

CASE STUDY

Manufacturing Risk-Based Vulnerability Management

INTRODUCTION

A manufacturing company were struggling to manage their large number of vulnerabilities. The security team were using the Orpheus risk ratings to monitor their external security score. A component of the score considers how many vulnerabilities a company is showing and the team wanted to decrease this number and improve their score. However, they were not responsible for patching existing vulnerabilities and had been unable to reduce the number of vulnerabilities that were visible.

They were also concerned about their internal scan results which were showing 110,000 vulnerabilities and the obvious security issues this raised. Their scanning tool did not provide useful prioritisation and the team were trying to work out a suitable plan for how to reduce this number. They needed to make the biggest impact on their risk possible and make the best possible use of the resources available to them.

SOLUTION

The team considered several options for how to prioritise their vulnerabilities. They found a range of approaches; some suggesting those that were quickest to patch and many advocating for the CVSS score. However, as a team familiar with the need to be threat-led and driven by the overall impact, none of these approaches were suitable. The Orpheus solution allowed them to prioritised based on current threat-actor activity giving them confidence they would be making decisions that were purely security driven.

The security team provided Orpheus with the output of their internal scan. A large number of the results were duplicates and removing these reduced the number to 70,000. Within a few seconds Orpheus were able to reduce this to 6800 actively exploited in the wild.

Orpheus takes a threat-led approach to all security recommendations. While there are a number of threats to this organisation, the biggest threat is ransomware. Knowing this is their most significant threat, Orpheus then filtered the vulnerabilities to show those that are being actively used in ransomware attacks. This reduced the number of vulnerabilities to just 27. 27 is a more achievable number, that has a significant impact. This allowed the team to get started and make the greatest use of the resources available to them. They are continuing to prioritise based on risk and their patching cadence is based on the Orpheus score, allowing them to maximise their impact.

About Orpheus Cyber

Orpheus is the only UK-government accredited cyber threat intelligence company providing cyber risk rating services. Our powerful and award-winning technologies collect huge volumes of cyber risk data, which we analyse using Machine Learning and our highly skilled team to enable you to stop your cyber risks before they happen.



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