nGeniusONE Service Assurance Platform
Common Criteria Certification

Common Criteria for Information Technology Security Evaluation is an internationally approved set of security standards that provides a clear and reliable evaluation of the security capabilities of IT products. The Common Criteria is accepted and recognized by 26 countries worldwide. The following NetScout products have been approved as Common Criteria certified at Protection Profile (PP) Compliant:

- nGeniusONE™ Service Assurance platform (V5.2.1)
- InfiniStream® appliance (V5.2.1)

The nGeniusONE platform streamlines service delivery management by providing a converged solution for service triage that transcends component management tools and delivers holistic visibility across complex, multi-vendor, distributed environments. The platform delivers a top-down, service-focused perspective of performance characteristics of all infrastructure and application elements associated with service delivery. This perspective enables a faster mean time to resolution (MTTR) and a more intelligent use of our resources by utilizing the right expert to investigate the right service component at the right stage in the resolution chain, quickly, efficiently and effectively.

The nGeniusONE platform is powered by Adaptive Service Intelligence™ (ASI) technology, NetScout's patented next-generation Deep Packet Inspection (DPI) engine. ASI enables service assurance through:

- Proactive Service Triage
- Advanced Network Performance Management
- Advanced Packet Analysis

The InfiniStream appliance delivers highly scalable intelligent deep packet capture and analysis capabilities leveraging ASI technology for the long-term storage and retrieval of network packets and statistics. Offering unsurpassed traffic scalability, InfiniStream appliances are integrated with the nGeniusONE platform to provide a common set of packet-flow-based metadata for use in: troubleshooting and post-event forensics analysis; application response time and real-time analysis; and revealing detailed key performance indicators.

Value of Common Criteria Certification

The Common Criteria framework sets world recognized benchmarks for the security capabilities of IT products and the quality of security engineering that went into product design and implementation. For administrators adhering to high security and interoperability standards, Common Criteria certification instills confidence, reduces risks, and eliminates the cost of validating products that have already met the certification standards.

The Protection Profile (PP) is intended to provide a minimal baseline set of requirements that are targeted at mitigating well defined and described threats. The Protection Profile for Network Devices, Version 1.1, June 8, 2012 (NDPP) represents an evolution of "traditional" Protection Profiles that has changed over time as the threats and technology have likewise evolved.

The Foundation of a Secure Monitoring Architecture

The nGeniusONE platform is designed to comply with the most stringent security frameworks with extensive controls over data storage, controlled access to data, and hardening against external attacks. Captured packets are stored only on the InfiniStream appliances to minimize the exposure to potential hackers. The appliances provide highly granular options for packet storage to enable back-in-time analysis while ensuring data confidentiality and compliance.
The platform provides role-based secure access which enables differentiation of access privileges to sensitive packet data captured by InfiniStream appliances. This allows the different functions of the IT organization to leverage the same solution for their day-to-day activities while keeping the organizational data leak risk to a minimum.

Additionally, InfiniStream appliances are hardened against external, network-borne attacks. The nGenius OS powering these appliances is based on a NetScout customized, security-focused build of the Linux® operating system, and is rigorously validated by state-of-the-art vulnerability scanners which dramatically reduces the risk of vulnerability discovery after a software release. NetScout also employs an ongoing process for monitoring vulnerability discovery by third parties, assessment of applicability to the nGenius OS, and in the rare case of an impact, rolling out a security patch for the appliances. In addition, the InfiniStream appliances are typically not discoverable by would be hackers, providing an additional level of security.

About the Common Criteria

The Common Criteria were established with four primary objectives to:

1. ensure that evaluations of Information Technology products are performed to high and consistent standards and are known to contribute significantly to confidence in the security of those products;
2. improve the availability of evaluated, security-enhanced IT products and protection profiles;
3. eliminate the burden of duplicating evaluations of IT products and protection profiles; and
4. continuously improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the evaluation and certification/validation process for IT products and protection profiles.

Currently, the 26 participating “Authorizing” and “Consuming” countries for Common Criteria are: Australia, Austria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Italy, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, and United States of America.

Helpful Links

Common Criteria Home page: http://www.commoncriteriaportal.org/

Common Criteria certified Products page: http://www.commoncriteriaportal.org/products/

Summary

NetScout is committed to meeting the needs of government entities, service providers and enterprises around the world by delivering a solution that meets stringent security and interoperability standards. Common Criteria certification of NetScout nGeniusONE Service Assurance platform (V5.2.1) and InfiniStream appliance (V5.2.1) creates confidence for NetScout customers from knowing our products are proven and tested to meet some of the highest security and interoperability standards in the world.