

Repository and Reference Implementation Transition



April 28th, 2008



History: OVAL 4.x to 5.0 process

- Planning began in May 2005
- Drafts started to appear in October 2005
- A release candidate phase lasted from March 2006 until June 2006
- The official 5.0 release appeared on June 16, 2006.
- 4.x content was archived and converted to be 5.0 compliant.
- Content writers were given a month after the release of version 5.0 to begin submitting 5.0 content.
 - For that month, MITRE would convert 4.x content to version 5.0 compliant content.



Purpose of Repository

- It is a place for the community to contribute and evaluate OVAL Definitions
 - Community participation provides a learning environment
 - Helps with adoption of the standard
- Provides examples of OVAL Definitions
- Searchable content makes reuse easier for content writers



Content Plan: OVAL 5.x to 6.0

- Draft and Release Candidate phases will start in the fall of '08.
 - Sample documents will also be released along with language proposals
- All 5.x content will be archived when 6.0 is released
 - Available on the OVAL Repository website.
- A tool will be needed for the conversion
 - MITRE is developing a XSLT? to handle the translation
 - Conversion will be bidirectional
 - Collaboration with the community
- A hard cutoff will occur upon the 6.0 release
 - MITRE lacks the resources to support both 5.x and 6.0 versions
 - What concerns does this bring up?



Interpreter Background

- The OVAL Interpreter is a reference implementation of an OVAL Language processing tool.
- Prior to version 5.3 Build 40 the OVAL Interpreter was hosted on the OVAL website.
- Now hosted on SourceForge.net
 - History tracking
 - Subversion repository browsing
 - Bug tracking



Interpreter Plan: OVAL 5.x to 6.0

- 5.x releases will remain on SourceForge.net
- 6.0 source will branch from the trunk during language draft phases.
 - continued 5.x support during 6.0 development
 - feature freeze
 - Available on SourceForge.net
 - Updates to support 6.0 features will roll out in pieces
- 6.0 will be released along with the language



Discussion
