All-purpose vulnerability scanners compared

Product	Name	Automated Scanning	FS 1000	Internet Scanner	LANguard	Nessus	NeXpose	Qualys Guard	Retina Network Security Scanner	Saintbox	Shadow Security Scanner
	Version	2.15.80	4.0	7.2	6.0	2.2.3	4.0.8	2.8.35	5.1.2	5.6.8	7.41
Details	Manufacturer	Beyond Security	Foundstone	Internet Security Systems	GFI Software	Nessus *	Rapid7	Qualys	eEye Digital Security	Saintcorporation	Safety-Lab
	Website	www.arrow-marketing.de	www.foundstone.com	www.iss.net	www.gfisoftware.de	www.nessus.org **	www.rapid7.com	www.qualys.com	www.eeye.com	www.saintcorporation.com	www.safety-lab.com
	Type / OS	Appliance / Linux	Appliance / Windows	Software / Windows	Software / Windows	UNIX / Windows	Software / Windows	Appliance / no info	Software / Windows	Appliance / Linux	Software / Windows
	Price	$3,000 [7] plus appliance ($12,000)	€7,306+ IP licence	No information available	€850 [5]	$1200 p.a. [5, 6]	€180,000 [5]	From €2995 p.a.	$6,520 [7]	$2,634 [7]	$1,699 [7]
	Number of tests	3,019	2,150	1,427	No information available	7,867	> 2,600	4,207	About 2,500	1,297	294
Features	Distributed scanners / central management / time-controlled scans	3 / 3[1] / 3	3 / 3 / 3	3[1] / 3[1] / 3[1]	- / - / 3	3 / - / 3	3 / 3 / 3	3 / 3 / 3	3 [1] / 3 [1] / 3	3 / - / 3	- / - / 3
	Interface	Web (HTTPS)	Web (HTTPS)	Windows	Windows	Windows / UNIX	Web (HTTPS)	Web (HTTPS)	Windows	Web (HTTPS)	Windows
	Local tests UNIX / Windows	- / 3	- / 3	- / -	- / 3	3 / 3	3 / 3	3 / 3	3 / 3	- / 3	- / 3
	Asset groups / tickets	- / -	3 / 3	3 / 3	- / -	- / -	3 / 3	3 / 3	3 / 3	- / -	- / -
Report formats	DOC / HTML / XML / PDF / CHM [2] / MHT [3]	- / 3 / 3 / 3 / - / -	- / 3 / 3 / 3 / - / -	3 / 3 / 3 / 3 / 3 / 3	- / 3 / 3 / - / - / -	- / 3 / 3 / 3 / - / - Tex / NBE [4]	- / 3 / - / - / - / 3	3 / 3 / 3 / 3 / - / 3	3 / 3 / - / - / - / -	- / 3 / 3 / 3 / - / -	- / 3 / 3 / 3 / 3 / -
Total messages	1st pass / 2nd pass	599 / 621	332 / 672	265 / 344	152 / 269	986 / 1,176	358 / 403	1,136 / 1,448	330 / 686	153 / 231	452 / 446
Classifications	High / Medium / Low	17% / 22% / 61%	27% / 20% / 53%	11% / 21% / 68%	47% / 13% / 39%	27% / 28% / 46%	15% / 66% / 19%	18% / 34% / 48%	38% / 43% / 20%	16% / 14% / 69%	55% / 38% / 7%
CVEs	True / False / Overlooked	284 / 126 / 503	407 / 168 / 380	77 / 16 / 710	Unable to assess	459 / 149 / 328	178 / 39 / 609	455 / 143 / 332	281 / 92 / 506	252 / 160 / 535	98 / 56 / 689
	% thorough / % accurate	36% / 69%	52% / 71%	10% / 83%	Unable to assess	58% / 75%	23% / 82%	58% / 76%	36% / 75%	32% / 61%	12% / 64%
Per operating system	Total true / false										
AIX	31 / 38	21 / 5	23 / 7	5 / 0	Unable to assess	23 / 19	3 / 1	17 / 8	11 / 4	14 / 6	0 / 11
Cisco SIP Phone	3 / 4	0 / 0	1 / 0	0 / 0	Unable to assess	1 / 1	0 / 0	1 / 3	1 / 0	1 / 0	0 / 0
FreeBSD	56 / 55	30 / 17	37 / 25	14 / 2	Unable to assess	35 / 17	7 / 8	17 / 6	16 / 12	12 / 10	4 / 9
IOS	44 / 35	13 / 2	24 / 6	7 / 0	Unable to assess	13 / 2	17 / 1	18 / 20	17 / 10	4 / 6	0 / 1
Irix	23 / 9	3 / 1	3 / 1	6 / 1	Unable to assess	4 / 2	1 / 1	15 / 4	2 / 2	4 / 1	0 / 0
Linux	234 / 151	112 / 35	124 / 52	19 / 5	Unable to assess	145 / 21	79 / 17	99 / 32	80 / 34	102 / 60	31 / 19
Mac OS X	29 / 28	10 / 7	11 / 8	1 / 0	Unable to assess	6 / 1	14 / 1	13 / 4	7 / 2	21 / 18	0 / 0
Novell NetWare	30 / 55	21 / 23	22 / 23	1 / 0	Unable to assess	6 / 23	13 / 2	22 / 10	14 / 13	15 / 17	0 / 10
Solaris	45 / 43	32 / 19	37 / 20	10 / 6	Unable to assess	33 / 17	10 / 0	33 / 17	14 / 8	22 / 14	6 / 1
Windows	301 / 101	42 / 17	125 / 26	14 / 2	Unable to assess	193 / 46	34 / 8	220 / 39	119 / 7	57 / 28	57 / 5
iX assessment		+ Own scans + Easy to use + Sends reports by e-mail + Marking of false positives - Local tests not extensive - Few comparisons	+ Can manage many scan engines + Practical ticket system + Detailed recommendations + Comparisons over time - Some errors in operating system recognition	+ Few CVE's, but the most problems found + A lot of reports + Excellent recommendations - Awkward to use - One computer not found	+ Reports including hot fixes + Useful comparisons + Practical additional tools - Reports difficult to understand - No CVE numbers	+ Client and server + Integrates other programs + Very good local tests - Recommendations poor - No saving of scan types	+ Extensive ticketing + Logins for many services possible + Detailed recommendations - Problems over reports - Problems during scanning	+ Administers many scan engines + Comparisons over time + Large selection of reports + Built-in ticket system - Requires connection to head office in the USA	+ Good local tests + Attractive reports - Reports difficult to assimilate - Broadcast address appears in the report	+ Trust report helpful + Useful comparisons + Many results for unusual systems + Messages for problems summarised - Few parameters for own scans	+ Several editors for own tests + User-friendly - Many findings classified as High - Very brief recommendations - Problems during scanning
3 applies / exists	- does not apply / does not exist										
[1] Additional software necessary	[2] Compiled HTML modules	[3] HTML message	[4] Nessus own report format	[5] Unlimited targets	[6] Free of charge for private users	[7] Class C per year	* Nessus add-ons at Tenable Network Security	** or www.tenablesecurity.com			