

Data Integrity

Recovering from Ransomware and Other Destructive Events

Volume B:
Approach, Architecture, and Security Characteristics

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FEEDBACK

You can improve this guide by contributing feedback. As you review and adopt this solution for your own organization, we ask you and your colleagues to share your experience and advice with us.

Comments on this publication may be submitted to di-nccoe@nist.gov.

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1 **NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY CENTER OF EXCELLENCE**

2 The National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (NCCoE), a part of the National Institute of Standards
3 and Technology (NIST), is a collaborative hub where industry organizations, government agencies, and
4 academic institutions work together to address businesses' most pressing cybersecurity issues. This
5 public-private partnership enables the creation of practical cybersecurity solutions for specific
6 industries, as well as for broad, cross-sector technology challenges. Through consortia under
7 Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs), including technology partners—from
8 Fortune 50 market leaders to smaller companies specializing in IT security—the NCCoE applies standards
9 and best practices to develop modular, easily adaptable example cybersecurity solutions using
10 commercially available technology. The NCCoE documents these example solutions in the NIST Special
11 Publication 1800 series, which maps capabilities to the NIST Cyber Security Framework and details the
12 steps needed for another entity to recreate the example solution. The NCCoE was established in 2012 by
13 NIST in partnership with the State of Maryland and Montgomery County, Md.

14 To learn more about the NCCoE, visit <https://nccoe.nist.gov>. To learn more about NIST, visit
15 <https://www.nist.gov>.

16 **NIST CYBERSECURITY PRACTICE GUIDES**

17 NIST Cybersecurity Practice Guides (Special Publication Series 1800) target specific cybersecurity
18 challenges in the public and private sectors. They are practical, user-friendly guides that facilitate the
19 adoption of standards-based approaches to cybersecurity. They show members of the information
20 security community how to implement example solutions that help them align more easily with relevant
21 standards and best practices and provide users with the materials lists, configuration files, and other
22 information they need to implement a similar approach.

23 The documents in this series describe example implementations of cybersecurity practices that
24 businesses and other organizations may voluntarily adopt. These documents do not describe regulations
25 or mandatory practices, nor do they carry statutory authority.

26 **ABSTRACT**

27 Businesses face a near-constant threat of destructive malware, ransomware, malicious insider activities,
28 and even honest mistakes that can alter or destroy critical data. These data corruption events could
29 cause a significant loss to a company's reputation, business operations, and bottom line.

30 These types of adverse events, that ultimately impact data integrity, can compromise critical corporate
31 information including emails, employee records, financial records, and customer data. It is imperative
32 for organizations to recover quickly from a data integrity attack and trust the accuracy and precision of
33 the recovered data.

34 The National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (NCCoE) at NIST built a laboratory environment to
 35 explore methods to effectively recover from a data corruption event in various Information Technology
 36 (IT) enterprise environments. NCCoE also implemented auditing and reporting IT system use to support
 37 incident recovery and investigations.

38 This NIST Cybersecurity Practice Guide demonstrates how organizations can implement technologies to
 39 take immediate action following a data corruption event. The example solution outlined in this guide
 40 encourages effective monitoring and detection of data corruption in standard, enterprise components
 41 as well as custom applications and data composed of open-source and commercially available
 42 components.

43 **KEYWORDS**

44 *business continuity; data integrity; data recovery; malware; ransomware*

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47 The Technology Partners/Collaborators who participated in this build submitted their capabilities in
 48 response to a notice in the Federal Register. Respondents with relevant capabilities or product
 49 components were invited to sign a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with
 50 NIST, allowing them to participate in a consortium to build this example solution. We worked with:

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IBM Corporation	IBM Spectrum Protect, v8.1.0
Tripwire	Tripwire Enterprise, v8.5 Tripwire Log Center, v7.2.4.80
Veeam Software Corporation	Veeam Availability Suite, v9.5

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127 1 Summary

128 Businesses face a near-constant threat of destructive malware, ransomware, malicious insider activities,
129 and even honest mistakes that can alter or destroy critical data. These types of adverse events
130 ultimately impact data integrity (DI). It is imperative for organizations to recover quickly from a DI attack
131 and trust the accuracy and precision of the recovered data.

132 The National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (NCCoE) at the National Institute of Standards and
133 Technology (NIST) built a laboratory environment to explore methods to recover from a data corruption
134 event in various information technology (IT) enterprise environments. The example solution outlined in
135 this guide describes the solution built in the NCCoE lab. It encourages effective monitoring and detection
136 of data corruption in standard enterprise components as well as custom applications and data
137 composed of open-source and commercially available components.

138 The goals of this NIST Cybersecurity Practice Guide are to help organizations confidently:

- 139 ▪ restore data to its last known good configuration
- 140 ▪ identify the correct backup version (free of malicious code and data for data restoration)
- 141 ▪ identify altered data as well as the date and time of alteration
- 142 ▪ determine the identity/identities of those who alter data
- 143 ▪ identify other events that coincide with data alteration
- 144 ▪ determine any impact of the data alteration

145 For ease of use, here is a short description of the different sections of this volume.

- 146 ▪ [Section 1: Summary](#) presents the challenge addressed by the NCCoE project, with an in-depth
147 look at our approach, the architecture, and the security characteristics we used; the solution
148 demonstrated to address the challenge; benefits of the solution; and the technology partners
149 that participated in building, demonstrating, and documenting the solution. The Summary also
150 explains how to provide feedback on this guide.
- 151 ▪ [Section 2: How to Use This Guide](#) explains how readers—business decision makers, program
152 managers, and IT professionals (e.g., systems administrators)—might use each volume of the
153 guide.
- 154 ▪ [Section 3: Approach](#) offers a detailed treatment of the scope of the project and describes the
155 assumptions on which the security platform development was based, the risk assessment that
156 informed platform development, and the technologies and components that industry
157 collaborators gave us to enable platform development.

- 158 ▪ [Section 4: Architecture](#) describes the usage scenarios supported by project security platforms,
159 including Cybersecurity Framework [\[1\]](#) functions supported by each component contributed by
160 our collaborators.
- 161 ▪ [Section 5: Example Implementation](#) provides an in-depth description of the implementation
162 developed in the NCCoE's lab environment.
- 163 ▪ [Section 6: Security Characteristics Analysis](#) provides details about the tools and techniques we
164 used to perform risk assessments.
- 165 ▪ [Section 7: Functional Evaluation](#) summarizes the test sequences we employed to demonstrate
166 security platform services, the Cybersecurity Framework functions to which each test sequence
167 is relevant, and the NIST Special Publication (SP) 800-53-4 controls that applied to the functions
168 being demonstrated.
- 169 ▪ [Section 8: Future Build Considerations](#) is a brief treatment of other DI implementations NIST is
170 considering consistent with Framework Core Functions: Identify, Protect, Detect and Respond,
171 System Level Recovery, and Dashboarding.

172 **1.1 Challenge**

173 Thorough collection of quantitative and qualitative data is important to organizations of all types and
174 sizes. It can impact all aspects of a business, including decision making, transactions, research,
175 performance, and profitability. When these data collections sustain a DI attack caused by unauthorized
176 insertion, deletion, or modification of information, it can impact emails, employee records, financial
177 records, and customer data, rendering it unusable or unreliable. Some organizations have experienced
178 systemic attacks that caused a temporary cessation of operations. One variant of a DI attack—
179 ransomware—encrypts data and holds it hostage while the attacker demands payment for the
180 decryption keys.

181 When DI events occur, organizations must be able to recover quickly from the events and trust that the
182 recovered data is accurate, complete, and free of malware.

183 **1.2 Solutions**

184 The NCCoE implemented a solution that incorporates appropriate actions in response to a detected DI
185 event. The solution is comprised of multiple systems working together to recover from a data corruption
186 event in standard enterprise components. These components include, but are not limited to, mail
187 servers, databases, end user machines, virtual infrastructure, and file share servers. Essential to the
188 recovery is an investigation into auditing and reporting records to understand the depth and breadth of
189 the event across these systems and inclusive of user activity.

190 The NCCoE sought existing technologies that provided the following capabilities:

- 191 ▪ secure storage
- 192 ▪ logging
- 193 ▪ virtual infrastructure
- 194 ▪ corruption testing
- 195 ▪ backup capability

196 While the NCCoE used a suite of commercial products to address this cybersecurity challenge, this guide
197 does not endorse any particular products—nor does it guarantee compliance with any regulatory
198 initiatives. Your organization’s information security experts should identify the products that will best
199 integrate with your existing tools and IT system infrastructure. Your organization can adopt this solution
200 or one that adheres to these guidelines in whole, or you can use this guide as a starting point for
201 tailoring and implementing parts of the solution. In developing our solution, we used standards and
202 guidance from the following, which can also provide your organization relevant standards and best
203 practices:

- 204 ▪ NIST Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity (commonly known as the
205 NIST CSF) [\[1\]](#)
- 206 ▪ NISTIR 8050: Executive Technical Workshop on Improving Cybersecurity and Consumer Privacy
207 [\[2\]](#)
- 208 ▪ Special Publication 800-30 Rev. 1: Guide for Conducting Risk Assessments [\[3\]](#)
- 209 ▪ Special Publication 800-37 Rev. 1: Guide for Applying the Risk Management Framework to
210 Federal Information Systems: A Security Lifecycle Approach [\[4\]](#)
- 211 ▪ Special Publication 800-39: Managing Information Security Risk [\[5\]](#)
- 212 ▪ Special Publication 800-40 Rev. 3: Guide to Enterprise Patch Management Technologies [\[6\]](#)
- 213 ▪ Special Publication 800-53 Rev. 4: Security and Privacy Controls for Federal Information Systems
214 and Organizations [\[7\]](#)
- 215 ▪ FIPS 140-2: Security Requirements for Cryptographic Modules [\[8\]](#)
- 216 ▪ Special Publication 800-86: Guide to Integrating Forensic Techniques into Incident Response [\[9\]](#)
- 217 ▪ Special Publication 800-92: Guide to Computer Security Log Management [\[10\]](#)
- 218 ▪ Special Publication 800-100: Information Security Handbook: A Guide for Managers [\[11\]](#)
- 219 ▪ Special Publication 800-34 Rev. 1: Contingency Planning Guide for Federal Information Systems
220 [\[12\]](#)
- 221 ▪ Office of Management and Budget, Circular Number A-130: Managing Information as a Strategic
222 Resource [\[13\]](#)

- 223 ▪ Special Publication 800-61 Rev. 2: Computer Security Incident Handling Guide [\[14\]](#)
- 224 ▪ Special Publication 800-83 Rev. 1: Guide to Malware Incident Prevention and Handling for
- 225 Desktops and Laptops [\[15\]](#)
- 226 ▪ Special Publication 800-150: Guide to Cyber Threat Information Sharing [\[16\]](#)
- 227 ▪ Special Publication 800-184: Guide for Cybersecurity Event Recovery [\[17\]](#)

228 1.3 Benefits

229 The NCCoE’s practice guide can help your organization:

- 230 ▪ develop an implementation plan for recovering from a cybersecurity event
- 231 ▪ facilitate a smoother recovery from an adverse event and maintain operations
- 232 ▪ maintain integrity and availability of data that is critical to supporting business operations and
- 233 revenue-generating activities
- 234 ▪ manage enterprise risk (consistent with the foundations of the NIST CSF)

235 2 How to Use This Guide

236 This NIST Cybersecurity Practice Guide demonstrates a standards-based reference design and provides

237 users with the information they need to replicate a solution to recover from attacks on DI to a last

238 known good. This reference design is modular and can be deployed in whole or in part.

239 This guide contains three volumes:

- 240 ▪ NIST SP 1800-11a: *Executive Summary*
- 241 ▪ NIST SP 1800-11b: *Approach, Architecture, and Security Characteristics* – what we built and why
- 242 **(you are here)**
- 243 ▪ NIST SP 1800-11c: *How-To Guides* – instructions for building the example solution

244 Depending on your role in your organization, you might use this guide in different ways.

245 **Business decision makers, including chief security and technology officers,** will be interested in the

246 *Executive Summary (NIST SP 1800-11a)*, which describes the:

- 247 ▪ challenges enterprises face in attacks on DI
- 248 ▪ example solution built at the NCCoE
- 249 ▪ benefits of adopting the example solution

250 **Technology or security program managers** who are concerned with how to identify, understand, assess,
251 and mitigate risk will be interested in this part of the guide, *NIST SP 1800-11b*, which describes what we
252 did and why. The following sections will be of particular interest:

- 253 ▪ [Section 3.4.1](#), Assessing Risk Posture - describes the risk analysis we performed.
- 254 ▪ [Section 3.4.2](#), Security Control Map - maps the security characteristics of this example solution
255 to cybersecurity standards and best practices.

256 You might share the *Executive Summary, NIST SP 1800-11a*, with your leadership team members to help
257 them understand the importance of adopting standards-based methods to recover from attacks on DI to
258 a last known good.

259 **IT professionals** who want to implement a similar approach will find the whole practice guide useful.
260 You can use the “how-to” portion of the guide, *NIST SP 1800-11c*, to replicate all or parts of the build
261 created in our lab. The guide provides specific product installation, configuration, and integration
262 instructions. We do not recreate the product manufacturers’ documentation, which is generally widely
263 available. Rather, we show how we incorporated the products together in our environment to create an
264 example solution.

265 This guide assumes that IT professionals have experience implementing security products within the
266 enterprise. While we used a suite of commercial products, this guide does not endorse these particular
267 products. Your organization can adopt this solution or one that adheres to these guidelines in whole, or
268 you can use this guide as a starting point for tailoring parts of it to recover from attacks on DI. Your
269 organization’s security experts should identify the products that will best integrate with your existing
270 tools and IT system infrastructure. We hope you will seek products that are congruent with applicable
271 standards and best practices. [Section 3.5](#), Technologies, lists the products we used and maps them to
272 the cybersecurity controls provided by this reference solution.

273 A NIST Cybersecurity Practice Guide does not describe “the” solution, but a possible solution. This is a
274 draft guide. We seek feedback on its contents and welcome your input. Comments, suggestions, and
275 success stories will improve subsequent versions of this guide. Please contribute your thoughts to
276 di-nccoe@nist.gov.

277 2.1 Typographic Conventions

278 The following table presents typographic conventions used in this volume.

Typeface/ Symbol	Meaning	Example
<i>Italics</i>	filenames and pathnames references to documents that are not hyperlinks, new terms, and placeholders	For detailed definitions of terms, see the <i>NCCoE Glossary</i> .
Bold	names of menus, options, command buttons and fields	Choose File > Edit .
Monospace	command-line input, on- screen computer output, sample code examples, status codes	<code>mkdir</code>
Monospace Bold	command-line user input contrasted with computer output	<code>service sshd start</code>
blue text	link to other parts of the document, a web URL, or an email address	All publications from NIST's National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence are available at http://nccoe.nist.gov

279 3 Approach

280 Based on key points expressed in *NIST IR 8050: Executive Technical Workshop on Improving*
 281 *Cybersecurity and Consumer Privacy* (2015) [2], the NCCoE is pursuing a series of DI projects to map the
 282 core functions of the NIST Cybersecurity Framework. This initial project is centered on the core function
 283 of recovery, which is focused on recovering data to the last known good state. NCCoE engineers working
 284 with a Community of Interest (COI) defined the requirements for the DI project.

285 Members of the COI, which include participating vendors referenced in this document, contributed to
 286 the development of the architecture and reference design, providing technologies that meet the project
 287 requirements and assisting in the installation and configuration of those technologies. The practice
 288 guide highlights the approach used to develop the NCCoE reference solution. Elements include risk
 289 assessment and analysis, logical design, build development, test and evaluation, and security control

290 mapping. This guide is intended to provide practical guidance to any organization interested in
291 implementing a solution for recovery from a cybersecurity event.

292 **3.1 Audience**

293 This guide is intended for individuals responsible for implementing security solutions in organizations' IT
294 support activities. Current IT systems, particularly in the private sector, often lack integrity protection
295 for domain name services and electronic mail. The platforms demonstrated by this project, and the
296 implementation information provided in these practice guides, permit integration of products to
297 implement a data recovery system. The technical components will appeal to system administrators, IT
298 managers, IT security managers, and others directly involved in the secure and safe operation of the
299 business IT networks.

300 **3.2 Scope**

301 The guide provides practical, real-world guidance on developing and implementing a DI solution
302 consistent with the principles in the *NIST Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity*
303 *Volume 1* [1], specifically the core function of recover. Recover emphasizes developing and
304 implementing the appropriate activities to maintain plans for resilience and to restore any capabilities or
305 services that were impaired by a cybersecurity event to a last known good state. Examples of outcomes
306 within this function include recovery planning, improvements, and communication.

307 **3.3 Assumptions**

308 This project is guided by the following assumptions:

- 309 ▪ The solution was developed in a lab environment. The environment is based on a typical
310 organization's IT enterprise. It does not reflect the complexity of a production environment.
- 311 ▪ An organization has access to the skill sets and resources required to implement a data recovery
312 solution.
- 313 ▪ A DI event has taken place and been detected. This guide does not address the actual detection
314 function.

315 **3.4 Risk Assessment**

316 *NIST SP 800-30 Rev. 1: Guide for Conducting Risk Assessments* [3] states that the definition of risk is "a
317 measure of the extent to which an entity is threatened by a potential circumstance or event, and
318 typically a function of: (i) the adverse impacts that would arise if the circumstance or event occurs; and
319 (ii) the likelihood of occurrence." The NCCoE recommends that any discussion of risk management,
320 particularly at the enterprise level, begin with a comprehensive review of *NIST 800-37: A Guide for*
321 *Applying the Risk Management Framework to Federal Information Systems* [4]. The framework proved

322 invaluable in giving us a baseline to assess risks, from which we developed the required security controls
323 of the reference design and this guide.

324 We performed two types of risk assessment:

- 325 ▪ Initial analysis of the risk factors that were discussed with financial, retail, and hospitality
326 institutions. This analysis led to the creation of the DI project and the desired security posture.
327 See *NIST IR 8050 Executive Technical Workshop* [2] for additional participant information.
- 328 ▪ Analysis of how to secure the components within the solution and minimize any vulnerabilities
329 they might introduce. See [Section 6, Security Characteristics Analysis](#).

330 3.4.1 Assessing Risk Posture

331 Using the guidance in NIST’s series of publications concerning risk, we worked with financial institutions
332 and the Financial Sector Information Sharing and Analysis Center to identify the most compelling risk
333 factors encountered by this business group. We participated in conferences and met with members of
334 the financial sector to define the main security risks to business operations. These discussions resulted
335 in the identification of an area of concern—the inability to recover from DI attacks. We then identified
336 the core operational risks, as various methods exist that all lead to sustaining a DI compromise. These
337 risks lead to two tactical risk factors:

- 338 ▪ systems incapacitated
- 339 ▪ DI impacted

340 These discussions also gave us an understanding of strategic risks for organizations with respect to DI.
341 *NIST SP 800-39: Managing Information Security Risk* [5] focuses particularly on the business aspect of
342 risk, namely at the enterprise level. This understanding is essential for any further risk analysis, risk
343 response/mitigation, and risk monitoring activities. The following is a summary of the strategic risk areas
344 we identified and their mitigations:

- 345 ▪ Impact on system function – ensuring the availability of accurate data or sustaining an
346 acceptable level of DI reduces the risk of systems’ availability being compromised.
- 347 ▪ Cost of implementation – implementing DI once and using it across all systems may reduce both
348 system restoration and system continuity costs.
- 349 ▪ Compliance with existing industry standards – contributes to the industry requirement to
350 maintain a continuity of operations plan.
- 351 ▪ Maintenance of reputation and public image – helps reduce level of impact, in turn helping to
352 maintain image.
- 353 ▪ Increased focus on DI – includes not just loss of confidentiality but also harm from unauthorized
354 alteration of data (per *NIST IR 8050* [2]).

355 We subsequently translated the risk factors identified to security functions and subcategories within the
 356 NIST CSF. In Table 3-1 we mapped the categories to NIST’s *SP 800-53 Rev. 4* [7] controls and
 357 International Electrotechnical Commission/International Organization for Standardization (IEC/ISO)
 358 controls for additional guidance.

359 **3.4.2 Security Control Map**

360 As explained in Section 3.4.1, we identified the CSF security functions and subcategories that we wanted
 361 the reference design to support through a risk analysis process. This was a critical first step in designing
 362 the reference design and example implementation to mitigate the risk factors. Table 3-1 lists the
 363 addressed CSF functions and subcategories and maps them to relevant NIST standards, industry
 364 standards, and controls and best practices. The references provide solution validation points in that they
 365 list specific security capabilities that a solution addressing the CSF subcategories would be expected to
 366 exhibit. Organizations can use Table 3-1 to identify the CSF subcategories and NIST 800-53 controls that
 367 they are interested in addressing.

368 Note: Not all the CSF subcategories guidance can be implemented using technology. Any organization
 369 executing a DI solution would need to adopt processes and organizational policies that support the
 370 reference design. For example, some of the subcategories within the CSF function “Identify” are
 371 processes and policies that should be developed prior to implementing recommendations.

372 **Table 3-1 Data Integrity Reference Design CSF Core Components Map**

Cybersecurity Framework (CSF) v1.1			Standards & Best Practices	
Function	Category	Subcategory	SP800-53R4	ISO/IEC 27001:2013
PROTECT (PR)	Data Security (PR.DS)	PR.DS-1: Data-at-rest is protected	SC-28	A.8.2.3
		PR.DS-6: Integrity checking mechanisms are used to verify software, firmware, and information integrity	SI-7	A.12.2.1, A.12.5.1, A.14.1.2, A.14.1.3

Cybersecurity Framework (CSF) v1.1				Standards & Best Practices
Function	Category	Subcategory	SP800-53R4	ISO/IEC 27001:2013
	Information Protection Processes and Procedures (PR.IP)	PR.IP-3: Configuration change control processes are in place	CM-3, CM-4, SA-10	A.12.1.2, A.12.5.1, A.12.6.2, A.14.2.2, A.14.2.3, A.14.2.4, A.14.2.7
		PR.IP-4: Backups of information are conducted, maintained, and tested periodically	CP-4, CP-6, CP-9	A.11.1.4, A.12.3.1, A.17.1.2, A.17.1.3, A.17.2.1 A.18.1.3
		PR.IP-9: Response plans (Incident Response and Business Continuity) and recovery plans (Incident Recovery and Disaster Recovery) are in place and managed	CP-2, IR-8	A.16.1.1, A.17.1.1, A.17.1.2, A.17.2.1
	Protective Technology (PR.PT)	PR.PT-1: Audit/log records are determined, documented, implemented, and reviewed in accordance with policy	AU Family IR-5, IR-6	A.6.1.3, A.16.1.2, A.12.4.1, A.12.4.2, A.12.4.3, A.12.4.4, A.12.7.1

Cybersecurity Framework (CSF) v1.1				Standards & Best Practices
Function	Category	Subcategory	SP800-53R4	ISO/IEC 27001:2013
DETECT (DE)	Anomalies and Events (DE.AE)	DE.AE-4: Impact of events is determined	CP-2, IR-4, RA-3, SI-4	A.6.1.1, A.17.1.1, A.17.2.1, A.16.1.4, A.16.1.5, A.16.1.6, A.12.6.1
	Security Continuous Monitoring (DE.CM)	DE.CM-1: The network is monitored to detect potential cybersecurity events	AC-2, AU-12, CA-7, CM-3, SC-5, SC-7, SI-4	A.9.2.1, A.9.2.2, A.9.2.3, A.9.2.5, A.9.2.6, A.12.4.1, A.12.4.3, A.12.1.2, A.14.2.2, A.14.2.3, A.14.2.4, A.13.1.1, A.13.1.3, A.13.2.1, A.14.1.3
		DE.CM-3: Personnel activity is monitored to detect potential cybersecurity events	AC-2, AU-12, AU-13, CA-7, CM-10, CM-11	A.9.2.1, A.9.2.2, A.9.2.3, A.9.2.5, A.9.2.6, A.12.4.1, A.12.4.3, A.18.1.2, A.12.5.1, A.12.6.2s

373 **3.5 Technologies**

374 Table 3-2 lists all the technologies used in this project and provides a mapping between the generic
 375 application term, the specific product used, and the security control(s) that the product provides. Refer
 376 to Table 3-1 for an explanation of the CSF subcategory codes. This table describes only the product
 377 capabilities used in our example solution. Many of the products have additional security capabilities that
 378 were not used for our purposes.

379 Table 3-2 Products and Technologies

Component	Specific Product	Function	CSF Subcategories
Corruption Testing	ArcSight Enterprise Security Manager (ESM) v6.9.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides monitoring for changes to data on a system • provides logs, detection, and reporting, in the event of changes to data on a system • provides audit capabilities for database metadata and content modifications • provides file hashing and integrity testing independent of file type (can include software files) • provides notifications for changes to configuration • provides file monitoring for cybersecurity events • provides analytic capabilities to determine the impact of integrity events 	PR.DS-6, PR.PT-1, DE.AE-4
	Tripwire Enterprise v8.5		
	Tripwire Log Center Manager v7.2.4.80		
Secure Storage	Spectrum Protect and Backup and Replication v8.1.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides write-once read-many file disk storage for secure backups of integrity information • provides immutability of backups • creates encrypted backups 	PR.DS-1, PR.IP-4
	WORMdisk v151228		
Logging	ArcSight Enterprise Security Manager (ESM) v6.9.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides auditing and logging capabilities configurable to corporate policy • provides logging of some user activity of monitored systems 	PR.PT-1, DE.AE-4, DE.CM-1, DE.CM-3

Component	Specific Product	Function	CSF Subcategories
	Tripwire Enterprise v8.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides network information about certain cybersecurity events • correlates logs of cybersecurity events with user information • provides logs of database activity and database backup operations 	
	Tripwire Log Center Manager v7.2.4.80	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides analysis capabilities for log data • provides analysis capabilities for finding anomalies in user activity • provides automation for logging • provides logs of database activity and database backup operations 	
Backup Capability	Spectrum Protect and Backup and Replication v8.1.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides backup and restoration capabilities for systems • provides backup and restore capabilities for configuration files 	PR.DS-1, PR.IP-3, PR.IP-4, PR.IP-9
	WORMdisk v151228	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides immutable storage • performs periodic backups of information 	
Virtual Infrastructure	Veeam Availability Suite 9.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides backup and restoration capabilities for virtual systems • provides ability to encrypt backups • provides logs for backup and restore operations 	PR.DS-1, PR.IP-4, PR.PT-1

381 4 Architecture

382 Data integrity involves the recovery of data after a ransomware or other destructive attack with the
 383 validation that the recovered data is the last known good. This section presents a high-level architecture
 384 and reference design for implementing such a solution.

385 4.1 Architecture Description

386 4.1.1 High-Level Architecture

387 The DI solution is designed to address the security functions and subcategories described in [Table 3-1](#)
 388 and is composed of the capabilities illustrated in Figure 4-1.

389 Figure 4-1 DI High-Level Architecture



- 390
- 391 1. Secure Storage provides the capability to store data with additional data protection measures,
 392 such as Write Once Read Many (WORM) technologies or data encryption.
 - 393 2. Logging stores and reports all the log files produced by the components within the enterprise.
 - 394 3. Virtual Infrastructure provides virtualized capabilities, including backup capabilities for the
 395 virtual infrastructure.
 - 396 4. Corruption Testing provides capabilities for testing file corruption and provides notification or
 397 logs of violations against specified policies.
 - 398 5. Backup Capability establishes a capability for components within the enterprise that are not a
 399 part of the virtual infrastructure to produce a backup.

400 These capabilities work together to provide the recover function for DI. The secure storage is the ability
 401 to store file-such as backups, gold images, or configurations files, in a format that cannot be corrupted,
 402 since files cannot be altered or changed while in storage. The logging capability works in conjunction
 403 with the corruption testing. The corruption testing capability describes the event(s) when the attack
 404 occurs and the damage caused. Since the corruption testing describes when the event occurred, these
 405 details can be used to investigate the logs to correlate all events relative to the attack across all items

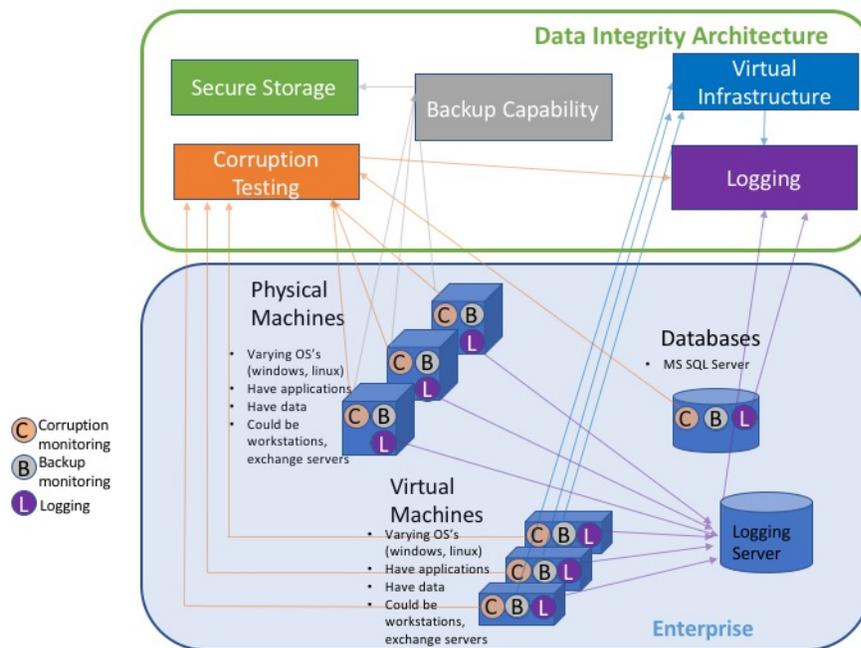
406 that report log files. After the last known good is determined via the logs and corruption testing, the
 407 backup capability for either the enterprise or the virtual infrastructure is employed. A backup capability
 408 is the ability to restore to the point prior to the DI event. The backup capability is supplemented by built-
 409 in backup and rollback capabilities of the database services.

410 The following components of the high-level architecture are not addressed in this guide: enterprise
 411 components (e.g., virtual machines, mail servers, active directory, file sharing capabilities), installation
 412 and configurations, file corruption testing policies, and event detection.

413 4.1.2 Reference Design

414 The reference design addresses the DI architecture in conjunction with its interactions with a
 415 representation of a basic enterprise.

416 **Figure 4-2 DI Reference Design**



417
 418 Solid lines represent the communication of information between components within the enterprise,
 419 from the enterprise to the DI architecture, or between components within the DI architecture. The lines
 420 are color coded to correspond with the capability provided by the DI architecture.

421 The Secure Storage component provides a capability to store the most critical files for an enterprise.
 422 These would include backup data, configuration files, and golden images. Additional measures need to
 423 be applied to provide increased security to these files so they are not subject to attacks or corruption.

424 The Corruption Testing component provides the ability to test, understand, and measure the attack that
425 occurred to files and components within the enterprise. This testing is essential to identify the last
426 known good for the DI recovery process. For these measures to be applicable to an enterprise,
427 appropriate triggers need to be defined and developed within the capability that look for specific events.
428 For example, it may be very normal for end users to have encrypted files they develop during
429 operational hours. But if every file on the end user's workstation begins to be encrypted, or an
430 encryption begins to happen on the end user machine at hours outside of normal operational hours,
431 these could be identifiable actions noted in the log files indicating a ransomware attack. For an
432 enterprise, these triggers need to be defined appropriately and thoroughly to have a successful
433 Corruption Testing capability.

434 The Backup Capability component supports the ability to back up each component within the enterprise
435 as well as perform a restore that uses backup data. The configuration of this component needs to align
436 with the tempo of the enterprise. For example, if an enterprise is performing thousands of transactions
437 per hour per day, then a backup solution that only performs a backup once a day would not adequately
438 provide for the enterprise. This type of configuration would allow for a potentially large data loss. If
439 backups occur every morning and a loss of DI happened at the end of the day, then a full day's worth of
440 transactions would be lost. The decision on what the correct configuration is determined by an
441 organization's risk tolerance. More information pertaining to this decision can be found in [Section](#)
442 [5.1.1.3](#).

443 The Virtual Infrastructure component straddles the line between being part of the enterprise and part of
444 the DI architecture. It provides virtual capabilities to the enterprise as well as backup and restoration
445 capabilities to support the DI architecture. The backup and restoration capabilities are for the virtual
446 infrastructure itself. For data that is produced on individual virtual machines (VMs), either the VM
447 infrastructure can provide the file-level restoration or the backup component can provide this capability.
448 If the VM infrastructure cannot provide its own backup and restoration, then the requirements for that
449 are levied on the backup component.

450 Logging from each component and sorting the logs together is imperative to understanding the
451 ramifications of the attack across the enterprise. File, system, and configuration changes and
452 modifications need to be logged, reported, and stored in one repository where events can be identified
453 and understood.

454 Databases are necessary to support everyday operations of the enterprise architecture and to assist in
455 backup and recovery. The chosen database software should have built-in backup and rollback methods
456 enabled, although commercial solutions for the backup and recovery of databases exist. Often, these
457 commercial solutions use the internal database backup/recovery capabilities. These capabilities are tied
458 into the security architecture, as demonstrated in [Section 5.1.6.2](#). Consult the Backup Capability
459 paragraph above for guidance on the regularity of backups. The regularity of database backups
460 determines the effectiveness of data recovery efforts.

461 5 Example Implementation

462 The example implementation is constructed on the NCCoE lab’s infrastructure, which consists of a
 463 VMware vSphere virtualization operating environment. We used network attached storage and virtual
 464 switches, as well as internet access, to interconnect the solution components. The lab network is not
 465 connected to the NIST enterprise network. Table 5-1 lists (alphabetically) the software and hardware
 466 components we used, as well as the specific function each component.

467 **Table 5-1 Example Implementation Component List**

Product Vendor	Component Name	Function
GreenTec	WORMdisk	Secure, immutable hardware
Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE)	ArcSight ESM	Log analysis, correlation, management, and reporting
IBM	Spectrum Protect	File-level, disk-level, and system-level backup and recovery
Tripwire	Enterprise and Log Center	File integrity monitoring and database metadata integrity monitoring
Veeam	Availability Suite	VM backup and restore

468 The architecture depicted in [Figure 5-1](#) describes a solution built around several typical infrastructure
 469 components: a Microsoft Exchange server, a Microsoft SharePoint server, a Microsoft Structured Query
 470 Language (MS SQL) server, a Microsoft Hyper-V server, and a Microsoft Active Directory server that also
 471 runs Microsoft Domain Name System service, as well as an array of client machines, primarily running
 472 Windows 10 and Ubuntu 16.04.

473 The solution consists of several products to comprise an enterprise DI solution.

474 Organizations should have backup capability that can be used to back up files, disks, and systems. Tools
 475 that provide backup capability may also provide capabilities to back up databases or email servers.
 476 These tools should include management capabilities for backups that provide configuration options such
 477 as when and how data should be backed up. IBM Spectrum Protect provides backup capability in this
 478 build. Clients are installed on all machines that need backup and restore capabilities. Furthermore, IBM
 479 Spectrum Protect uses incremental backups; essentially, this means that it stores an initial full backup of
 480 a user’s system. After this initial backup, additional backups are performed only after changes occur in
 481 data.

482 Secure storage is important for protecting backups and other forms of data in an enterprise DI solution.
 483 Secure storage involves write-protected or write-controlled devices, which prevent data from being
 484 modified or deleted. By integrating backup infrastructure with these disks, it is possible to permanently

485 preserve backups and protect them from harmful malware and accidental deletion. GreenTec
486 WORMdisks are a secure storage solution that protects data on a firmware level. WORMdisks come with
487 software to lock disks or portions of disks permanently or temporarily. Once WORMdisks are locked,
488 they are immutable and any data on the disk is read-only. Implementation instructions are included for
489 backing up directly to GreenTec WORMdisks using IBM Spectrum Protect, as well as instructions for
490 copying backup data from IBM Spectrum Protect to a WORMdisk. Other files stored on these disks can
491 be copied over using the operating system's usual methods. WORMdisks are transparent to the
492 operating system in terms of use, so they function as regular storage drives until they are locked.

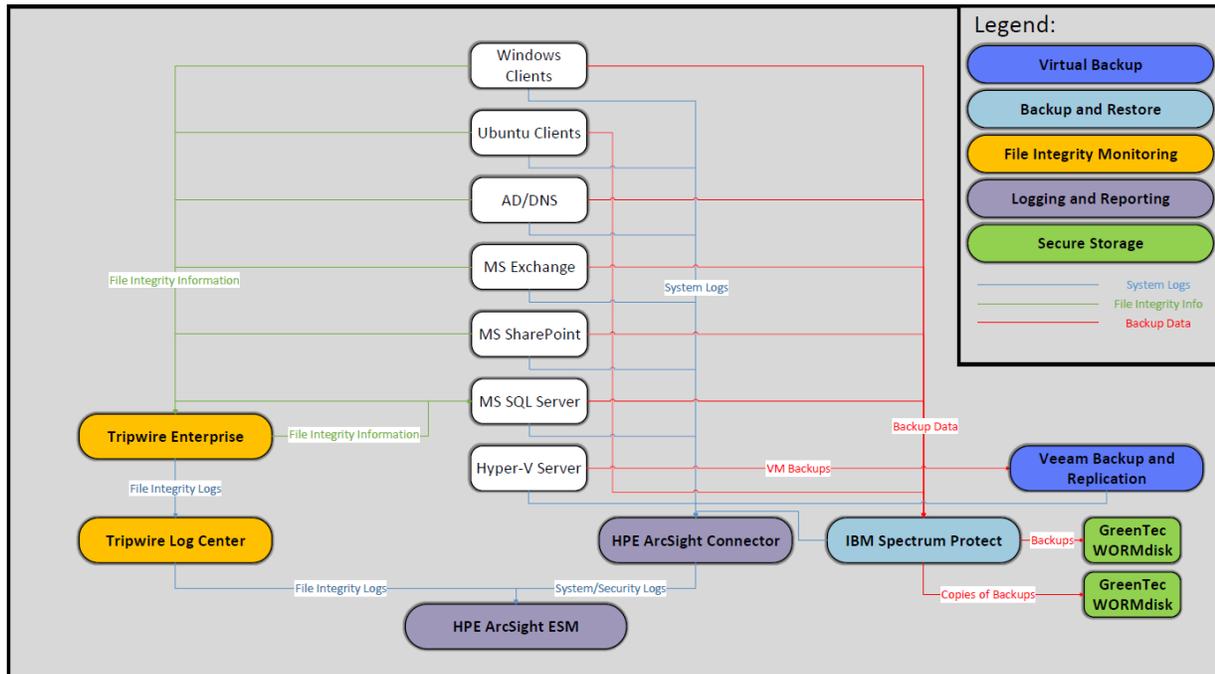
493 Corruption testing involves periodic or manual testing of files for modifications, deletions, additions, or
494 other potential DI events. Tools that provide corruption testing may also test other systems, such as
495 databases or mail servers. Tripwire Enterprise provides corruption testing for this build. By using
496 individual agents installed on client machines, Tripwire Enterprise generates file integrity information for
497 a set of specified files and folders. Tripwire Enterprise can also generate file integrity information for
498 database metadata, allowing administrators to track changes made to database structure. It stores this
499 metadata in a database. For simplicity, we use the MS SQL server to store the file integrity information,
500 but this could be done in a separate database for processing efficiency. Tripwire Enterprise forwards
501 logs that it generates to Tripwire Log Center. Tripwire Log Center allows for filtering and processing of
502 Tripwire Enterprise logs as well as the ability to integrate with other log collection tools.

503 Many organizations have virtual infrastructure that allows them to manage the distribution of VMs
504 across their enterprise. When implementing a DI solution, the virtual infrastructure should include the
505 ability to granularly backup and restore VMs. Veeam Backup and Replication is a tool that can integrate
506 with Hyper-V and VMware to jointly comprise the virtual infrastructure of our build. Veeam Backup and
507 Replication can provide granular backup and restore capabilities. It can perform restores of entire VMs
508 as well as restores on individual files in virtualized environments. Veeam Backup and Replication is
509 server based and can be applied to Hyper-V machines that run on various systems across the enterprise.

510 Logging is another important piece of a DI solution. The collection of logs from various sources is useful
511 in identifying the root cause of DI events, whether they are caused by accident or by malicious insiders
512 or software. Furthermore, logs aid in identifying the time of the last known good and inform decisions
513 regarding restoration. In this build, HPE ArcSight ESM is used to collect logs from various sources.
514 Included in the architecture is an HPE ArcSight Connector server. Through Active Directory, the
515 connector server acquires system and security logs from all Windows endpoints in the domain. These
516 logs are then forwarded to HPE ArcSight ESM. Implementation instructions are included for other, non-
517 default sources. HPE ArcSight ESM can log MS SQL queries and collect Hyper-V application logs, Veeam
518 application logs, and Ubuntu syslogs, and provides instructions for each. In the case of Hyper-V
519 application logs and Veeam application logs, we provide sample custom parsers for forwarding some
520 events to HPE ArcSight ESM (see Volume 3). Additionally, ESM integrates with Tripwire Log Center to
521 provide log collection for all file integrity monitoring logs generated by Tripwire Enterprise. HPE ArcSight
522 ESM can sort, filter, and audit logs from all its sources. The information gathered from these logs should

523 provide system administrators the context they need to determine how to fully remediate systems
 524 affected by destructive malware.

525 **Figure 5-1 Example Implementation Architecture**



526

527 5.1 Use Cases

528 5.1.1 Ransomware

529 5.1.1.1 Scenario

530 A malicious piece of software run by the user encrypts the entire documents folder. This renders files
 531 unusable and pictures unable to be viewed, and users will only be able to see encrypted text should they
 532 attempt to open any of the files in a text editor. Though the software’s scope is limited to the
 533 documents folder, the approach could be more widely applied to encrypt other folders and even system
 534 files, resulting in an attack on the availability of systems and data alike.

535 5.1.1.2 Resolution

536 This use case is resolved using a combination of several tools. The corruption testing component
 537 (Tripwire Enterprise) is used to detect changes in the file systems of various selected machines,
 538 specifically when files are modified or overwritten. The corruption testing component provides context

539 for these events, such as a time stamp, the user responsible, the affected files, and the program that
540 modified the file (if applicable).

541 The logging component (HPE ArcSight ESM) collects logs from various sources for analysis and reporting.
542 Logs are forwarded from the corruption testing component for analysis by a system administrator. The
543 logging component provides search, filtering, and correlation capabilities for auditing, allowing
544 enterprises to manage the quantity of logs generated by the corruption testing component and other
545 sources.

546 These two components work together to provide information about the files encrypted by the
547 ransomware tool: the name of the program that encrypted the files, which files were affected, when
548 they were affected, and which user ran the program. This information aids in removing the ransomware
549 from the system and contributes to the identification of the last known good. However, it does not
550 actually restore the availability of the user's files. The backup capability component (IBM Spectrum
551 Protect) is used to restore encrypted files.

552 *5.1.1.3 Other Considerations*

553 In the event of a system failure caused by ransomware, it is important to note that recovery requires the
554 installation of the IBM Spectrum Protect client (if IBM Spectrum Protect is used as the backup
555 capability). If a system failed due to ransomware and cannot be rebooted, this client may not be
556 immediately accessible. Restoration would require the reinstallation of the operating system and then
557 installation of the IBM Spectrum Protect client. The client could then restore all files, including system
558 files, to their previous state. Products exist that work with IBM Spectrum Protect to automate and
559 accelerate this process.

560 Also, there is a trade-off between the frequency of backups and the amount of data loss an enterprise
561 will experience. More frequent backups require more resources, both in work performed by the client
562 and space required on the server. More frequent backups, however, provide more granularity in
563 recovery capabilities. This can be managed by backing up active files more frequently and dormant files
564 less frequently. An active file will lose more data during recovery because the restoration is to a point in
565 time and will not reflect recent changes to the file.

566 Another caveat of more frequent (i.e., automated) backups is that if a backup is taken after a
567 ransomware attack, the backup infrastructure will retain backups of the encrypted data. Though this is
568 undesirable, it is still possible to restore to previous versions. This scenario highlights the importance of
569 file monitoring capabilities, which can guide users to restoring to the correct backup.

570 5.1.2 File Modification and Deletion

571 5.1.2.1 Scenario

572 A malicious piece of software is downloaded from a phishing website and run by the user. The software
573 recursively modifies files in the directory in which it is running. It removes and replaces pieces of text
574 files, such as numbers and common English words, sometimes removing entire lines of text. It also
575 deletes any file it doesn't recognize as text, such as pictures, videos, and music files. This results in
576 potentially detrimental data loss. Furthermore, since files are deleted and not just encrypted, recovery is
577 impossible without a backup infrastructure in place. There is no option to decrypt files that were deleted
578 from the system, so compensating the creators of the malicious software for data recovery is not an
579 option.

580 5.1.2.2 Resolution

581 Though this use case is more destructive than ransomware, the same tools are used to recover from it.
582 The corruption testing component (Tripwire Enterprise) is used to test sensitive files and folders, and
583 reports information such as the time, user, and the name of the malicious software that deleted and
584 modified the now corrupted files. Even though files are missing and not just encrypted, their deletion
585 will still be reported.

586 The logs generated by the corruption testing component are forwarded to the logging component (HPE
587 ArcSight ESM) for collection and processing by a system administrator. The administrator can use the
588 information to determine how to respond to the event—how to remove the malicious software, how to
589 prevent it from spreading, and which files to restore. The combination of logging in concert with
590 corruption testing provides the ability to identify the last known good.

591 The backup capability (IBM Spectrum Protect) is used to restore modified, corrupted, and deleted files.
592 Even though files are missing from the user's system, they are still present in the backup capability
593 component, and the user need only choose which backup version to restore to.

594 5.1.2.3 Other Considerations

595 Please see [Section 5.1.1.3](#) for a discussion of tradeoffs between the frequency of backups, resources
596 required, and restoration granularity, as they are applicable to this use case.

597 Again, if a backup is taken after malicious software runs but before recovery, the corrupted data will be
598 retained by the backup infrastructure. However, it will still be possible to restore to an older version of
599 the data with IBM Spectrum Protect (if IBM Spectrum Protect is used). IBM Spectrum Protect will not
600 back up deleted files, however, so in the event of file deletion, the last backup taken should be sufficient
601 for recovery, unless the user has a specific reason to recover from an earlier version.

602 5.1.3 VM Deletion

603 5.1.3.1 Scenario

604 A user accidentally deleted a VM in Hyper-V. In this use case, it is assumed that the user has access to
605 the VM. Although the deletion may not set off any red flags by detection systems since a privileged user
606 deleted the machine, it is still undesired. Since VMs can be used for several purposes—such as access to
607 software unavailable on the host operating system (OS), emulation of infrastructure before deployment,
608 or simply storing files for use in the user’s preferred OS—the deletion of a VM can cause significant data
609 loss and disruption in work flow.

610 5.1.3.2 Resolution

611 The VM deletion is resolved using a combination of the logging component (HPE ArcSight ESM) and the
612 virtual infrastructure (Veeam Backup and Restore, Hyper-V). This use case deals specifically with an
613 accidental deletion by a benign user. Because of this, logs pertaining to the deletion are likely
614 unnecessary for recovery. However, other use cases may require logs, especially in the event of a
615 malicious VM deletion. Therefore, our resolution includes a method for integrating the selected virtual
616 infrastructure tools and logging component. The integration allows for the collection of logs regarding
617 the deletion of the VM as well as logs pertaining to the restoration of the VM once complete. The virtual
618 infrastructure is used to restore the entire deleted VM.

619 5.1.3.3 Other Considerations

620 The chosen virtual infrastructure components (Veeam Backup and Restore, Hyper-V) allow for more
621 granular recovery—files on the guest OS can be recovered, not just the entire VM. This extends the user’s
622 restoration capabilities in events where data corruption happens within the VM. However, it is unlikely
623 that file change logs will be forwarded to the logging component (HPE ArcSight ESM), meaning that such
624 recovery capabilities do not meet all the requirements of this reference design.

625 5.1.4 Active Directory Permission Change

626 5.1.4.1 Scenario

627 A malicious insider creates backdoors into a Microsoft Exchange server. Since the culprit is an insider, he
628 or she is assumed to be privileged. The backdoor accounts have administrator privileges and can make
629 changes to various settings in the Exchange infrastructure. This results in potential data leaks, which
630 could involve forwarding emails from all users to an off-site account.

631 5.1.4.2 Resolution

632 This use case is resolved primarily using the logging component (HPE ArcSight ESM) and the built-in
633 Microsoft Windows server recovery capabilities. Since system and security logs are reported to the

634 logging component, administrators will be able to find which user created the accounts, the names of all
635 the accounts created, when they were created, and the account activities. The administrator could
636 choose to delete the accounts manually, but Windows includes a method for restoring the system state.
637 Since restoring the system state is more complicated in later Windows server versions, the chosen
638 backup capability (IBM Spectrum Protect) is not used for the restoration. As stated in the product
639 documentation, the preferred method for recovering the system state is through the Microsoft
640 Windows System State restoration process.

641 This restore is performed on the Active Directory server (as opposed to the Microsoft Exchange server)
642 since the accounts, though created from the Exchange server, are stored on the Active Directory server.

643 *5.1.4.3 Other Considerations*

644 IBM Spectrum Protect recommends using the Microsoft Windows System State backup and recovery
645 tool for later Windows versions.

646 **5.1.5 Database Transactions**

647 *5.1.5.1 Scenario*

648 A malicious or careless insider changes database data that is necessary for enterprise operations. The
649 user is assumed to be privileged. Through the course of interacting with the database, the user executes
650 a query that inserts, deletes, or modifies data in a way that harms enterprise operations.

651 *5.1.5.2 Resolution*

652 The event is detected with the logging capability (HPE ArcSight ESM). Database integrity is restored
653 through a system of transactional rollbacks. Since the logging capability includes database query log
654 collection, administrators will be able to find which users modified the database, and what queries were
655 run. Given this information, administrators can determine the harmful queries and when the database
656 was in its desired state. Transactional rollbacks are then used to restore the database to the last known
657 good state.

658 *5.1.5.3 Other Considerations*

659 Restoration need not be conducted on the database server, depending on the method of rollbacks
660 employed. The database modification can be conducted on any machine.

661 Transactional rollbacks require that queries be explicitly executed within “transactions.” During the
662 restoration process, a transactional ID is specified to restore to. An enterprise can choose to force
663 queries to use transactions through the implementation of a proxy between all potential endpoints and
664 the database. Through this precise processing of queries, granular restoration can be achieved, though
665 potentially at cost to efficiency.

666 5.1.6 Database Metadata Modification

667 5.1.6.1 Scenario

668 A malicious or careless insider changes the metadata of the system's main database. The user is
669 assumed to be privileged. Through the course of interacting with the database, the user executes a
670 query that changes the name of a key table. This results in a loss of functionality of the database for any
671 queries that wish to use that table.

672 5.1.6.2 Resolution

673 This use case is resolved through database restoration capabilities—in this case, inherent to the
674 database. Both the corruption testing component (Tripwire Enterprise) and the logging component (HPE
675 ArcSight ESM) are used to detect the event. Through these components, administrators will be able to
676 find which users modified the database. It is possible to manually revert the changes, but the built-in
677 database backup and restoration capabilities can also be used to fix the metadata.

678 Regardless of where the database modification query was run, recovery occurs on the database server
679 to the last known good.

680 5.1.6.3 Other Considerations

681 Backup scheduling tied to the database is separate from the backup capability (IBM Spectrum Protect). If
682 tools are used that require separate database backup procedures, security policies and backup
683 schedules should be designed to accommodate this fact.

684 Note: The use of backups to restore databases that have had adverse changes to their metadata may
685 result in the loss of all data since the backup was taken. Reversing the changes manually is more time-
686 consuming but more precise.

687 6 Security Characteristics Analysis

688 This evaluation focuses on the security of the reference design itself. In addition, it seeks to understand
689 the security benefits and drawbacks of the example solution.

690 6.1 Assumptions and Limitations

691 The security characteristic evaluation has several limitations:

- 692 ▪ It is not a comprehensive test of all security components, nor is it a red team exercise.
- 693 ▪ It cannot identify all weaknesses.

- 694 ▪ It does not include the lab infrastructure. It is assumed that devices are hardened. Testing these
695 devices would reveal only weaknesses in implementation that would not be relevant to those
696 adopting this reference architecture.

697 **6.2 Analysis of the Reference Design’s Support for CSF Subcategories**

698 [Table 3-2](#) lists the reference design functions and the security characteristics, along with products that
699 we used to instantiate each capability. The focus of the security evaluation is not on these specific
700 products but on the CSF subcategories, because, in theory, any number of commercially available
701 products could be substituted to provide the CSF support represented by a given reference design
702 capability.

703 This section discusses how the reference design supports each of the CSF subcategories listed in [Table 3-](#)
704 [1](#). Using the CSF subcategories as a basis for organizing our analysis allowed us to systematically
705 consider how well the reference design supports specific security activities and provides structure to our
706 security analysis.

707 **6.2.1 PR.IP-3: Configuration Change Control Processes Are in Place**

708 The reference design protects the configuration from change and detects changes in the configuration
709 using secure hardware and file integrity monitoring. It does not include processes for change control,
710 however, which the adopting organization should implement.

711 **6.2.2 PR. IP-4: Backups of Information Are Conducted, Maintained, and Tested** 712 **Periodically**

713 The reference design includes capabilities for creating backups of information from various sources:

- 714 ▪ file systems
715 ▪ disks
716 ▪ virtualized environments
717 ▪ databases

718 It also describes scheduling capabilities for each of these backup targets, allowing for periodic backups
719 as well as manual backups. The design provides the capability to test and maintain backups, but
720 planning schedules, maintenance, and testing of backups are left to the adopting organization.

721 By adopting this reference design, organizations gain the capability to conduct, maintain, and test
722 backups, and in doing so, the organizations will support the technical requirements of CSF subcategory
723 PR.IP-4.

724 6.2.3 PR.DS-1: Data-at-Rest Is Protected

725 The reference design supports the protection of data-at-rest through:

- 726 ▪ secure hardware as protection against data corruption
- 727 ▪ encryption of backups as protection against unauthorized access

728 Through these combined capabilities, the reference design can protect data-at-rest from both
729 unauthorized reads and writes. This protection only applies to data that is stored using the capability of
730 the reference design. Utilization of the reference design is necessary for data protection;
731 implementation alone is not sufficient.

732 By adopting this reference design, organizations gain the capability to protect data-at-rest, and in doing
733 so, the organizations will support the technical requirements of CSF subcategory PR.DS-1.

734 6.2.4 PR.DS-6: Integrity Checking Mechanisms Are Used to Verify Software, 735 Firmware, and Information Integrity

736 The reference design supports integrity checking for various types of data, including:

- 737 ▪ files stored in file systems
- 738 ▪ database metadata
- 739 ▪ logs
- 740 ▪ software

741 Firmware that is stored on special hardware may be out of the scope of the design. It should be possible
742 to monitor firmware stored as files; however, this reference design does not include firmware or
743 software integrity verification against online resources.

744 By adopting this reference design, organizations gain the capability to monitor file integrity within their
745 system. This partially supports the technical requirements of CSF subcategory PR.DS-6, but the
746 verification of integrity for firmware and software against verified sources is out of scope.

747 6.2.5 PR.PT-1: Audit/Log Records Are Determined, Documented, Implemented, and 748 Reviewed in Accordance with Policy

749 The reference design supports auditing, log collection, log analysis, and log correlation. It includes
750 mechanisms for collecting logs from:

- 751 ▪ Microsoft event logs
- 752 ▪ Windows application logs
- 753 ▪ Linux system logs

- 754 ▪ file integrity logs
- 755 ▪ custom log sources
- 756 ▪ database query history

757 Logs are aggregated into a single interface, which allows for searching, correlating, and analyzing logs
758 from across an enterprise. Reviewing these logs is left to the individual organization.

759 By adopting this reference design, organizations gain the technical capability to aggregate, correlate,
760 and analyze logs as well as perform audits across an enterprise. In doing so, the organizations will
761 support the technical requirements of CSF subcategory PR.PT-1.

762 6.2.6 DE.CM-3: Personnel Activity Is Monitored to Detect Potential Cybersecurity 763 Events

764 The reference design supports log collection for various activities across an enterprise, including:

- 765 ▪ file creation, deletion, modification, and renaming
- 766 ▪ account creation, deletion, and modification
- 767 ▪ database queries and other activity

768 These collected logs, where possible, have users and programs associated with them. The design does
769 not support active monitoring of user activity or monitoring of network activity. However, logs are
770 provided for relevant activities, so that informed decisions can be made when an organization decides
771 how to recover from destructive malware.

772 By adopting this reference design, organizations will gain the technical capability to review some
773 personnel activity after a cybersecurity event has occurred, and in doing so, partially support the
774 technical requirements of CSF subcategory DE.CM-3.

775 6.2.7 DE.CM-1: The Network Is Monitored to Detect Potential Cybersecurity Events

776 The reference design supports the monitoring of some network activity in the enterprise. Network
777 information is correlated with all logged cybersecurity events to determine:

- 778 ▪ Source Internet Protocol (IP) of event (if applicable)
- 779 ▪ Destination IP of event (if applicable)
- 780 ▪ Port (if applicable)

781 Though these collected logs have network information associated with them, network activity is not
782 directly monitored for anomalies. Since the focus of this project is recovery, the reference design
783 supports enough network information to recover from a cybersecurity event, but will not attempt to
784 detect cybersecurity events based on network traffic or packet analysis.

785 By adopting this reference design, organizations will gain the technical capability to associate DI events
786 with network information, and in doing so, will partially support the technical requirements of CSF
787 subcategory DE.CM-1.

788 6.2.8 DE.CM-2: The Physical Environment Is Monitored to Detect Potential 789 Cybersecurity Events

790 The reference design supports the monitoring of physical machines in the enterprise through the real-
791 time monitoring of:

- 792 ▪ file integrity
- 793 ▪ database metadata integrity
- 794 ▪ database queries

795 This reference design does not include monitoring for physical cybersecurity events, such as the
796 insertion of potentially malicious flash drives.

797 By adopting this reference design, organizations will only partially gain the technical capability required
798 to fully monitor the physical environment, and in doing so, partially support the technical requirements
799 of CSF subcategory DE.CM-2.

800 6.2.9 PR.IP-9: Response Plans and Recovery Plans Are in Place and Managed

801 The reference design supports notification after a DI event as well as the infrastructure required for
802 recovery, including:

- 803 ▪ logs for analysis and auditing events after they happen
- 804 ▪ backup and restore capabilities for successful recovery

805 The design supports the technical requirements of a recovery plan; however, the details of the plan
806 should be put in place by the adopting organizations.

807 By adopting this reference design, organizations will gain the technical capability required to recover
808 from a DI event, and in doing so, support the technical requirements of CSF subcategory PR.IP-9.

809 6.2.10 DE.AE-4: Impact of Events Is Determined

810 The reference design supports an infrastructure to determine the scope of DI events as well as create
811 plans of action for remediation. This infrastructure includes:

- 812 ▪ logs that identify impacted files and systems
- 813 ▪ auditing to determine responsible parties after an event occurs

814 The design provides the forensic ability to determine affected systems and responsible parties but does
815 not act on this information without human intervention. Adopting organizations should create plans to
816 use this information for remediation.

817 By adopting the design, organizations will only partially gain the technical capability required to
818 determine the impact of events, and in doing so, partially support the technical requirements of CSF
819 subcategory DE.AE-4.

820 **6.3 Security of the Reference Design**

821 The list of reference design capabilities in [Table 3-2](#) focuses on the capabilities needed to ensure the
822 integrity of system data. [Table 3-2](#) does not focus on capabilities that are needed to manage and secure
823 the reference design. However, the reference design itself must be managed and secured. To this end,
824 this security evaluation focuses on the security of the reference design itself.

825 Measures implemented to protect the reference design from outside attack include:

- 826 ▪ isolating certain capabilities on separate subnetworks protected by firewalls
- 827 ▪ Implementing a management network to isolate log and management traffic from the
828 production (business operations) networks
- 829 ▪ securing critical user access information and logs to protect them from unauthorized insertion,
830 modification, or deletion
- 831 ▪ logging all privileged user access activities
- 832 ▪ using encryption and integrity protection of user access information and logs while this
833 information is in transit between capabilities

834 [Table 6-1](#), Capabilities for Managing and Securing the DI Reference Design, describes the security
835 protections each capability provides and lists the corresponding products that were used to instantiate
836 each capability. The security evaluation focuses on the capabilities rather than the products. The NCCoE
837 is not assessing or certifying the security of the products included in the example implementation. We
838 assume that the enterprise already deploys network security capabilities such as firewalls and intrusion
839 detection devices that are configured per best practices. The focus here is on securing capabilities
840 introduced by the reference design and minimizing their exposure to threats.

841 **6.3.1 Deployment Recommendations**

842 When deploying the reference design in an operational environment, organizations should follow
843 security best practices to address potential vulnerabilities and ensure that all solution assumptions are
844 valid to minimize any risk to the production network. Organizations leveraging the reference design
845 should adhere to the following list of recommended best practices that are designed to reduce risk.
846 Note that the laboratory instantiation of the reference design did not implement every security

847 recommendation. Organizations should not, however, consider this list to be comprehensive; merely
848 following this list will not guarantee a secure environment. Organizations must also take into
849 consideration items such as user access controls, continuity of operations planning, and environmental
850 elements that are not addressed in this document. Planning for design deployment gives an organization
851 the opportunity to go back and audit the information in its system and get a more global, correlated,
852 and disambiguated view of the DI controls that are in effect.

853 *6.3.1.1 Patch, Harden, Scan, and Test* [6]

- 854 ▪ Keep OSs up-to-date by patching, version control, and monitoring indicators of compromise
855 (e.g., performing virus and malware detection as well as keeping anti-virus signatures up-to-
856 date).
- 857 ▪ Harden all capabilities by deploying on securely configured OSs that use long and complex
858 passwords and are configured per best practices.
- 859 ▪ Scan OSs for vulnerabilities.
- 860 ▪ Test individual capabilities to ensure that they provide the expected CSF subcategory support
861 and that they do not introduce unintended vulnerabilities.
- 862 ▪ Evaluate reference design implementations before going operational with them.

863 *6.3.1.2 Other Security Best Practices* [7]

- 864 ▪ Install, configure, and use each capability of the reference design per the security guidance
865 provided by the capability vendor.
- 866 ▪ Change the default password when installing software.
- 867 ▪ Identify and understand which predefined administrative and other accounts each capability
868 comes with by default to eliminate any inadvertent backdoors into these capabilities. Disable all
869 unnecessary predefined accounts and, even though they are disabled, change the default
870 passwords in case a future patch enables these accounts.
- 871 ▪ Segregate reference design capabilities on their own subnetwork, separate from the production
872 network, either physically or using virtual private networks and port-based authentication or
873 similar mechanisms.
- 874 ▪ Protect the various reference design subnetworks from each other and from the production
875 network using security capabilities such as firewalls and intrusion detection devices that are
876 configured per best practices.
- 877 ▪ Configure firewalls to limit connections between the reference design network and the
878 production network, except for connections needed to support required inter-network
879 communications to specific IP address and port combinations in certain directions.

- 880 ▪ Configure and verify firewall configurations to ensure that data transmission to and from
881 reference design capabilities is limited to interactions that are needed. Restrict all permitted
882 communications to specific protocols and IP address and port combinations in specific
883 directions.
- 884 ▪ Monitor the firewalls that separate the various reference design subnetworks from one another.
- 885 ▪ NIST SP 1800-9C: *How-To Guides* contains the firewall configurations that show the rules
886 implemented in each of the firewalls for the example implementation. These configurations are
887 provided to enable the reader to reproduce the traffic filtering/blocking that was achieved in
888 the implementation.
- 889 ▪ Apply encryption or integrity-checking mechanisms to all information exchanged between
890 reference design capabilities (i.e., to all user access, policy, and log information exchanged) so
891 that tampering can be detected. Use only encryption and integrity mechanisms that conform to
892 most recent industry best practices. Note that in the case of directory reads and writes,
893 protected mode is defined as the use of Lightweight Directory Access Protocols (Request for
894 Comments 2830).
- 895 ▪ Strictly control physical access to both the reference design and the production network.
- 896 ▪ Deploy a configuration management system to serve as a “monitor of monitors” to ensure that
897 any changes made to the list of information are logged and reported to the monitoring system
898 or to the analytics in the monitoring system and notifications are generated. Such a system
899 could also monitor whether reference design monitoring capabilities, such as log integrity
900 capabilities or the monitoring system itself, go offline or stop functioning, and generate alerts
901 when these capabilities become unresponsive.
- 902 ▪ Deploy a system that audits and analyzes directory content to create a description of who has
903 access to what resources and validate that these access permissions correctly implement the
904 enterprise’s intended business process and access policies.

905 6.3.1.3 *Policy Recommendations*

- 906 ▪ Define the access policies to enforce the principles of least privilege and separation of duties.
- 907 ▪ Equip the monitoring capability with a complete a set of rules to take full advantage of the
908 ability to identify anomalous situations that can signal a cyber event. Define enterprise-level
909 work flows that include business and security rules to determine each user’s access control
910 authorizations and ensure that enterprise access control policy is enforced as completely and
911 accurately as possible.
- 912 ▪ Develop an attack model to help determine the type of events that should generate alerts.
- 913 ▪ Grant only a very few users (e.g., human resource administrators) the authority to modify
914 (initiate, change, or delete) employee access information. Require the approval of more than

- 915 one individual to update employee access information. Log all employee access information
916 modifications. Define work flows to enforce these requirements.
- 917 ■ Grant only a very few users (e.g., access rules administrators) the authority to modify (initiate,
918 change, or delete) access rules. Require the approval of more than one individual to update
919 access rules. Log all access rule modifications. Define work flows to enforce these requirements.
 - 920 ■ Grant only a very few users (e.g., security analyst) the authority to modify (initiate, change, or
921 delete) the analytics that are applied to log information by the monitoring capability to
922 determine what constitutes an anomaly and generates an alert. Any changes made to the
923 analytics should, by policy, require the approval of more than one individual, and these changes
924 should themselves be logged, with the logs sent to a monitor-of-monitors system other than the
925 monitoring system and to all security analysts and other designated individuals. Define work
926 flows to enforce these requirements.

927 **Table 6-1 Capabilities for Managing and Securing the DI Reference Design**

928 This table describes only the product capabilities and CSF subcategory support used in the reference architecture. Many of the products have
 929 significant additional security capabilities that are not listed here.

Capability	Specific Product	Function	CSF Subcategories
Subnetting	N/A	Technique of segmenting the network on which the reference design is deployed so that capabilities on one subnetwork are isolated from capabilities on other subnetworks. If an intruder gains access to one segment of the network, this technique limits the intruder's ability to monitor traffic on other segments of the network. For example, the enterprise's production network, on which user access information and decisions are conveyed, is separate from the reference design's monitoring and management subnetwork.	PR.DS-1: Data-at-rest is protected. PR.PT-4: Communications and control networks are protected.
Privileged Access Management	Active Directory	Manages privileged access to the OSs of all physical reference design capabilities. This is the single portal into which all users with administrator privileges must log in; it defines what systems these administrators are authorized to access based on their role and attributes. It also logs every login that is performed by users with administrator privileges, creating an audit trail of privileged	PR.AC-3: Remote access is managed. PR.AC-4: Access permissions are managed, incorporating the principles of least privilege and separation of duties. PR.PT-3: Access to systems and assets is controlled, incorporating the principle of least functionality.

Capability	Specific Product	Function	CSF Subcategories
		user access to the OSs of the physical systems that are hosting reference design capabilities.	DE.CM-3: Personnel activity is monitored to detect potential cybersecurity events.
Virtual Environment Privileged Access Management	Hyper-V VEEAM Active Directory	Manages privileged access to the virtual environment (including machines, switches, and host hardware) that host reference design capabilities. Hyper-V defines what VMs users are authorized to access based on the user's role. It logs activity that administrators perform on VMs, but it does not log operations that are performed on the OSs that are installed on those VMs. These logs create an audit trail of privileged user access to the virtual environment that is hosting the reference design capabilities.	PR.AC-3: Remote access is managed. PR.AC-4: Access permissions are managed, incorporating the principles of least privilege and separation of duties. PR.PT-3: Access to systems and assets is controlled, incorporating the principle of least functionality. DE.CM-3: Personnel activity is monitored to detect potential cybersecurity events.
Log Integrity	Tripwire Enterprise HPE ArcSight ESM	Forwards log information from each reference design capability to the monitoring capability. If an alternative product were used to instantiate this capability, it could add a time stamp and hash/integrity seal to each log file, thereby providing the file with integrity, but not confidentiality, protections. However, if the hash/integrity seal were to continue to be stored with the log file at the monitoring capability, it would provide a mechanism to	PR.DS-6: Integrity checking mechanisms are used to verify software, firmware, and information integrity. PR.PT-1: Audit/log records are determined, documented, implemented, and reviewed in accordance with policy. DE.AE-3: Event data is aggregated and correlated from multiple sources and sensors. PR.DS-2: Data-in-transit is protected.

Capability	Specific Product	Function	CSF Subcategories
		detect unauthorized modifications made to the log file while stored there.	

930 7 Functional Evaluation

931 A functional evaluation of the DI example implementation, as constructed in our laboratory, was
 932 conducted to verify that it meets its objective of demonstrating the ability to recover from DI attack. The
 933 evaluation verified that the example implementation could perform the following functions:

- 934 ▪ recover from an identified ransomware attack
- 935 ▪ recover from a data destruction event
- 936 ▪ recover from a data manipulation event

937 Section 7.1 describes the format and components of the functional test cases. Each functional test case
 938 is designed to assess the capability of the example implementation to perform the functions listed
 939 above and detailed in [Section 7.1.1](#).

940 7.1 Data Integrity Functional Test Plan

941 One aspect of our security evaluation involved assessing how well the reference design addresses the
 942 security characteristics it was intended to support. The CSF subcategories were used to provide
 943 structure to the security assessment by consulting the specific sections of each standard that are cited in
 944 reference to that subcategory. The cited sections provide validation points that the example solution is
 945 expected to exhibit. Using the CSF subcategories as a basis for organizing our analysis allowed us to
 946 systematically consider how well the reference design supports the intended security characteristics.

947 This plan includes the test cases necessary to conduct the functional evaluation of the DI example
 948 implementation, which is currently deployed in a lab at the NCCoE. The implementation tested is
 949 described in [Section 5](#).

950 Each test case consists of multiple fields that collectively identify the goal of the test, the specifics
 951 required to implement the test, and how to assess the results of the test. Table 7-1 describes each field
 952 in the test case.

953 **Table 7-1 Test Case Fields**

Test Case Field	Description
Parent requirement	Identifies the top-level requirement or the series of top-level requirements leading to the testable requirement.
Testable requirement	Drives the definition of the remainder of the test case fields. Specifies the capability to be evaluated.
Associated security controls	Lists the NIST SP 800-53 rev 4 controls addressed by the test case.

Test Case Field	Description
Description	Describes the objective of the test case.
Associated test cases	In some instances, a test case may be based on the outcome of another test case(s). For example, analysis-based test cases produce a result that is verifiable through various means (e.g., log entries, reports, and alerts).
Preconditions	The starting state of the test case. Preconditions indicate various starting state items, such as a specific capability configuration required or specific protocol and content.
Procedure	The step-by-step actions required to implement the test case. A procedure may consist of a single sequence of steps or multiple sequences of steps (with delineation) to indicate variations in the test procedure.
Expected results	The expected results for each variation in the test procedure.
Actual results	The observed results.
Overall result	The overall result of the test as pass/fail. In some test case instances, the determination of the overall result may be more involved, such as determining pass/fail based on a percentage of errors identified.

954 **7.1.1 Data Integrity Use Case Requirements**

955 Table 7-2 identifies the DI functional evaluation requirements that are addressed in the test plan and
 956 associated test cases.

957 Table 7-2 Data Integrity Functional Requirements

Capability Requirement (CR) ID	Parent Requirement	Sub-requirement 1	Test Case
CR 1	The DI example implementation shall respond/recover from malware that encrypts files and displays notice demanding payment.		
CR 1.a		Produce notification of security event	Data Integrity -1
CR 1.b		Provide file integrity monitor	Data Integrity -1
CR 1.c		Revert to last known good	Data Integrity -1
CR 2	The DI example implementation shall recover when malware destroys data on user's machine.		
CR 2.a		Provide file integrity monitor	Data Integrity -2
CR 2.b		Revert to last known good	Data Integrity -2
CR 3	The DI example implementation shall recover when a user modifies a configuration file in violation of established baselines.		
CR 3.a		Provide file integrity monitor	Data Integrity -3 Data Integrity -6
CR 3.b		Revert to last known good	Data Integrity -3 Data Integrity -6
CR 3.c		Provide user activity auditing	Data Integrity -6

Capability Requirement (CR) ID	Parent Requirement	Sub-requirement 1	Test Case
CR 4	The DI example implementation shall recover when an administrator modifies a user's file.		
CR 4.a		Provide file integrity monitor	Data Integrity -4
CR-4.b		Provide user activity auditing	Data Integrity -4
CR 4.c		Revert to last known good	Data Integrity -4
CR-5	The DI example implementation shall recover when an administrator and/or script modifies data in a database.		
CR 5.a		Use database transaction auditing	Data Integrity -5
CR 5.b		Roll back to last known good	Data Integrity -5
CR-6	The DI example implementation shall recover when a user modifies a configuration file in violation of established baselines.		
CR 6.a		Provide file integrity monitor	Data Integrity -6
CR 6.b		Revert to last known good	Data Integrity -6
CR 6.c		Provide user activity auditing	Data Integrity -6

959 7.1.2 Test Case: Data Integrity-1

960 Table 7-3 Test Case ID: Data Integrity -1

Parent requirement	(CR 1) The DI example implementation shall respond/recover from malware that encrypts files and displays notice demanding payment.
Testable requirement	(CR 1.a) Logging, (CR 1.b) Corruption Testing, (CR 1.c) Backup Capability
Description	Show that the DI solution can recover from a DI attack that was initiated via ransomware.
Associated test cases	N/A
Associated CSF Subcategories	DE.DP-4, RS.CO-2, DE.EA-5, PR.DS-1, PR.DS-6, PR.PT-1
Preconditions	User downloaded and ran an executable from the internet that is ransomware. The user's files are then encrypted by the ransomware.
Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Open the Tripwire Enterprise interface. 2. Click on the Tasks Section, enable the associated rule box, and click Run. 3. Open HPE ArcSight ESM. 4. Under Events, select Active Channels, then select Audit Events. 5. Find the Tripwire Enterprise event logs associated with the event. Select Fields in the Customize dropdown and enable the following fields: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. End Time b. Attacker Address c. File Name d. Device Action e. Source User Name f. Device Custom String6 6. Open IBM Spectrum Protect. 7. Click on Restore. 8. Select missing files and click Restore to original location.
Expected Results (pass)	<p>Event identified (CR 1.a)</p> <p>Details of the event are understood and moment of last known good is identified.</p>

	<p>Provide file Integrity monitor (CR 1.b).</p> <p>Modified files are correctly identified.</p> <p>Recovery complete (CR 1.c).</p> <p>System was restored to pre-DI event version.</p>
Actual Results	<p>Details of the event were understood and the moment of last known good was identified for the file in question. All the files affected within that timeframe were correctly identified, and a full and successful restore was executed.</p>
Overall Result	<p>Pass. All metrics of success were met to satisfaction.</p>

961 7.1.3 Test Case Data Integrity-2

962 Table 7-4 Test Case ID: Data Integrity -2

Parent requirement	(CR 2) The DI example implementation shall recover when malware destroys data on user's machine.
Testable requirement	(CR 2.a) Corruption Testing, (CR 2.b) Backup Capability
Description	Show that the DI solution can recover from a DI attack that destroys data via a malware attack.
Associated test cases	N/A
Associated CSF Subcategories	PR.DS-1, PR.IP-4, PR.DS-6, PR.PT1
Preconditions	User downloads a malicious executable that modifies critical data.
Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Open the Tripwire Enterprise interface. 2. Click on the Tasks Section, enable the associated rule box, and click Run. 3. Open HPE ArcSight ESM. 4. Under Events, select Active Channels, then select Audit Events. 5. Find the Tripwire event logs associated with the event. Select Fields in the Customize dropdown and enable the following fields: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. End Time b. Attacker Address c. File Name d. Device Action e. Source User Name f. Device Custom String 6. Open IBM Spectrum Protect. 7. Click on Restore. 8. Select missing files and click Restore to original location.
Expected Results (pass)	<p>Provide file integrity monitor (CR 2.a).</p> <p>Modified files are correctly identified.</p> <p>Recovery complete (CR 2.b).</p>

	System was restored to pre-DI event version.
Actual Results	Details of the event were understood and the moment of last known good was identified for the file in question. All the files affected within that timeframe were correctly identified, and a full and successful restore was executed.
Overall Result	Pass. All metrics of success were met to satisfaction.

963 7.1.4 Test Case Data Integrity-3

964 Table 7-5 Test Case ID: Data Integrity -3

Parent requirement	(CR 3) The DI example implementation shall recover when a user modifies a configuration file in violation of established baselines.
Testable requirement	(CR 3.a) Corruption Testing, (CR 3.b) Backup Capability
Description	Show that the DI solution can recover from a DI event that modifies system configurations.
Associated test cases	N/A
Associated CSF Subcategories	PR.DS-1, PR.DS-6, PR.PT-1, DE.CM-3, DE.AE-1, DE.CM-1
Preconditions	Run a script that would simulate the effects of a configuration modification event.
Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Open HP ArcSight ESM. 2. Under Events, select Event Search. 3. Use the search bar to search for the keyword “created” to find associated event logs for account creation. 4. After determining the point in time of a malicious event, restart the Active Directory server, holding down the F2 and F8 keys while restarting to enter the Advanced Boot Options menu. 5. Select Directory Services Repair Mode. 6. Log in as the machine administrator. 7. Open a command prompt. 8. View visible backup versions with the following command: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <code>wbadmin get versions</code> 9. Restore to a selected backup target with the following command. Note that the selected date should reflect the last known good backup: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <code>wbadmin start systemstaterecovery -version:<Version Number> -backupTarget:<Backup Location></code> ▪ Replace <code><Version Number></code> with the desired version’s version identifier, and <code><Backup Location></code> with the version’s corresponding backup location.

	<p>10. Provide a username (with domain if applicable) and password for a privileged user to the backup location.</p> <p>11. Acknowledge the remaining prompts and wait for the backup to complete. The system will automatically restart.</p>
Expected Results (pass)	<p>Provide file integrity monitor (CR 3.a).</p> <p>Modified files are correctly identified.</p> <p>Recovery complete (CR 3.b).</p> <p>Modified files are restored to their original state.</p>
Actual Results	<p>The fake accounts were successfully identified and deleted. The remaining accounts were restored to their original states at the time of the backup.</p>
Overall Result	<p>Pass. All metrics of success were met to satisfaction.</p>

965 7.1.5 Test Case Data Integrity-4

966 Table 7-6 Test Case ID: Data Integrity -4

Parent requirement	(CR 4) The DI example implementation shall recover when an administrator modifies a user's file.
Testable requirement	(CR 4.a) Corruption Testing, (CR 4.b) Logging, (CR 4.c) Backup Capability
Description	Show that the DI solution can recover from when an administrator modifies a user's file.
Associated test cases	N/A
Associated CSF Subcategories	DE.AE-1, DE.AE-3, DE.AE-5
Preconditions	Two VMs on Microsoft Hyper-V have been backed up. Administrator accidentally runs a command that deletes a critical VM. <code>Remove-VM -Name "<VMName>" -Force</code>
Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Open HP ArcSight ESM. 2. Under Events, select Event Search. 3. Use the search bar to search for the deleted VM's name and then find the associated event log. 4. Locate previous logins from that machine by searching for the VM host machine's domain and name in the search bar. Look for logins before the time of the deletion incident, without an associated logout before the event. User logins (as opposed to automated ones that occur constantly in the machine) will have a non-null value for the Source Address field, typically 127.0.0.1. 5. Open the VEEAM console. 6. Navigate to the Backups menu. 7. Right-click on deleted VM and click Restore, and then Entire VM. 8. When prompted, search for the deleted VM's name and select it for restoration. 9. When prompted, enter reason for VM restoration.
Expected Results (pass)	Provide file integrity monitor (CR 4.a). Missing files are correctly identified.

	<p>Provide user activity auditing (CR 4.b).</p> <p>User who initiated deletion is correctly identified.</p> <p>Revert to last known good (CR 4.c).</p> <p>VM is fully restored to original functionality.</p>
Actual Results	<p>The VEEAM system functioned as expected. Deleted VM is restored to its original functionality. Any user logged in during the deletion event was identified.</p>
Overall Result	<p>Pass (partial). The file integrity monitoring and reversion to last known good requirements were met. User activity was audited, but it is not possible to determine which user caused the deletion event if multiple users were logged in to the machine at the time of the event.</p>

967 7.1.6 Test Case Data Integrity-5

968 Table 7-7 Test Case ID: Data Integrity -5

Parent requirement	(CR 5) The DI example implementation shall recover when an administrator and/or script modifies data in a database.
Testable requirement	(CR 5.a) Logging, (CR 5.b) Backup Storage
Description	Show that the DI solution can recover when data in a database has been altered in error by an administrator or script.
Associated test cases	N/A
Associated CSF Subcategories	DE.AE-3, DE.AE-5
Preconditions	Run a script that would simulate the effects of an administrator or script modification within a database.
Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Open HP ArcSight ESM. 2. Under Events, select Event Search. 3. Use the search bar to search for the affected database and then find the associated event log. Use the field cs1 to find the affected table name and cs2 to find the undesired database transaction query string. Modify time parameters for the search to narrow the desired transaction. 4. Use the duser field of the event to find the name of the user who executed the transaction event. 5. Determine the number of transactions that occurred and then use a transactional rollback tool to restore the database to the last known good state.
Expected Results (pass)	<p>Use database transaction auditing (CR 5.a).</p> <p>Bad database transaction is correctly identified.</p> <p>Roll back to last known good (CR 5.b).</p> <p>Database is restored to full functionality.</p>

Actual Results	The database data was successfully restored to its last known good state. The user responsible for the event was identified and the time of the event was determined.
Overall Result	Pass. All metrics of success were met to satisfaction.

969 7.1.7 Test Case Data Integrity-6

970 Table 7-8 Test Case ID: Data Integrity -6

Parent requirement	(CR 6) The DI example implementation shall recover when a user modifies a configuration file in violation of established baselines.
Testable requirement	(CR 6.a) Corruption Testing, (CR 6.b) Backup Capability (CR 6.c). Provide user activity auditing.
Description	Show that the DI solution can recover when the database schema has been altered in error by an administrator or script.
Associated test cases	N/A
Associated CSF Subcategories	PR.DS-1, PR.DS-6, PR.PT-1, DE.CM-3, DE.AE-1, DE.CM-1
Preconditions	Run a script that would simulate the effects of an administrator or script modifying the database schema.
Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Open the Tripwire Enterprise interface. 2. Click on the Tasks Section, enable the associated rule box, and click Run. 3. Open HP ArcSight ESM. 4. Under Events, select Active Channels, then select Audit Events. 5. Find the Tripwire event logs associated with the event. Select Fields in the Customize dropdown and enable the following fields: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. End Time b. Attacker Address c. File Name d. Device Action e. Source User Name f. Device Custom String6 6. Open SQL Server Management Studio and locate the affected database(s).

7. Right-click on the database name and select **Tasks > Restore > Database...**
8. Verify that the **Restore To:** location is a backup from before the time of the incident.
9. Under **Options**, select **Overwrite the existing database (WITH REPLACE)**
10. Click **OK** and wait for the restoration to complete.

Expected Results (pass)	<p>Provide file integrity monitor (CR 6.a).</p> <p>Modified table is correctly identified.</p> <p>Revert to last known good (CR 6.b).</p> <p>Database fully restored to previous functionality.</p> <p>Provide user activity auditing (CR 6.c).</p> <p>User who initiated the modification is correctly identified.</p>
Actual Results	<p>The database schema was successfully restored to its last known good state. The user responsible for the event was identified and the time of the event was determined.</p>
Overall Result	<p>Pass. All metrics of success were met to satisfaction.</p>

971

972 **8 Future Build Considerations**

973 The NCCoE is considering additional DI projects that map to the Cybersecurity Framework Core
974 Functions of Identify, Protect, Detect and Respond. This reference design focuses largely on the Recover
975 aspect of the CSF. The functions of the CSF lead into each other and act as a cycle. Identifying
976 vulnerabilities leads to protection against them. Protecting against vulnerabilities allows enterprises to
977 detect cybersecurity events. Detection of events gives enterprises the information needed to respond
978 and recover from these events as well as reshape their policy to identify and protect against events in
979 the future. Though this project deals primarily with an organization's capabilities to recover from DI
980 events, future NCCoE projects may look at capabilities for meeting the requirements of the other
981 functions in the CSF.

982 This project does not include instructions for automated full system recovery. If malicious software
983 manages to affect critical system files, recovery becomes more difficult. The backup software used is
984 client-based, so the system must be able to run the client to restore, which may not be possible in some
985 instances. Solutions exist to help automate the process to fully restore a failed system and integrate
986 with existing backup solutions. A future build might include the use of a product to address these types
987 of attacks.

988 This project uses built-in database capabilities to achieve transactional rollbacks as well as database
989 metadata restoration. The restoration process is granular and uses built-in mechanisms; however,
990 automating the process is more difficult. Products exist that use the built-in restoration mechanisms and
991 implement their own database backup functionality. These products add varying degrees of latency to
992 database transactions, depending on the mechanisms used and the granularity of recovery the
993 organization desires.

Appendix A List of Acronyms

COI	Community of Interest
CR	Capability Requirement
CSF	Cybersecurity Framework
DI	Data Integrity
ESM	Enterprise Security Manager
HPE	Hewlett Packard Enterprise
IEC/ISO	International Electrotechnical Commission/International Organization for Standardization
IP	Internet Protocol
IT	Information Technology
MS SQL	Microsoft Structured Query Language
NCCoE	National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
OS	Operating System
SP	Special Publication
VM	Virtual Machine
WORM	Write Once Read Many

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