From: Adam Kerns
To: Farzan Karimi; Sergio Vigano
Sent: 10/15/2013 1:57:55 PM
Subject: FW: ACA big test in December

From: Anderson, James (US - Arlington) [mailto:██████████@DELOITTE.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2013 1:56 PM
To: Gus Tome; Adam Kerns
Subject: ACA big test in December

I was talking with Dyson this a.m. about the HIX-B test in December.

It is my understanding that the politics around this SCA probably need some careful consideration.

Within CMS, there is a confidence issue with the security of the ACA ..... some of the issues were documented in the MITRE report and then the CISO wouldn't endorse the ATO, then the CIO would not either, so the CMS Administrator gave a conditional ATO w/ the caveat of an end-to-end ACA test before the end of the year.

Based on that, HIX-B will probably morph into the end2end test (funding will probably change to a Task 2).

I would encourage some discussion with CMS GTL (Jason King, when he returns) about any gap you think may exist between what resources (and costs) are associated with an end2end test versus the funding. My thoughts are that if you only get a single Task 2 funding, then it may not be adequate to perform a full test (this is TBD).

My guess is that a full ACA test is huge (hundreds of Web pages with many data entry fields); but a conversation w/ Darrin is probably a good next step to determine what is most likely in scope for the December ACA test and the size/complexity.

Not sure if you saw the TV report entitled 'the ACA, a hacker's dream' ....

Anyway, what needs to be avoided is reputation damage if the funding is not adequate that results in a 'less than full' SCA that in turn gets 'hacked' and the blame game leads to our front door. .

Let me know how I can help ....

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