

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**Headquarters**

Washington, DC 20546-0001



APR - 4 2007

Reply to Attn of: **Office of the Chief Information Officer**

TO: Distribution

FROM: Chief Information Officer (Acting)

SUBJECT: FY 2007 and FY 2008 Patch Management and Security Configuration Metrics

As IT (IT) security threats continue to evolve, NASA must take steps to proactively defend its IT infrastructure. Empirical data has shown that the greatest points of vulnerability to NASA's information systems remain un-patched and misconfigured IT assets.

To eliminate and/or mitigate these vulnerabilities the NASA Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) has established two projects: the Agency Security Configuration Standards (ASCS) and the Agency Security Update Service (ASUS). These projects are focused on making NASA's systems more secure, enabling Agency-wide reporting, creating an Agency view of these vulnerabilities, and facilitating Center requirements to patch, configure, and report on their IT systems.

To ensure continued success with these projects, metrics will be used to gauge the Agency's progress. These metrics are driven by: 1) the emerging Minimum Security Requirements for Federal Information and Information Systems (FIPS-200); 2) the certification and accreditation requirements necessary to achieve type and site certifications; and 3) FISMA reporting requirements.

Centers should continue implementing the Center for Internet Security (CIS) Benchmarks in accordance with the OCIO's previously published guidance. This guidance can be reviewed along with many other useful documents, tools, and reporting instructions at the ASCS Web site (<http://desktop-standards.nasa.gov/CIS/>). This Web site also lists all CIS Benchmarks available for Agency-wide implementation today, as well as, Benchmarks that have been modified to streamline Agency deployments.

Centers should provide a high-level schedule that demonstrates compliance within FY2007 and FY 2008 for each of the operating system targets listed in the attachment. This high-level schedule is due 1 May 2007. Quarterly reporting will continue, and show progress towards these targets. Reporting is due on June 1, 2007, September 1, 2007, December 1, 2007, March 1, 2008, June 1, 2008, and September 1, 2008, and should be sent to the [Tony Facca at Tony.Facca@nasa.gov](mailto:Tony.Facca@nasa.gov).

Centers should continue deploying Patchlink agents and providing reporting on the patch status of Center devices. Waivers are required for all devices that are supported by Patchlink, but cannot install the agent. Reporting procedures have been clarified in the recently approved NASA IT Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) ITS-SOP 00012; titled, "NASA's Patch Selection and Reporting Procedure." The SOP and other valuable information can be found at <https://patches.ksc.nasa.gov/>. Monthly reporting is required for Patchlink enabled systems, and quarterly reporting is required for the subset of the systems with waivers. Reporting due dates are included in the SOP. Reports should be sent to David Campbell at [David.Campbell@nasa.gov](mailto:David.Campbell@nasa.gov).

If you have any questions regarding this memorandum, please direct them to Mr. Dana Mellerio at (202) 358-0271 or [dana.mellerio@nasa.gov](mailto:dana.mellerio@nasa.gov).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Q. Pettus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end.

Jonathan Q. Pettus

Enclosure

DISTRIBUTION:

Center CIOs:

HQ/ Mr. Newell (Acting)  
ARC/ Ms. Longchamps (Acting)  
DFRC/ Mr. Binkley  
GSFC/ Ms. Cureton  
JSC/ Mr. Mr. Sweet (Acting)  
KSC/ Mr. Bolger  
LaRC/ Ms. Mangum  
GRC/ Dr. Pillay  
MSFC/ Mr. McDougale (Acting)  
SSC/ Ms. Irby  
JPL/ Mr. Rinaldi  
NSSC/ Mr. Jackson

Mission Directorate CIOs:

Space Operations/ Mr. Pino  
Aeronautics Research/ Mr. Milstead (Acting)  
Science/ Mr. Bredekamp  
Exploration Systems/ Ms. Hamilton

Center IT Security Managers:

ARC/ Ms. Stewart  
DFRC/ Mr. Johnson  
GSFC/ Mr. Krage  
GRC/ Ms. Kotlenz  
HQ/ Mr. Kerr  
JPL/ Mr. Brar  
JSC/ Mr. Drury  
KSC/ Mr. Yu  
LaRC/ Mr. Freeman  
MSFC/ Mr. Black  
SSC/ Ms. Reynolds  
NSSC/ Mr. Cluff

<b>Currently Available CIS Benchmarks</b>	<b>FY07 Compliance Target</b>	<b>NASA FY06 Benchmark Version Status or Guidance</b>
Windows XP Professional SP1	100%	Upgrade to XP/SP2 if possible, or apply existing SP1 benchmark settings
Windows XP Professional SP2	100%	Available 3/1/06
Windows 2000 Professional	100%	Upgrade to XP/SP2 if possible, or apply existing Win2k benchmark settings
Apple Mac OS-X (10.4)	80%	Available 2/1/06
Solaris 2.5.1-9.0	80%	Available 1/1/06
Linux RedHat	80%	Currently available
Windows 2003 Server	100%	Available 4/1/06
Oracle 9i/10g	80%	Currently available
Windows NT	N/A	Obsolete. Upgrade to newest possible operating system version and apply corresponding benchmark.
Windows 2000 Server	100%	Upgrade to Server 2003 if possible, or apply existing Win2k Server benchmark settings
HP-UX	80%	Available 1/1/06
FreeBSD	80%	Available 1/1/06
Solaris 10	80%	Available 1/1/06
AIX	80%	Available 1/1/06
Wireless Networks	80%	Available 4/1/06
Cisco IOS Router	80%	Available 4/1/06
Cisco PIX	80%	Available 5/1/06
Exchange Server 2003	80%	Available 3/1/06
Oracle Database 8i	N/A	Upgrade to 9i/10g and apply existing benchmark settings
Apache Web Server	80%	Available 3/1/06