

With stories prompting increased attention, application vulnerability assessment tools can help security stakeholders, says **Nathan Ouellette**.

Application security has continued its momentum as one of the primary issues on the minds of information security pros everywhere. Due in large part to the increased exposure to horror stories in the media, application security has come under scrutiny for being a favorite target for malicious users.

As reliance on information assets continues to grow exponentially, the protection mechanisms at the application layer have created a void between the bad guys and the stakeholders who are tasked with protecting the infrastructure. As focus has long shifted away from traditional network perimeter

attacks, client-side attacks and specialized application layer vulnerabilities now have some personnel scrambling to play catch-up. Regulatory compliance mandates have created an elevated level of interest in taking the proper steps to secure external facing applications and critical databases.



Hailstorm Enterprise ARC



MySQL for its backend database. Although Cenzip recommends that main components be installed separately from each on respective hosts, they can all be installed on the same machine, albeit with some small challenges.

The web interface is well designed and easy to navigate. Overall, the product's enterprise-class features are apparent and administrators can control user access through roles and customized central management. Performance-wise, the product performed adequately in our scanning tests and discovered all of the vulnerabilities that we expected it to.

From an administration perspective, the solution really shines. Policy and configuration edits are typically done by power-users, while scanning tasks can be performed out of the box by developers or quality assurance personnel through role-based access control.

The web-based documentation is thorough and well organized. The use of screen shots is well placed and evenly distributed.

Support for the Hailstorm is adequate. Cenzip provides a 12/5 sup-

port offering that is included with the base subscription, or a 24/7 support option for 10 percent of the subscription price. Cenzip's website offers a support phone number, as well as a request form and a handful of technical white papers.

Pricing for Hailstorm Enterprise ARC is based on an annual subscription and starts at \$26,000. Pricing includes the product, plus a support option.

True enterprise-class product with impressive options and customizations.

Nathan Ouellette

Vendor Cenzip

Price starts at \$26,000

Contact www.cenzic.com

Cenzip Hailstorm Enterprise ARC 5.5 is a centrally managed web application assessment product. The product is offered as Hailstorm Enterprise ARC (Application Risk Controller), which consists of a web-based dashboard, as well as a separate standalone desktop application component for customizing projects, scan settings and policies.

The product installed easily on our test server. The solution installs on Windows 2000/XP/2003 and requires at least IIS 5.0 for its web server. It also installs a copy of



ARC (Application Risk Controller), which consists of a web-based dashboard, as well as a separate standalone desktop application component for customizing projects, scan settings and policies.

SC MAGAZINE RATING

Features	★★★★★
Ease of use	★★★★★
Performance	★★★★☆
Documentation	★★★★☆
Support	★★★★★
Value for money	★★★★★
OVERALL RATING	★★★★★

Strengths Integration with VMware is a unique and useful feature.

Weaknesses None that we found.

Verdict True enterprise-class product with impressive options and customizations. SC Magazine recognizes the Cenzip Hailstorm Enterprise ARC 5.5 as this group's Best Buy.



CENZIC
Securing Enterprise Applications

Cenzic Inc.

455 El Camino Real, Suite 100
Santa Clara, CA 95050
Tel: +1 866-4-CENZIC (866-423-6942)
Fax: +1 408 200-0701
Email: request@cenzic.com