

## Changes made to the Validation Checklists (VCLs) on Feb 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### Foundational Technical Review (FTR) for Partner Hosted Solution

- Partners will get a waiver for FTR if they have completed Well-Architected Review in the past 12 months with a AWS Employee.
- IAM-002 is updated to use temporary IAM credentials retrieved by assuming a role whenever possible
- NETSEC-001 is updated by removing the requirement to now allow Network ACLs ingress from 0.0.0.0/0 to remove administration ports.

### Changes to Services Competencies

#### **SAP Competency**

Following controls have been removed:

- Prerequisites of SAP on AWS - Specialty certification
- PROPE-003 - Next Generation Managed Services / Automation

#### **Data & Analytics Competency**

Following controls have been modified:

Prerequisites of AWS Data & Analytics Certified Personnel is modified as *“Applicant must have at least 4 employees with valid (unexpired) certifications for AWS Certified Data Analytics - Specialty certification or AWS Certified Data Engineer-Associate certification ”*

#### **Main Frame Migration Competency**

AWS Partners should check the VCL for specific change details.

Overall, the VCL was simplified by: (1) reducing examples of Mainframe modernization projects from 10 to 4 in section 2.1; (2) updating customer examples completed within the past 20 years to 10 years in section 5.0; (3) modifying language with modernization focus for controls: MMPR-003, MMPR-004, MMCE-002, MMCE-003, MMCE-005, MMCE-006, and MMCE-007.

#### **Networking Competency**

Updated NETP-002 to clarify AWS enhanced routing (ingress routing, more specific routing, routing to endpoints/attachments)

#### **Security Consulting Competency**

We updated the VCL language clarity for this competency, AWS partners should check VCL for details. Specific highlights are listed below

- Clarified Competency category and use case structure in the VCL
- Updated VCL requirement IDs to be more consistent with other competencies
- Renamed Web Application Firewall (WAF) category to Web Application and API Protection (WAAP)

### **Level 1 MSSP**

We updated the VCL language clarity for this competency, AWS partners should check VCL for details. Specific highlights are listed below:

- Renamed Web Application Firewall (WAF) Management category to Web Application and API Protection (WAAP) Management
- Renamed Data Privacy Event Monitoring category to Data Protection Event Monitoring
- Updated file link for Supporting Tools for AWS MSSPs

## **Changes to Technology Competencies**

### **Security technology Competency**

We updated the VCL language clarity for this competency, AWS partners should check VCL for details. Specific highlights are listed below:

- Expanded APSEC-005 - Vulnerability Management to cover container environments.
- Renamed Web Application Firewall (WAF) category to Web Application and API Protection (WAAP)
- Removed the following requirements from the Security ISV VCL:
  - SEC-002 - Customer case studies qualifications
  - INFPR-003 - GuardDuty Integration
  - INFPR-012 - Highly available architecture
  - CPR-002 - AWS Security Hub Integration
  - CPR-004 - CIS Benchmark Support
  - CPR-005 – Documentation

### **Containers Technology Competency**

We updated the VCL language clarity for this competency, AWS partners should check VCL for details. Specific highlights are listed below:

1. Clarification that Security category solutions must provide holistic support for all capabilities listed
2. Expanded and refined requirements for Observability solutions

## Changes to Service Delivery

### Amazon EKS SDP

Following controls have been modified:

- EKS-009 -Solutions have proper observability mechanisms in place: Expanded the observability capability and corresponding evidence
- EKS-027 - updated language to leveraging EKS Pod Identities to map IAM roles to service accounts and corresponding evidence

### Amazon Connect SDP

Clarified control requirements for CON-003

## Changes made to the Validation Checklists (VCLs) on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Foundational Technical Review (FTR) for Partner Hosted Solution

- Removed following controls
  - **CTL-001** - Configure CloudTrail in all AWS Accounts and in all Regions.
  - **CTL-002** - Store logs in a separate administrative domain with limited access (for

example, a separate AWS account or an equivalent AWS Partner solution).

- **CTL-003** - Protect log storage from unintended access (for example, MFA-delete,

versioning on S3, object lock, or an equivalent solution).

- **CTL-004** - Enable CloudTrail log file integrity validation.
- **S3-002** - Restrict access to S3 buckets that should not have public access.
- **S3-003** - Implement monitoring and alerting to identify when S3 buckets become

public.

- Updated following controls

- **NETSEC-001** – Removed *Implement a process to review all security groups before implementation* and added following requirement: *Ensure no Network ACLs allow ingress from 0.0.0.0/0 to remote server administration ports (CIS 5.1/Security Control EC2.21)*

- **ARC-005** – Develop incident management plans – This controls now cover incident plans in general.

## Changes to Technology Competencies

### Security Technology Competency

- Added following use cases:
  - IDAM-005 - Temporary elevated access management (TEAM)
  - DATP-009 - Data Security Posture Management (DSPM)

## Changes to Services Competencies

### Storage Consulting Competency

- Following controls have been moved from pre-requisite section to Storage Customer Example Requirements section (Baseline Technical Consideration category):
  - EXBA-003 – Use Cases
  - EXBA-004 – Value-added Services
  - EXBA-005 – AWS Storage Competency Technology Partner Products
  - EXBA-006 - Unique Customer Examples

### DevOps Consulting Competency

- Added following controls:
  - PROC-001 - Review DevOps Use case fit and calibration guide

### Data and Analytics Competency

- Following controls have been removed:
  - PRRP-003 - Bandwidth Costs
  - PRID-001 - Protection of Internal Systems from Attacks (Waived if AWS Partner is approved AWS MSP)
  - PRLL-001 - Lessons Learned (Waived if AWS Partner is approved AWS MSP)
  - PRRE-001 - Planned and Unplanned Event Planning (Waived if AWS Partner is approved AWS MSP)

approved AWS MSP)

### Machine Learning Consulting Competency

- Added following controls:
  - RES-001 - Review ML use case fit and calibration guide

## Migration Consulting Competency

- This checklist has significant changes, AWS Partners should check the VCL for details.

Overall, the VCL was standardized and simplified by: (1) adopting Common Customer Examples Requirements for Well-Architected Framework controls and removing them from migration customer examples requirements section; (2) updating customer examples criteria; (3) simplifying description and evidence requirements for migration- specific controls.

## Service Ready

### AWS Outposts Ready

- Now requires customer examples at the time of application [AWS Graviton](#)
- Now requires customer examples at the time of application [AWS EC2](#)
- Now requires customer examples at the time of application

### EKS Ready

- Clarified the control EKS-001.

## Service Delivery

### Amazon Connect

This checklist has significant controls, suggest to look at actual VCL for details. Overall is that we removed the live assessment but expanded technical controls to cover critical requirements conducted during live demo

- Following controls have been removed
  - Section 1.3 – APN Navigate Completion is removed
  - CON-008 - Amazon Connect Live Demo assessment is removed
- All controls CON-001 to CON-010 have been added/modified

### AWS Lambda

- The following controls have been expanded/adjusted based on Lambda use case advancement
  - LAM-002- Lambda functions should be singular and loosely coupled is modified to “design principles”
  - LAM-004- Solution implements graceful degradation is modified to “failure management”

- LAM-007- Solution Composition Requirements is modified to “performance optimization’

#### Amazon ECS

- Checklist versioning updated for GA release [Windows EC2](#)
- AWS for Microsoft Workloads training has been re-arranged from section 1.3 to 3.2

#### AWS Control Tower

- CT-003 Mandatory customization patterns on top of AWS Control Tower is updated to incorporate Landing Zone accelerator
- CT-004- Partner Customer Configuration Tracking is removed