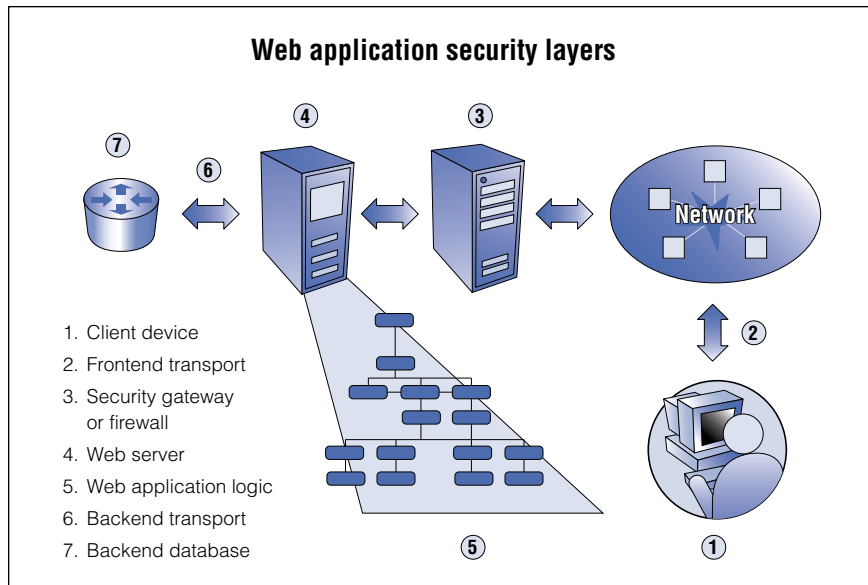


## IBM Express Vulnerability Assessment



IBM Express Vulnerability Assessment is designed to help you identify weaknesses in every layer of your application security.

### Highlights

- **Helps identify IT security risks using proven methods**
- **Prioritizes improvements in security to enable more efficient resource allocation**
- **Helps boost the return on your security investments**
- **Helps improve your ability to comply with regulatory requirements**

### Addressing IT security challenges as a growing business

Many midsize businesses lack the expertise and tools required to adequately address today's security challenges. However, hiring additional IT personnel is often out of the question, and most consulting services are too expensive and time-consuming for their limited budgets and staff. Doing nothing is not a viable option, either. Vulnerabilities left unaddressed in IT environments can potentially lead to revenue loss from business

disruptions; compromised data; stolen inventory, intellectual capital and other resources; and eroded market leadership and competitive advantage.

IBM Express Vulnerability Assessment is designed to provide your growing business a reliable, affordable starting point for reducing IT security risks and protecting confidential information. IBM professionals use a multifaceted, time-based approach composed of innovative methods and tools to help identify vulnerabilities in select Web-based applications and networks—and provide documented recommendations for how to deal with them proactively. Part of the IBM Express Portfolio™ suite of offerings developed for midsize businesses, this IT consulting solution is designed to be competitively priced, easy to buy and rapidly executed.

### Testing your IT security using proven methods

Today's hackers are more technology savvy than ever. Even less experienced intruders are finding ways to bypass common security mechanisms—such as patches, firewalls and anti-virus updates—to breach or damage Web

sites, applications and infrastructures. They are attacking applications at multiple levels, from the client devices and Web servers to the application logic and backend databases, and using wireless access points to gain unauthorized entry.

The first step in protecting your company against the dangers of conducting business on the Internet is to know where the weaknesses in your IT environment lie. With IBM Express Vulnerability Assessment, IBM security experts help assess the security of your Web-based systems—and the potential business impacts resulting from security breaches—in three primary areas (commonly known as the CIA triad):

- **Confidentiality of information:** *Sensitive data must be protected from unauthorized disclosure.*
- **Integrity of security mechanisms:** *IT systems must have reliable mechanisms that detect and report unauthorized intrusions.*
- **Availability of security mechanisms:** *High availability is required to preserve the accepted risk level, as well as to support required access to critical data and systems.*

As part of the solution engagement, IBM's "ethical hackers" simulate security attacks in a safe and controlled way, employing proven methods tailored to your systems. They use the following three methods to mimic the tactics hackers commonly use to attempt to bring down or compromise applications at each layer:

- **Blind application:** *This method simulates an attack on an application requiring no user privileges.*
- **Sideways application escalation:** *This method simulates an attack in which one user with account privileges accesses accounts of other users with similar privileges.*
- **Vertical application escalation:** *This method simulates an attack in which one user with account privileges elevates his or her access-rights level to that of a more privileged user, such as an administrator.*

With IBM Express Vulnerability Assessment, you can access IBM's broad knowledge and depth of expertise in IT security. Ultimately, by increasing your understanding of your organization's security risks, the solution can help you make more effective improvements to existing systems and applications.

### **Helping to save you time and money with prioritized recommendations**

The second step in safeguarding your company's IT environment is to fix your weaknesses before hackers can discover and exploit them. As part of IBM Express Vulnerability Assessment, IBM provides you with a final assessment report that ranks your IT weaknesses as high, medium or low risk. The report also includes detailed, prioritized recommendations for improvements. The solution is designed so that, after the engagement is complete, you have the information you need to begin putting in place a plan to address your security weaknesses. You also can gain the information you need to allocate the proper levels of resources to individual security initiatives.

### **Enabling a quicker return through a three-week, fixed-scope engagement**

IBM Express Vulnerability Assessment is a comprehensive solution consisting of two phases. First, in the assessment phase, IBM consultants assess select portions of your internal, external and wireless systems. They help identify IT vulnerabilities at one location using a multifaceted, time-based approach tailored to your systems. This first phase typically requires one to two

weeks and targets as many systems as can be identified within this time frame, helping you to learn what a hacker could potentially achieve given one to two weeks to exploit weaknesses in your systems.

Second, in the documentation phase, IBM consultants document their findings and recommendations, and then review them with you. This phase typically takes one week.

The solution is available through two convenient channels—IBM Business Consulting Services and IBM Business Partners. You can go through your local reseller and get a responsive provider that knows your business. Or you can go directly through IBM and also get high-quality service. It's your choice. Either way, you can receive an affordable solution that is built with IBM's expertise and technology and that can be financed through IBM Global Financing. And you can potentially realize quick results and a faster return on your security investments.

### **Helping you get on the right path to regulatory compliance**

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act, HIPAA and a number of other regulations have been passed to foster data security and

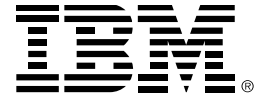
privacy in today's networked world.

These regulations may be placing additional pressures on your company to address security challenges, as you must find practical ways to comply—or else, face stiff penalties. As part of your assessment report, IBM identifies the next steps you need to take to help achieve regulatory compliance. By acting on the recommendations, you can potentially increase customer, employee, shareholder and supplier confidence that you are taking proactive measures to safeguard confidential data.

### **For more information**

To learn more about IBM Express Vulnerability Assessment and the complete IBM Express Portfolio™ suite of offerings designed specifically for the midmarket, contact your local IBM sales representative or visit:

**[ibm.com/businesscenter/smb/us/en/expressbridge](http://ibm.com/businesscenter/smb/us/en/expressbridge)**



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