TENABLE FRICTIONLESS ASSESSMENT (FA) - END OF SUPPORT

Bulletin Date: May 9, 2023

Tenable announces the End of Support for Tenable Frictionless Assessment (FA). The replacement for FA will be Agentless Assessment (AA). Table 1 describes the end of life milestones and definitions for the impacted products(s).

Table 1. End of Life Milestones and Dates for Tenable Frictionless Assessment.

Milestone	Definition	Date
End of Provisioning	The date at which Frictionless Assessment is disabled for NEW Tenable.IO evaluations and customers. Begin customer transition to alternate Tenable scanning solutions.	May 15, 2023
End of Support	No active development, maintenance and patching for Frictionless Assessment.	December 31, 2023
End of Life Reached	The date at which Frictionless Assessment services are shut down for existing customers.	December 31, 2024

Product Transition Notes:

Customers have multiple options for transitioning from Frictionless Assessment to Agentless Assessment (AA). The recommended approach is to move to Tenable.cs, or to upgrade to Tenable One.
Please contact your Tenable representative to discuss the best approach for your environment.

FAQs:

Q. Why is Frictionless Assessment being retired?

A. Frictionless Assessment has provided a solid, robust solution for traditional Tenable.io users looking to scan AWS and Azure workloads as part of their Tenable.io workflows. However, it has several limitations and it is not truly cloud-native. For most customers, the best option will be to transition to Tenable Cloud Security with Agentless Assessment.

Q. Why are we moving to Agentless Assessment?

A. Tenable Cloud Security provides multi-level security for cloud workloads, including cloud security posture management (CSPM), vulnerability management, and Infrastructure as Code (IaC) scanning.

- Agentless Assessment is integrated into the existing cloud-account onboarding process and is much easier to configure than Frictionless Assessment.

- Agentless Assessment has no impact on running systems, and can automatically detect and assess all user accounts and workloads in AWS and Azure for both vulnerabilities and misconfigurations.
- Customers truly get unified vulnerability management + cloud security posture management (CSPM) with Tenable Cloud Security.

Q. Why is Tenable Cloud Security with Agentless Assessment a true cloud-native security solution?

A. Tenable Cloud Security with Agentless Assessment is specifically designed for cloud-native workloads, in which teams build and run applications that take advantage of the distributed computing offered by public clouds, Kubernetes, and containers. Such cloud-native apps are designed and built to exploit the scale, elasticity, resiliency, and flexibility the cloud provides. For example:

- Neither Nessus nor cloud-vendor agents are necessary.
- Customers perform a one-time setup by creating a read-only role in their AWS or Azure accounts. Nothing needs to be configured on each instance or VPC or region.
- Cloud-instance targets need no special configuration or horsepower; any instance can be scanned, no matter its size.
- Scans are performed on instance snapshots, not running systems, so there's no impact on workload performance.
- Scans on new cloud accounts and VMs are done automatically when they come online, or can be scheduled.
- Scan-data collected from Agentless Assessment continues to flow into the Tenable.io Findings dashboards.

Q. Is Agentless Assessment the only option? What about network-scanning and Nessus agents?

Although Agentless Assessment is ideal for public-cloud workloads, some Tenable customers will continue to use Nessus agents and networking scanning. For example, long-lived workloads (lift-and-shift virtual machines, etc.) may support agents and serve the customers' needs. The same is true for networking scanning, which requires customers to set up a network-scanning virtual machine in their cloud VPCs alongside targets. These approaches remain valid, particularly for small numbers of machines and those that aren't truly cloud-native.

Learn more in this blog post about when it's appropriate to use each solution.

Tenable Technical Support

Technical support is available to ensure your technical issues or usage questions are resolved in a timely manner. Tenable support experts are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and are available via a variety of convenient methods, including the Tenable Community, phone, and chat.

Customers with Tenable Technical Support are entitled to a number of predetermined technical support contacts who may: create cases, search the knowledge base, review product documentation, and download software updates. For more details, please refer to the Tenable Technical Support Guide.

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Tenable offers a wide range of services programs to maximize the impact of your investment. With professional services from Tenable and our certified partners, you can reduce your IT risk quickly and achieve rapid time to value. From advisory workshops and quick deployment options to periodic health checks and custom services, we enable you to realize the full potential of your investment. Our team goes beyond basic installation services to partner with you, ensuring your success before, during and after deployment. For more information about Tenable Professional Services, refer to: https://www.tenable.com/services.

For More Information

Tenable Lifecycle Policy:
https://docs.tenable.com/PDFs/product-lifecycle-management/tenable-software-release-lifecycle-policy.pdf

For more information about the Tenable product offering, please visit the following pages:
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