OVAL Developer Days

July 11-12, 2006

The MITRE Corporation
Bedford, MA

Agenda

Tuesday July 11th 2006

10:00 - 10:15 **welcome**

- *Introductions*
- *Goals for the next two days*

10:15 - 12:00 **tutorial**

- *A look at Version 5*

  At last year's OVAL Developer Days, a number of shortcomings with the language were revealed and features to correct these shortcomings were proposed. We will take a look at the new version of the language and see how those proposals were implemented in Version 5. This will involve going over some examples of the new concepts

  - Topics:
    - review the changes incorporated into Version 5
    - what have these changes allowed us to do
    - step through an example definition

12:00 - 1:00 **lunch**

1:00 - 2:15 **working session**

- *OVAL Repository Quality*

  The OVAL Repository contains definitions that are submitted and reviewed by the OVAL Community. How are we meeting these goals and should these goals be modified. How can we better manage this repository and improve the quality of the content.

  - Topics:
    - overview of the OVAL Repository
    - look at the process of submitting new and modified content
    - identify ways for improvement

2:30 - 3:30 **discussion**

There has been some discussion about a fundamental change in how OVAL vulnerability definitions are broken up. Currently, each CVE issue is separated into multiple OVAL definitions in order to simplify the individual definitions and to reduce the amount of data that is passed when only dealing with specific platforms. Should we reconsider this tactic and focus on writing a single OVAL Definition per CVE issue.

3:45 - 5:00 **working session**

- *FISMA Turning Toward OVAL*

  One of the recent developments within the OVAL Community is the news that NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) has been working to leverage OVAL in an attempt to automate security guidance recommended by FISMA (Federal Information Security Management Act).

  - Topics:
    - overview of FISMA and the work NIST is doing
    - how OVAL fits into all of this
    - the role of NVD

5:15 - 5:30 **wrap-up**

- *Summary of day's accomplishments*

6:30 - 8:00 **dinner**

Wednesday June 12th 2005

9:00 - 10:15 **working session**

- *Compatibility Use Cases*

  The OVAL Compatibility Program has been a great success to date and has grown in each of its first two years. We expect this growth to continue and with it, new requests for compatibility will come from areas we didn't originally anticipate. This session will try to identify these areas and discuss the merits of compatibility for each one.

  - Topics:
    - overview of OVAL Compatibility
    - compatibility use cases

- *Correctness Testing Process*

  We will take an in-depth look at correctness testing that makes up the third phase of the OVAL Compatibility Process. Our goal is to find ways to improve the process and make the results more concrete, while at the same time reduce the affect on the organizations being tested.

  - Topics:
    - expectations of correctness testing
    - past experiences and improvements to be made

10:30 - 11:00 **discussion**

Recently, a discussion has started on the email list about a proposal to add remedy and solution data to OVAL. We will discuss this proposal and obtain thoughts from community members regarding possible future direction.

11:15 - 12:00 **working session**

- *TBD*

  This session will be used to work on an issue that has been brought up in previous sessions. This gives the schedule some flexibility to focus on something not initially on the agenda, or to continue previous discussions in a new light.

12:00 - 1:00 **lunch**

1:00 - 2:45 **working session**

- *XCCDF-P*

  One of the challenges the OVAL Community has faced is creating common names for platforms. XCCDF-P was designed to help solve this problem. More work still needs to be done and we will take a look at where things stand and how improvements can be made.

  - Topics:
    - where we stand with XCCDF-P
    - OVAL inventory definitions
    - how can we improve things

3:00 - 3:30 **wrap-up**

- *Summary of day's accomplishments*