

Federal CIO Council

Federal Desktop Core Configuration

Security – the Imperative for Change

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FDCC

Agenda

- Background
- FDCC Standards
- Variances
- Benefits to Community
- Certification and Accreditation
- Conclusion

Background

- Consensus group formed in 2004
 - NIST, NSA, DISA, CIS and Microsoft
 - Windows 2003
 - Windows XP
 - Specialized Security Limited Functionality (SSLF) Setting
- Air Force (AF) started defining Secure Desktop Configuration 1 (SDC 1) in 2005
 - Windows XP
 - May 2006 to Feb 2007 implementation
 - Installed on over 435,000 workstations

Background (cont)

- Consensus group met in Spring 2006
 - NIST, NSA, DISA and Microsoft
 - Windows Vista
 - Specialized Security Limited Functionality (SSLF) Setting
- AF started defining SDC 2 in Fall 2006
 - Windows Vista
 - Navy, Marine Corps and Army joined project to develop the DoD SDC
 - Over 5,000 hours in review meetings

FDCC Standards

- Evolved from DoD Standard Desktop Configuration
 - Windows XP Professional
 - Operating System
 - Internet Explorer 7.0
 - Critical security patches
 - Windows Vista
 - Operating System
 - Internet Explorer 7.0
 - Critical security patches

Variations

- Minimal number due to operational and usability issues
- Out of 540 configuration settings – approx. 14 different than SSIF settings
- Agreed upon by OMB, NIST, NSA, DISA, Air Force, Army, Navy and Microsoft
- DoD entities still need to address variations

Benefits to Community

○ Security

- Improves security posture of workstation and ultimately the data
- Reduces human error of configuration
- Eliminates usage of admin access by all users
- Increases security with Firewall configuration
- Adds additional layer for Defense in Depth
- Provides more consistent infrastructure

Benefits to Community (cont)

- Cost Saving
 - Reduces cost of ownership of PC
 - Lessens help desk troubleshooting
 - Facilitates purchase of preconfigured systems
 - Simplifies deployment of software and operating systems

Benefits to Community (cont)

- Speed of Delivery
 - Eases government and vendor application development
 - Assists with testing of applications
 - Enhances patch testing process
 - Simplifies build, buy and support of software

Certification and Accreditation

- Helps speed the C&A process
- Reduces the risk of client-side issues
- Supports acceptance of external certifications

Conclusion

- Collaborative Effort
- Proven Process
- Dynamic Process
- Benefits
 - In line with DISA's Vision for:
 - Surety
 - Reach
 - Speed
- C & A Process