Executive Summary

Anetac's Identity Security Posture Management (ISPM) survey, conducted by Censuswide among 201 U.S. IT security professionals, reveals critical gaps in identity security, including the misuse of service accounts, limited visibility, and inconsistent password management. The findings below highlight the need for robust solutions, which Anetac addresses with real-time monitoring and identity risk management.

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QUESTION 1a

Q1a.What is your role in managing human and non-human identity accounts at your organization?

- Almost 7 in 10 (69%) IT security professionals surveyed said their role in managing human and non-human identity accounts at their organization is a Decision Maker.
- Almost a fifth (18%) of IT security professionals surveyed said their role in managing human and non-human identity accounts at their organization is an Influencer.
- Almost 1 in 7 (13%) IT security professionals surveyed said their role in managing human and non-human identity accounts at their organization is an Individual Contributor.

QUESTION 1

Q1. How many service accounts do you have?

- On average*, IT security professionals surveyed said they have 163 service accounts.
- Almost half (48%) of IT security professionals surveyed said they have 1-50 service accounts.
- Almost 1 in 7 (13%) IT security professionals surveyed said they have 51-99 service accounts.
- 1 in 8 (12%) IT security professionals surveyed said they have 100-249 service accounts.
- 1 in 14 (7%) IT security professionals surveyed said they have 250-499 service accounts.
- Almost 1 in 10 (9%) IT security professionals surveyed said they have 500-900 service accounts.

*Mean service accounts (Excl. "I am unsure").

QUESTION 2

Q2. What do you think the ratio of service accounts to human accounts are?

*Respondents who have a service account(s).

- On average*, IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said they have 26 human accounts for every 1 service account.
- Over a fifth (22%) of IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said they have 1 service account to 10 human accounts.
- A quarter (25%) of IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said they have 1 service account to 40 human accounts.
- Almost 1 in 7 (13%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said they have 1 service account to 100 human accounts.
- Just over 1 in 6 (17%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said they have 10 service accounts to 1 human account.
- 1 in 14 (7%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said they have 40 service accounts to 1 human account.

QUESTION 3

Q3. Do you have service accounts being used as human accounts or vice versa? (AKA Hybrid)
*Respondents who have a service account(s).

- Three quarters (75%) of IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said yes*, they have service accounts being used as human accounts or vice versa (AKA hybrid). Of these, under 2 in 5 (38%) said yes, over a fifth (22%) said yes, but only to test automation, and 1 in 6 (16%) said yes, but only to manage automation.
- A fifth (20%) of IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said no**, they don't have service accounts being used as human accounts or vice versa (AKA hybrid).

*All 'Yes' answers combined.

**All 'No' answers combined.

QUESTION 4

Q4. How often, if at all, are you rotating passwords on Service Accounts?
*Respondents who have a service account(s).

- On average*, IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said they are rotating their passwords on service accounts every 21 weeks.
- Almost 2 in 5 (38%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said they are rotating their passwords on service accounts every 3-12 weeks.
- Just over 1 in 6 (17%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said they are rotating their passwords on service accounts every 13-15 weeks.
- Just under 1 in 7 (13%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said they are rotating their passwords on service accounts every 16-20 weeks.
- 1 in 10 (10%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said they are rotating their passwords on service accounts every 21-30 weeks.
- 1 in 20 (5%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said they are rotating their passwords on service accounts every 31-40 weeks.

*Mean every x weeks (Excl. "Never" and "I am unsure").

QUESTION 5

Q5. How, if at all, do you gain visibility into service accounts? Select all that apply.
*Respondents who have a service account(s).

- Almost half (47%) of IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed gain visibility into service accounts through using a static automation tool.
- Over 2 in 5 (44%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed gain visibility into service accounts through manual effort of going through log files.
- Almost a quarter (24%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed gain visibility into service accounts through using another type of tool to automate this.
- Just 1 in 20 (5%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed don't worry about gaining visibility into service accounts.

QUESTION 6

Q6. What percentage of your human accounts access privileges are least privileged?
*Respondents who have a service account(s).

- On average*, IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 36% of their human accounts access privileges are least privileged.
- Just over 1 in 10 (11%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 1%-14% of their human accounts access privileges are least privileged.
- Almost 3 in 10 (27%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 15%-29% of their human accounts access privileges are least privileged.
- Almost a quarter (23%) of IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 30%-44% of their human accounts access privileges are least privileged.
- 1 in 8 (12%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 45%-59% of their human accounts access privileges are least privileged.
- Just over 1 in 10 (11%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 60%-74% of their human accounts access privileges are least privileged.

*Mean % (Excl. "I don't know").

QUESTION 7

Q7. What percentage of service account access privileges are least privileged?
*Respondents who have a service account(s).

- On average*, IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 37% of their service account access privileges are least privileged.
- 1 in 8 (12%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 1%-14% of their service accounts access privileges are least privileged.
- Almost a quarter (24%) of IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 15%-29% of their service accounts access privileges are least privileged.
- Almost a quarter (23%) of IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 30%-44% of their service accounts access privileges are least privileged.
- Almost 1 in 7 (13%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 45%-59% of their service accounts access privileges are least privileged.
- Under 1 in 10 (8%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 60%-74% of their service accounts access privileges are least privileged, while the same percentage (8%) said 75%-100% of their service accounts access privileges are least privileged.

*Mean % (Excl. "I don't know").

QUESTION 8

Q8. What percent of service accounts have access to your crown jewels?
*Respondents who have a service account(s).

- On average*, IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 27% of their service accounts have access to their crown jewels.
- Just over 1 in 6 (17%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 0% of their service accounts have access to their crown jewels.
- Almost a quarter (23%) of IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 1%-14% of their service accounts have access to their crown jewels.
- Under a fifth (18%) of IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 15%-29% of their service accounts have access to their crown jewels.
- Just over 1 in 10 (11%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 30%-44% of their service accounts have access to their crown jewels.
- 1 in 8 (12%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 45%-59% of their service accounts have access to their crown jewels.
- Under 1 in 10 (7%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 60%-74% of their service accounts have access to their crown jewels.
- 1 in 20 (5%) IT security professionals who have service accounts surveyed said 75%-100% of their service accounts have access to their crown jewels.

*Mean % (Excl. "I don't know").

QUESTION 9

Q9. Do you use Microsoft NTLM V1 as an authentication method?

- Over half (54%) of IT security professionals surveyed use Microsoft NTLM V1 as an authentication method.
- This is compared to just under 2 in 5 (39%) IT security professionals surveyed who do not use Microsoft NTLM V1 as an authentication method.