

Modern authentication enabled for Exchange Online

Control ID: 6.1.1a

WHAT THIS RUNBOOK COVERS

Block legacy auth, Exchange Online



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Overview

****Modern authentication enabled for Exchange Online**** is a ****HIGH**** severity control in the exchange domain.

Expected Impact: Enables OAuth 2.0 / Modern Authentication for Exchange Online. Legacy Outlook clients (2010 and earlier) may need updating. Modern auth is required for MFA.

Compliance Mapping

This control satisfies requirements across the following frameworks:

Framework	Control Reference
CIS	6.1.1
NIST	AC-1
NIST	AC-2
NIST	AC-2(1)
NIST	AU-12
NIST	AU-2
NIST	AU-7
NIST	IA-2
ISO27001	A.5.1
ISO27001	A.5.15
ISO27001	A.5.16
ISO27001	A.5.18
ISO27001	A.5.2
ISO27001	A.5.31
ISO27001	A.5.36
ISO27001	A.5.37
ISO27001	A.5.4
ISO27001	A.8.15
ISO27001	A.8.2
CSF	DE.CM-1
CSF	DE.CM-3
CSF	DE.CM-7
CSF	PR.AC-1
CSF	PR.AC-3
CSF	PR.AC-4
CSF	PR.AC-6
CSF	PR.AC-7

Framework	Control Reference
CSF	PR.PT-1
CSF	RS.AN-3
GDPR	Art.24
GDPR	Art.32
GDPR	Art.33
GDPR	Art.5(1)(f)
SOC2	CC6.1
SOC2	CC7.2

Prerequisites

****Required Licenses:**** - Exchange Online (included in M365 E3/E5)

What This Control Checks

Disruption Risk Assessment

****Risk Level:**** LOW - Minimal operational impact

Remediation Steps

Option A: Admin Portal (GUI)

1. Sign in to [Exchange admin center](https://admin.exchange.microsoft.com) with Global Administrator or appropriate admin role. 2. Navigate to **** (See control-specific steps below)****. 3. Navigate to the appropriate ****Settings**** section in the Exchange admin center. 4. In Exchange Admin Center > Settings > Modern authentication, enable modern authentication. This is enabled by default for new tenants since August 2017. 5. Click ****Save****.

Option B: PowerShell / Graph API

```
```powershell # Connect to Exchange Online Connect-ExchangeOnline
```

# Apply the remediation

Set-OrganizationConfig -OAuth2ClientProfileEnabled \$true

<h3 id="option-c-automated-remediation">Option C: Automated Remediation</h3>

This control can be automatically remediated using the Veri-Guard compliance platform:

1. Open your compliance dashboard in the **Veri-Tech Portal**.
2. Navigate to the gap report for this assessment.
3. Select **Auto-Remediate** for control `CIS-6.1.1a`.
4. Review the required permissions and approve the remediation.
5. The platform will deploy the fix and confirm the result.

<h2 id="verification">Verification</h2>

After remediation, verify the control is passing:

1. **Re-run the compliance scan** from the Veri-Tech Portal to confirm the control now passes.
2. **Check the updated gap report** - confirm `CIS-6.1.1a` shows status `pass`.
3. **Verify via Exchange Online PowerShell:**  
``powershell  
Connect-ExchangeOnline  
Get-OrganizationConfig

**Expected:** OAuth2ClientProfileEnabled eq true

## Rollback Procedure

1. Open the **remediation report** from the Veri-Tech Portal (or the local JSON report if running standalone). 2. Find the entry for `CIS-6.1.1a` - the `beforeValue` field contains the original state. 3. Use the PowerShell commands in Option B above, substituting the original values. 4. Re-run the compliance scan from the Veri-Tech Portal to confirm the rollback.

## Required Permissions

**Exchange Organization Configuration** (scan only)

Permission	Scope	Purpose
Read (scan)	``	Read-only access for compliance scanning

**Note:**

## Microsoft permission references:

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## References

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- [Exchange Online documentation](<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/exchange/exchange-online>) - [Email authentication in Exchange Online](<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/security/office-365-security/email-authentication-about>)

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