

Essential Eight Reference Guide for MSPs

Customer appetite for Essential Eight is high. ConnectWise SaaS Security[™] makes it easy to satisfy customers, increase relevance and open doors for new revenue.

84% of security and IT professionals list compliance frameworks as mandatory for their industries

42% of IT decision makers have plans to increase their cybersecurity and compliance spending



Essential Eight

The Essential Eight is a compliance and cybersecurity framework developed by the Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) outlining key strategies to enhance the resilience of organizations. It has 8 categories and 150 ISM controls.



Application Control



Patch Applications



Configure Microsoft Office Macros



User Application Hardening



Restrict Admin Privileges



Patch Operating System



Multi-Factor Authentication



Daily Backups

ConnectWise has developed a simplified way for MSP's to think about managing Essential Eight and its controls.



Current Security Posture

Monitor and report on a customer's M365 security posture on a regular basis

- Configuration health index
- Microsoft Secure Score
- Count of Global Administrators
- Risky users and prioritized alerts
- Azure AD baseline settings
- Password status
- User consent to unreliable applications Y/N



Access Control

Build a game plan to ensure all access is protected for end users that will endure

- Tenant Access – MFA for administrative roles Y/N – Points
- Tenant Access – MFA for all users Y/N – Points
- Ensure MFA Security Defaults or Conditional Access Policies based on customer licensing level
- Policy to block legacy authentication
- Protect users with user risk policy, enable conditional access



Mailbox Security

Create anti-phishing policies settings with Microsoft recommendation to improve Microsoft Secure Score

- Exchange Online Strong Baseline Policies – Points
- Anti-Phishing Policies – Y/N or Strong/Weak – Points
- Anti-Malware Policies – Y/N or Strong/Weak – Points
- Anti-Spam Policies – Y/N or Strong/Weak – Points
- Safe Links
- Safe Attachments



Data Control, Privacy and Protection

Configure Data Loss Prevention (DLP) and comprehensive Microsoft 365 tenant-level security

- Data Loss Prevention
- Microsoft 365 Teams configuration
- SharePoint configuration (HBI vs. LBI)
- Intune policies and configuration (licensing dependent)
- Defender policies and configuration
- Antivirus

ConnectWise SaaS Security[™] is a solution to help easily perform and repeat these 4 scenarios which adhere to the Essential Eight compliance standard.

- ✔ Higher satisfaction ✔ Compliance ✔ Door opener for future services

Want to learn more? Head to our [Trust Center](#) or [book a demo](#) today!

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