

To understand the current patching expectations for government assets and ISB expected patch mitigation plan for vulnerable systems based on risk rating

OCIO Patch Guidelines

Vulnerability and Risk
Management

Risk Rating	Examples (<i>*If criteria is met apply patches as required</i>)	CVSS Score	ISB Patching Recommendation
CRITICAL	Vulnerability allows remote code execution	9.8 - 10	Within 72 Hours <i>*Formal acceptance of risk is required for <u>all</u> instances in which patching cannot be completed during the recommended time frame.</i>
	Critical business system/information affected		
	Exploits exist and are in use		
	System is connected to the Internet without having mitigating controls in place		
HIGH	Vulnerability allows remote code execution	7.0 – 9.7	Within 14 Calendar Days <i>*Formal acceptance of risk is required for <u>all</u> instances in which patching cannot be completed during the recommended time frame.</i>
	Essential business system information affected		
	Proof of Concepts exist and are in use		
	The system is in a protected enclave with strong access controls		
MEDIUM	Vulnerability allows an attacker with access to impersonate a legitimate user	4.0 – 6.9	Within 30 Calendar Days (if updates available) Or at the next update, or within 3 months (i.e. Oracle or other vendors on a quarterly patch schedule) whichever is sooner.
	System is exposed to unauthenticated users		
	System requires two-factor authentication and administrator-level remote login is disallowed		
LOW	A vulnerability requires authenticated users to perform malicious actions, such as SQL injection	0.1-3.9	Within 1 Year Or at the next major update which ever is sooner.
	Affected system contains non-sensitive, publicly-available information		
	Mitigating controls exist that make exploitation unlikely or very difficult		