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CAS-004 Exam

CompTIA Advanced Security Practitioner (CASP+) Exam

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Version: 35.0

Topic 1, Exam Pool A

Question: 1

An organization is referencing NIST best practices for BCP creation while reviewing current internal organizational processes for mission-essential items.

Which of the following phases establishes the identification and prioritization of critical systems and functions?

- A. Review a recent gap analysis.
- B. Perform a cost-benefit analysis.
- C. Conduct a business impact analysis.
- D. Develop an exposure factor matrix.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Reference: <https://itsm.ucsf.edu/business-impact-analysis-bia-0>

According to NIST SP 800-34 Rev. 1, a business impact analysis (BIA) is a process that identifies and evaluates the potential effects of natural and man-made events on organizational operations. The BIA enables an organization to determine which systems and processes are essential to the organization's mission and prioritize their recovery time objectives (RTOs) and recovery point objectives (RPOs).¹²

Question: 2

An organization is preparing to migrate its production environment systems from an on-premises environment to a cloud service. The lead security architect is concerned that the organization's current methods for addressing risk may not be possible in the cloud environment.

Which of the following BEST describes the reason why traditional methods of addressing risk may not be possible in the cloud?

- A. Migrating operations assumes the acceptance of all risk.
- B. Cloud providers are unable to avoid risk.

- C. Specific risks cannot be transferred to the cloud provider.
- D. Risks to data in the cloud cannot be mitigated.

Answer: C

Explanation:

According to NIST SP 800-146, cloud computing introduces new risks that need to be assessed and managed by the cloud consumer. Some of these risks are related to the shared responsibility model of cloud computing, where some security controls are implemented by the cloud provider and some by the cloud consumer. The cloud consumer cannot transfer all the risks to the cloud provider and needs to understand which risks are retained and which are mitigated by the cloud provider.³

Question: 3

A company created an external application for its customers. A security researcher now reports that the application has a serious LDAP injection vulnerability that could be leveraged to bypass authentication and authorization.

Which of the following actions would BEST resolve the issue? (Choose two.)

- A. Conduct input sanitization.
- B. Deploy a SIEM.
- C. Use containers.
- D. Patch the OS
- E. Deploy a WAF.
- F. Deploy a reverse proxy
- G. Deploy an IDS.

Answer: A,E

Explanation:

A WAF protects your web apps by filtering, monitoring, and blocking any malicious HTTP/S traffic traveling to the web application, and prevents any unauthorized data from leaving the app. It does this by adhering to a set of policies that help determine what traffic is malicious and what traffic is safe.

According to OWASP, LDAP injection is an attack that exploits web applications that construct LDAP statements based on user input without proper validation or sanitization. LDAP injection can result in unauthorized access, data modification, or denial of service. To prevent LDAP injection, OWASP recommends conducting input sanitization by escaping special characters in user input and deploying a web application firewall (WAF) that can detect and block malicious LDAP queries.⁴⁵

Question: 4

In preparation for the holiday season, a company redesigned the system that manages retail sales and moved it to a cloud service provider. The new infrastructure did not meet the company's availability requirements. During a postmortem analysis, the following issues were highlighted:

1. International users reported latency when images on the web page were initially loading.
2. During times of report processing, users reported issues with inventory when attempting to place orders.
3. Despite the fact that ten new API servers were added, the load across servers was heavy at peak times.

Which of the following infrastructure design changes would be BEST for the organization to implement to avoid these issues in the future?

- A. Serve static content via distributed CDNs, create a read replica of the central database and pull reports from there, and auto-scale API servers based on performance.
- B. Increase the bandwidth for the server that delivers images, use a CDN, change the database to a non-relational database, and split the ten API servers across two load balancers.
- C. Serve images from an object storage bucket with infrequent read times, replicate the database across different regions, and dynamically create API servers based on load.
- D. Serve static-content object storage across different regions, increase the instance size on the managed relational database, and distribute the ten API servers across multiple regions.

Answer: A

Explanation:

This solution would address the three issues as follows:

Serving static content via distributed CDNs would reduce the latency for international users by delivering images from the nearest edge location to the user's request.

Creating a read replica of the central database and pulling reports from there would offload the read-intensive workload from the primary database and avoid affecting the inventory data for order placement.

Auto-scaling API servers based on performance would dynamically adjust the number of servers to match the demand and balance the load across them at peak times.

Question: 5

During a remodel, a company's computer equipment was moved to a secure storage room with cameras positioned on both sides of the door. The door is locked using a card reader issued by the security team, and only the security team and department managers have access to the room. The company wants to be able to identify any unauthorized individuals who enter the storage room by following an authorized employee.

Which of the following processes would BEST satisfy this requirement?

- A. Monitor camera footage corresponding to a valid access request.
- B. Require both security and management to open the door.
- C. Require department managers to review denied-access requests.
- D. Issue new entry badges on a weekly basis.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Reference: <https://www.getkisi.com/access-control>

This solution would implement a two-factor authentication (2FA) process that would prevent unauthorized individuals from entering the storage room by following an authorized employee. The two factors would be the card reader issued by the security team and the presence of a department manager.

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