

How to prioritize security controls for situational awareness in AWS

Today's speakers





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Today's Agenda

- What is situational awareness and why is it important
- How to attain higher levels of situational awareness
- Scenarios/examples of improved situational awareness
- Relevant AWS services and solutions in AWS Marketplace
- Customer success stories



Leveraging Four Types of Awareness to Secure Your AWS Environment

SOUNIL YU



Defenders need cyber situational awareness to mitigate the loss or compromise of assets

Situational awareness is defined as the "perception of environmental elements and events with respect to time or space, the comprehension of their meaning, and the projection of their future status"¹

But we face three key challenges in attaining cyber situational awareness

Faulty visibility



Faulty perception



Faulty comprehension



¹Wikipedia's definition of situational awareness adapted from Mica R. Endsley's, "Toward a Theory of Situation Awareness in Dynamic Systems", 1995



Visibility vs Perception vs Comprehension vs Projection



To discover blind spots and overcome challenges in attaining higher levels of situational awareness, frameworks are helpful





The Cyber Defense Matrix is an adaptation of the CSF

https://cyberdefensematrix.com

_	Identify	Protect	Detect	Respond	Recover	
Devices						
Applications						
Networks						
Data						
Users						
Degree of	Technology				People	
Dependency	Process					



Left & Right of Boom: Structural vs Situational Awareness

	Identify	Protect	Detect	Respond	Recover
Devices			Situ •Evidence c	ational Elem	itation
Applications			 Unexpecte Meaning of Impacted a 	d state or behaviora f changes ssets	al changes
Networks	Pre Structural Awa	e-Event areness	Post-E Situatio	vent onal Awareness	
Data	•Critical Asset Inve •Identity attributes	Elements ntory			
Users	 Known weaknesse Expected behavior Threat landscape 	es from vuln scans rs / interactions			
Degree of	Technology				People
Dependency			Process		





Asset Specific Structural and Situational Awareness







Environmental and Contextual Awareness

	Identify	Protect	Detect	Respond	Recover	
Devices	Enviro	nmental		Contextual		
Applications	Awaı	reness		Awareness		
Networks						
Data	Enviro	nmental		Contextual		
Users	Awar	eness		Awareness		
Degree of	Technology				People	
Dependency	Process					





Bolstering Situational Awareness







Bolstering Situational Awareness: Insider Threat







Four Types of Awareness

Structural

- For a specific asset, what are its inherent weaknesses
- What attributes provide verifiable authenticity of its identity
- What is the expected behavior of the asset?

Environmental

- For a given asset, what are the assets that surrounds it and for which there are upstream or downstream dependencies
- What are the inherent weaknesses of those surrounding assets that could harm or strengthen the posture of the asset of interest

Contextual

- What else is happening around the asset?
- How do changes in environmental factors positively or negatively influence the posture of the asset in question?

Situational Awareness

- Who/What/When/Where/How
- What behaviors has the asset exhibited historically and recently
- Where has it deviated from normal behavior
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Example 1: Endpoint Vulnerability?

Structural: Fully patched,

Situational: Machine compromised due to malware installed through client-side attack



Example 2: Insider?

Environmental: Content originated from server housing sensitive blueprints for new product

Contextual: No unusual logins or interactions with server

@sounilvu





How to navigate solutions in AWS Marketplace for situational awareness in AWS







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Cyber Controls Library

Featured AWS Marketplace Vendors



Explore Solutions by Topic Area and Use Case



Mapping Primitives

One: Is the control looking for people, process, or **technology**?

Two: Understand the primary function that a technology must have to meet the control requirement.

Three: Is the mapping believable. No silver bullets.

Example: Protect Data

Correct – Data Encryption category. Products in this category should protect data at rest as the primary function. (left of boom)

Incorrect – SIEM category. Products in this category collect and aggregate events related to data. (right of boom)

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Cyber Defense Matrix

	Identify	Protect	Detect	Respond	Recover
Device	BWS_AWS Config BWS_AWS Security Hub BWS_AWS Well-Architected Tool	WS AWS Control Tower WS AWS IoT Device Defender WS AWS Resource Access Manager	BWS Amazon Detective BWS AWS IoT Events BWS AWS Personal Health Deshboard BWS AWS Becurity Hub	aws AWS IoT Events aws AWS Systems Manager	BWS_AWIS CloudFormation BWS_AWIS OpsWorks BWS_CloudEndure Disaster Recovery
Application	BWS Avmazon Inspector BWS AWS Certificate Manager BWS AWS License Manager BWS AWS Secrets Manager BWS AWS Service Catalog	WS Amazon Cognito AWS Single Sign-On WS AWS WAF BWS Elastic Load Balancing	aws AWS Security Hub	aws AWS Lambda aws AWS Step Functions	AWS Logo CloudEndure Disaster Recovery
Network	aws AWS Config aws AWS Direct Connect aws AWS Security Hub aws AWS Transit Gateway	WS Amazon Gourd/Duty WS Amazon Route 53 WS Amazon Virual Private Cloud WS AVKS Firewall Manager WS AVKS Firewall Manager WS AVKS PrivateLink WS AVKS Shield BMS Elastic Load Balancing	WS AWS Personal Health Dashboard	AWS AWS Lambda AWS AW3 Step Functions	AWS CloudFormation
Data	8WS Amazon Macle 8WS AWS Config 8WS AWS Trusted Advisor	WS AWS CloudHSM WS AWS Key Management Service (KMS) WS AWS Resource Access Manager	aws AWS Personal Health Dashboard		WS Amazon EBS Snapshots WS AWS as Glacler WS CloudEndure Disaster Recovery
User	BWS_Amazon Cloud Directory BWS_AWS Directory Senice BWS_AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM) BWS_AWS Organizations BWS_AWS Security Hub		aws Amazon Detective aws Amazon Macie aws AWS CloudTiral aws AWS Becurity Hub		

Sample Investigation

Addison submits a ticket to the security team claiming that her system is acting funny. Max, a security analyst, begins researching the event and contacts Addison for more information. During their brief discussion Max learns that Addison clicked on an email just a few minutes before she noticed her system performing abnormally slow.

- How would you perform this investigation?
- How do you know if you have the right tools?
- Where would you gather data for structural, environmental, contextual, and situational awareness?



- 1. What is the device name?
- 2. What is the device category? (laptop, workstation, physical server, cloud instance, IoT, smartphone, tablet)
- 3. What is the criticality or priority of the device?
- 4. Who is the asset assigned to?
- 5. What is the device operating system?
- 6. Is the device vulnerable?
- 7. Is the operating system fully patched?
- 8. What business unit does the device belong to?
- 9. Is there any endpoint protection software installed?
- 10. Is the endpoint protection software configured to protect known vulnerabilities?
- 11. What applications are installed on the device?
- 12. Are any applications vulnerable?
- 13. Are all applications fully patched?
- 14. Are any of the applications critical or priority?
- 15. Are the applications protected at the device level?
- 16. Are the applications protected at

- 17. Is there any critical or sensitive data on the device?
- 18. What user accounts have access to the device?
- 19. What privileges do the logged in accounts have? (user, admin, root, sa)?
- 20. Are any of the user accounts critical or priority?
- 21. What network zone was the device in at the time of the event?
- 22. Is the network zone vulnerable?
- 23. Is the network zone critical or priority?
- 24. What user account was logged in at the time of the event?
- 25. Who is the sender?
- 26. What is the domain associated to the sender?
- 27. What is the IP address associated to the domain?
- 28. What geo location is the IP or domain?
- 29. Who is the domain registered to?
- 30. How old is the domain?
- 31. Was there an attachment to the email?
- 32. Was there a link in the email?
- 33. Did the device communicate to any
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- 56. Is the malware associated to any CVE's?
- 57. Are there any recent reports related to the malware?
- 58. Are there any recent reports related to the malware?
- 59. Are there any known patches (OS, Application) that mitigate the malware?
- 60. Does the malware create a back door?
- 61. Does the malware pull down any additional payloads?
- 62. Does the malware update itself?
- 63. Does the malware change itself (name, hash, filepath etc.)?
- 64. Does the malware perform any network scanning or reconnaissance?
- 65. Does the malware attempt to move to other hosts?
- 66. Does the malware attempt to send email or other forms of communication?
- 67. Does the malware attempt to access user credentials?
- 68. Does the malware enumerate the file system?
- 69. Does the malware inject itself into



Vendor -

Awareness -

Scenarios -

Prioritizing Securit	y Controls for Situational Awareness	



Cyber Defense Matrix

	Identify	Protect	Detect	Respond	Recover
Device	aws AWS Config	aws AWS Control Tower	aws, Amazon Detective	aws, AWS IoT Events	aws AWS CloudFormation
	aws AWS Security Hub	aws AWS IoT Device Defender	aws, AWS IoT Events	aws AWS Systems Manager	aws AWS OpsWorks
	aWS AWS Well-Architected Tool	aws, AWS Resource Access Manager	aws AWS Personal Health Dashboard		aws CloudEndure Disaster Recovery
	paloalto: Prisma Cloud	paloalto: Aporeto Distributed Firewall	aws, AWS Security Hub	paloalto Demisto	
			DEVO Devo Data Analytics Platform	splunk> Phantom	
			DEVO Devo Security Operations		
			splunk > Splunk Cloud		
			splunk > Splunk Enterprise		
Application	aws Amazon Inspector	aws Amazon Cognito	aws AWS Security Hub	aws AWS Lambda	aws CloudEndure Disaster Recovery
	aws AWS Certificate Manager	aws AWS Single Sign-On		aws AWS Step Functions	
	aws AWS License Manager	aws aws waf			

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Vendor • Awareness • Scenarios •

Prioritizing Security Controls for Situational Awareness



Cyber Defense Matrix

	Identify	Protect	Detect	Respond	Recover
Device			splunk> Splunk Cloud splunk> Splunk Enterprise	splunk> Phantom	
Application					
Network			splunk> Splunk Cloud splunk> Splunk Enterprise	splunk> Phantom	
Data					
User			splunk> Splunk Cloud splunk> Splunk Enterprise		

What are the details about the device, applications, data, and user? Is there anything critical about the asset and should this be prioritized? × +

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Awareness - Scenarios -

Vendor -

Prioritizing Security Controls for Situational Awareness



Cyber Defense Matrix

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Data					
User			splunk> Splunk Cloud splunk> Splunk Enterprise		

What activities were performed before, during, and after the email? Is there abnormal behavior that for the device and user? 0 (i) **127.0.0.1**:5000/awareness/Splunk

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Awareness • Scenarios •

Vendor -

Prioritizing Security Controls for Situational Awareness



Cyber Defense Matrix

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Data					
User			splunk> Splunk Cloud splunk> Splunk Enterprise		

What tools are available to contain and eradicate? What tools are available to strengthen the environment to block in the future?



Enabling situational awareness in AWS



AWS services that enhance situational awareness



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Increase visibility and strength of foundational controls



AWS Security Services forwarding findings into AWS Security Hub





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How are AWS customers leveraging Splunk?



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Los Angeles enhances situational awareness



Leveraging Splunk solutions for real-time threat intelligence

Benefits:

- Established alwaysavailable, real-time situational awareness
- Increased ability to view and compare log data from multiple sources
- Reduced time to detect and respond to incidents



Western Asset Management mitigates risk



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With Prisma Public Cloud by Palo Alto Networks

Benefits:

- Full visibility across all accounts
- Incident and misconfiguration response times reduced from days to minutes
- Eliminated manually sifting through audit files





CaixaBank improves security analytics



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Leveraging Devo for greater speed and scale of investigations

Benefits:

- Achieve data ingest rates of 11 to 20TB per day
- Query times reduced by 98%
- Time-to-alert reduced to milliseconds



Why AWS Marketplace?



Flexible consumption and contract models

Quick and easy deployment

Helpful humans to support you



How can you get started?



Webinar summary

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Consider solutions that enhance situational awareness in AWS.

Leverage solutions that integrate with AWS Services.

Current tools? Bring your own license to leverage benefits of AWS Marketplace.

New tools? Select solutions in AWS Marketplace for a curated list proven on AWS.





Q & A





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