

Applying the Draft CC Version 3.0 to Linux - Experience from a Trial Evaluation -

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Outline

- The task – try Draft CC Version 3.0
- The target – SLES9
- The Security Target
- The work items – Classes ADV and AVA
- The experience
- What has changed in draft CC Version 3.1
- Conclusion

The Task

- Trial evaluation of a real product – not just a toy or just a Protection Profile
- Focus on comparison with CC Version 2.3 experience and re-use of evidence and evaluation results (no change in functionality)
- Focus on classes ADV and AVA (as two major aspects that have changed)
- Provide suggestions for improvement

The Target

- Novell/SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 9
 - Fairly complex TOE previously evaluated at EAL4 augmented
 - Large set of complex security functions
 - Full set of evidence available
 - Parts of it are freely available
 - Evaluation done recently
 - Still very familiar with the TOE and the evidence

Was considered to be an ideal test candidate

The Security Target

- Attempt to re-write ST using part 2 of draft CC Version 3.0
 - Attempt basically failed
 - No easy mapping of SFRs
 - Many SFRs from the existing ST could not be expressed without definition of extended SFRs
 - Some SFRs could be rewritten easily and sometimes the readability of the ST was enhanced
 - Overall part 2 seemed to be inadequate to address the SFRs of an operating system

The Security Target

- Decision was:
 - Modify ST using part 2 of CC version 3.0 where an easy mapping was possible
 - Leave all other SFRs (define the SFRs used from CC version 2.3 as extended SFRs)
 - Don't adapt the rest of the ST to the structure and requirements of draft CC version 3.0
(no implication on the planned evaluation work)

The Work Items

- Focusing on ADV and AVA
 - Two classes where major changes had been made
 - Part of the “core” of CC evaluations
- Handle as a “re-evaluation”
 - Common scenario to be expected
 - Re-use of evidence and evaluation results needs to be possible

Experience (ADV_ARC)

- ADV_ARC is a new family
 - Required when FDP_SEP and FDP_RVM is claimed (as is the case for most operating systems)
 - Focusing on TSF internals
 - Evidence expected to be in the high-level and low-level design documents for the v 2.3 evaluation

Experience (ADV_ARC)

- Evidence
 - Most of it could be identified in the existing HLD and LLD documents (which includes the specifications of the hardware/firmware)
 - Not sure this is true for all evaluations (SLES9 evidence for v 2.3 was quite detailed on architecture details)
 - ADV_ARC forces to take a different view than v 2.3
 - One aspect was identified where the existing documentation was insufficient. Could be fixed easily.

Experience (ADV_FSP)

- Many parts from previous reports could be re-used
- Change of work unit text and order made re-use unnecessarily complicated
- Requirements for “error messages” are unrealistic
 - Error message may pop up at an interface from events mainly unrelated to the function called
 - Requiring to list all possible error messages for an interface is therefore unrealistic
 - Many systems describe the error messages independent from the functional interface description – for good reasons!

Experience (ADV_TDS)

- ADV_TDS combines the old ADV_HLD and ADV_LLD
 - Many v 3.0 requirements are similar to v 2.3 requirements
 - Structure of requirements and work units is different causing unnecessary complications in a re-evaluation
 - Now includes requirements to describe the “algorithms” used
 - This is good (CC v2.3 focused too much on interfaces)
 - The way this was done was horrible!
 - Now includes requirements for description of common data structures
 - This is good
 - Requirements too strong (requires identification of all modules that read specific global data. This is unrealistic!)

Experience (ADV_TDS)

- Nonsense in requirements for algorithmic description
 - From CEM, ADV_TDS.4-14
 - The requirement is that the developer must provide a full algorithmic description, and so the evaluator is not obligated to accept anything less, and is indeed not obligated to justify accepting anything less; the requirement provides the necessary justification.

The algorithmic description is complete if it describes (in an algorithmic fashion) all of the functionality performed by the module.

- The result would be a horrible documentation effort just to please the evaluators.
- There is no indication what this information is used for in other work units!

Experience (ADV_TDS)

- Classification of modules in
 - SFR enforcing
 - SFR supporting
 - SFR non-interfering
- Nice idea (though not new) – but it doesn't work on the module level!
 - The same module may be used for different purposes
 - Vendor will usually not provide such a classification

Experience (ADV_IMP)

- Requirements were low in CC Version 2.3
 - Got even lower in draft CC Version 3.0!
 - No real work item to analyze the implementation representation
 - ADV_IMP.1-2 is counterproductive!
 - As an evaluator I want the implementation representation in a form best usable for analysis!
 - For Linux we used the Linux Cross Reference
 - Other vendors have specific tools helpful for analysis
 - Of course the evaluator needs to verify that what he sees what is actually implemented

Experience (AVA_VAN.3)

- Misuse analysis has been moved to ADG
 - This is good. There was too much overlap
- No strength of function any more
 - Can be addressed as part of the AVA_VAN work items
- No developer vulnerability required
 - Counterproductive, since it told you, which vulnerabilities the developer looked for and how he did it
 - Made it easy to identify the areas the developer had not thought of
- In total vulnerability analysis is weakened while the effort for the evaluator is increased!

Corrections made in CC V3.1

- ADV_FSP
 - Section about error messages has been reworded. Problem has been addressed.
- ADV_TDS
 - Requirements on algorithmic description and global variables mainly removed
 - Fixing them would have been better
 - Back to the structure into “subsystems” and “modules”
 - Avoids unnecessary confusion
 - Much closer to V2.3 than to draft V3.0
- ADV_IMP
 - Problems not addressed

Corrections (not) made in CC V3.1

- AVA_VAN
 - Problems not addressed
 - Still no vendor vulnerability analysis required
 - Contradicts the approach to honor a vendor's security processes
 - Other evaluation activities do not provide a sufficient basis for a thorough evaluator vulnerability analysis

In total vulnerability analysis is weakened

Conclusion

- New and modified items in Draft CC Version 3.0 considered in the evaluation
 - Part 2: found to be mainly unusable
 - ADV_ARC: found to be useful
 - ADV_FSP:
 - except for the aspect of error messages usable (corrected)
 - Restructuring complicated re-use of evaluation results
 - ADV_TDS:
 - Requirements partly unrealistic (corrected)
 - ADV_IMP:
 - Requirements lowered (not corrected)
 - AVA_VAN:
 - Requirements lowered (not corrected)

Conclusion

- Draft CC V3.1 corrected some problems introduced in draft CC V3.0
 - Part 2 was withdrawn
 - Some still remain in part 3 and the CEM
- Draft CC V3.1 should allow a smoother transition from CC V2.3 than draft CC V3.0

This still needs to be confirmed in practice