery of a comprehensive cyber security program for the IAEA.

Role

The IT Security Operations Engineer is (a) a **technical analyst** supporting the design and formulation of security measures, procedures and standards on all aspects of cyber threats detection, prevention, and response; (b) a **solution provider**, coordinating service delivery; (c) a **team member** actively involved in planning, implementing, testing and administration of IT security systems; and (d) a **security incident handler**.

Functions / Key Results Expected

- Assists in operating several security operations processes and activities related to IT security events: IT security vulnerabilities; threat intelligence; risk assessment; incident management; and the configuration and management of security controls and countermeasures.
- Monitors, recommends and, in consultation with management, implements process improvements for security operations. Provides reports regarding related aspects of IT security operations. Assists in refining alerting and improving threat information escalates the most critical events and impact anomalies Operates and improves all aspects of security event management, threat management, including automation.
- Operates installation, configuration, and management of security operations tools and systems; the expansion and refinement of collection sources and by creating security operations reports automatically and distributing them to the appropriate audience.
- Performs initial assessment and review of security events and vulnerabilities and generates detailed reports; escalates issues as appropriate.

1

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Google Security-Operations-Engineer Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Platform Operations: This section of the exam measures the skills of Cloud Security Engineers and covers the configuration and management of security platforms in enterprise environments. It focuses on integrating and optimizing tools such as Security Command Center (SCC), Google SecOps, GTI, and Cloud IDS to improve detection and response capabilities. Candidates are assessed on their ability to configure authentication, authorization, and API access, manage audit logs, and provision identities using Workforce Identity Federation to enhance access control and visibility across cloud systems.
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Data Management: This section of the exam measures the skills of Security Analysts and focuses on effective data ingestion, log management, and context enrichment for threat detection and response. It evaluates candidates on setting up ingestion pipelines, configuring parsers, managing data normalization, and handling costs associated with large-scale logging. Additionally, candidates demonstrate their ability to establish baselines for user, asset, and entity behavior by correlating event data and integrating relevant threat intelligence for more accurate monitoring.
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Detection Engineering: This section of the exam measures the skills of Detection Engineers and focuses on developing and fine-tuning detection mechanisms for risk identification. It involves designing and implementing detection rules, assigning risk values, and leveraging tools like Google SecOps Risk Analytics and SCC for posture management. Candidates learn to utilize threat intelligence for alert scoring, reduce false positives, and improve rule accuracy by integrating contextual and entity-based data, ensuring strong coverage against potential threats.
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Incident Response: This section of the exam measures the skills of Incident Response Managers and assesses expertise in containing, investigating, and resolving security incidents. It includes evidence collection, forensic analysis, collaboration across engineering teams, and isolation of affected systems. Candidates are evaluated on their ability to design and execute automated playbooks, prioritize response steps, integrate orchestration tools, and manage case lifecycles efficiently to streamline escalation and resolution processes.

Google Cloud Certified - Professional Security Operations Engineer (PSOE) Exam Sample Questions (Q124-Q129):

NEW QUESTION # 124

Your company's SOC recently responded to a ransomware incident that began with the execution of a malicious document. EDR tools contained the initial infection. However, multiple privileged service accounts continued to exhibit anomalous behavior, including credential dumping and scheduled task creation. You need to design an automated playbook in Google Security Operations (SecOps) SOAR to minimize dwell time and accelerate containment for future similar attacks. Which action should you take in your Google SecOps SOAR playbook to support containment and escalation?

- A. Configure a step that revokes OAuth tokens and suspends sessions for high-privilege accounts based on entity risk.
- B. Add an approval step that requires an analyst to validate the alert before executing a containment action.
- C. Create an external API call to VirusTotal to submit hashes from forensic artifacts.
- D. Add a YARA-L rule that sends an alert when a document is executed using a scripting engine such as wscript.exe.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation

The correct answer is Option C. The incident description makes it clear that endpoint containment (by EDR) was insufficient, as the

attacker successfully pivoted to privileged service accounts and began post-compromise activities (credential dumping, scheduled tasks).

The goal is to automate containment and minimize dwell time.

* Option A is an enrichment/investigation action, not a containment action.

* Option B is the opposite of automation; adding a manual approval step increases dwell time and response time.

* Option D is a detection engineering task (creating a YARA-L rule), not a SOAR playbook (response) action.

Option C is the only true automated containment action that directly addresses the new threat. The anomalous behavior of the privileged accounts would raise their Entity Risk Score within Google SecOps. A modern SOAR playbook can be configured to automatically trigger on this high-risk score and execute an identity-based containment action. Revoking tokens and suspending sessions for the compromised high-privilege accounts is the most effective way to immediately stop the attacker's lateral movement and malicious activity, thereby accelerating containment and minimizing dwell time.

Exact Extract from Google Security Operations Documents:

SOAR Playbooks and Automation: Google Security Operations (SecOps) SOAR enables the orchestration and automation of security responses. Playbooks are designed to execute a series of automated steps to respond to an alert.

Identity and Access Management Integrations: SOAR playbooks can integrate directly with Identity Providers (IdPs) like Google Workspace, Okta, and Microsoft Entra ID. A critical automated containment action for compromised accounts is to revoke active OAuth tokens, suspend user sessions, or disable the account entirely. This action immediately logs the attacker out of all active sessions and prevents them from re-authenticating.

Entity Risk: Detections and anomalous activities contribute to an entity's (e.g., a user or asset) risk score.

Playbooks can be configured to use this risk score as a trigger. For example, if a high-privilege account's risk score crosses a critical threshold, the playbook can automatically execute identity containment actions.

References:

Google Cloud Documentation: Google Security Operations > Documentation > SOAR > Playbooks > Playbook Actions Google

Cloud Documentation: Google Security Operations > Documentation > SOAR > Marketplace integrations > (e.g., Okta, Google

Workspace) Google Cloud Documentation: Google Security Operations > Documentation > Investigate > View entity risk scores

NEW QUESTION # 125

Your company works with an external Managed Service Provider (MSP) that requires its users to have the ability to list findings from Security Command Center (SCC) using the Google Cloud SDK. You need to configure the required access for the managed service provider while minimizing your involvement in their external user lifecycle management processes. What should you do?

- A. Create a user account in your Cloud Identity instance using a subdomain indicating they are external to your organization. Grant this user account the appropriate IAM role at the organization level.
- B. Create a workload identity pool in a SCC project. Grant the MSP user the permission to impersonate a service account from this pool, and grant the service account the appropriate IAM role at the organization level.
- **C. Create a workforce identity pool and federate with the identity provider (IdP) of the managed service provider. Grant users of the MSP the appropriate IAM role at the organization level.**
- D. Create a service account in a SCC project. Grant the MSP user permission to impersonate this account. Grant this service account the appropriate IAM role at the organization level.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The best solution is to create a Workforce Identity Pool and federate with the MSP's IdP. This allows the MSP's users to authenticate with their own identity provider while receiving the necessary IAM roles in your environment. It minimizes your lifecycle management overhead since you don't need to create or manage individual external user accounts, while still providing secure, role-based access to SCC findings.

NEW QUESTION # 126

You are reviewing the results of a UDM search in Google Security Operations (SecOps). The UDM fields shown in the default view are not relevant to your search. You want to be able to quickly view the relevant data for your analysis. What should you do?

- **A. Use the columns feature to select or remove columns that are relevant to your analysis.**
- B. Select the events of interest, and choose the relevant UDM fields from the event view using the checkboxes. Copy, extract, and analyze the UDM fields, and refine the search query.
- C. Download the search results as a CSV file, and manipulate the data to display relevant data in a spreadsheet.
- D. Create a Google SecOps SIEM dashboard based on the search you have run, and visualize the data in an appropriate table or graphical format.

Answer: A

Explanation:

The quickest and most effective way to tailor the UDM search results in Google SecOps is to use the columns feature. This lets you add or remove specific UDM fields so that only the data relevant to your investigation is displayed, without exporting or creating dashboards.

NEW QUESTION # 127

Your organization's Google Security Operations (SecOps) tenant is ingesting a vendor's firewall logs in its default JSON format using the Google-provided parser for that log. The vendor recently released a patch that introduces a new field and renames an existing field in the logs. The parser does not recognize these two fields and they remain available only in the raw logs, while the rest of the log is parsed normally. You need to resolve this logging issue as soon as possible while minimizing the overall change management impact. What should you do?

- A. Deploy a third-party data pipeline management tool to ingest the logs, and transform the updated fields into fields supported by the default parser.
- B. Use the web interface-based custom parser feature in Google SecOps to copy the parser, and modify it to map both fields to UDM.
- C. Use the Extract Additional Fields tool in Google SecOps to convert the raw log entries to additional fields.
- **D. Write a code snippet, and deploy it in a parser extension to map both fields to UDM.**

Answer: D

Explanation:

The correct, low-impact solution for augmenting a Google-managed parser is to use a parser extension. The problem states that the base parser is still working, but needs to be supplemented to map two new fields.

Copying the entire parser (Option A) is a high-impact, high-maintenance solution ("Customer Specific Parser"). This action makes the organization responsible for all future updates and breaks the link to Google's managed updates, which is not a minimal-impact solution.

The intended, modern solution is the parser extension. This feature allows an engineer to write a small, targeted snippet of Code-Based Normalization (CBN) code that executes after the Google-managed base parser. This extension code can access the raw_log and perform the specific logic needed to extract the two unmapped fields and assign them to their proper Universal Data Model (UDM) fields.

This approach is the fastest to deploy and minimizes change management impact because the core parser remains managed and updated by Google, while the extension simply adds the custom logic on top. Option B,

"Extract Additional Fields," is a UI-driven feature, but the underlying mechanism that saves and deploys this logic is the parser extension. Option D is the more precise description of the technical solution.

(Reference: Google Cloud documentation, "Manage parsers"; "Parser extensions"; "Code-Based Normalization (CBN) syntax")

NEW QUESTION # 128

You work for an organization that uses Security Command Center (SCC) with Event Threat Detection (ETD) enabled. You need to enable ETD detections for data exfiltration attempts from designated sensitive Cloud Storage buckets and BigQuery datasets. You want to minimize Cloud Logging costs. What should you do?

- **A. Enable "data read" audit logs only for the designated sensitive Cloud Storage buckets and BigQuery datasets.**
- B. Enable "data read" and "data write" audit logs only for the designated sensitive Cloud Storage buckets and BigQuery datasets.
- C. Enable "data read" and "data write" audit logs for all Cloud Storage buckets and BigQuery datasets throughout the organization.
- D. Enable VPC Flow Logs for the VPC networks containing resources that access the sensitive Cloud Storage buckets and BigQuery datasets.

Answer: A

Explanation:

To detect data exfiltration attempts from sensitive Cloud Storage buckets and BigQuery datasets using ETD, you only need "data read" audit logs. These logs capture access and read events (which indicate potential exfiltration). Enabling them only for the designated sensitive resources minimizes Cloud Logging costs while still providing the necessary visibility for detections.

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