



GE VERNOVA'S PATCH VALIDATION PROGRAM

CYBERSECURITY SOLUTIONS

SIMPLIFY OPERATIONAL TECHNOLOGY MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVE SECURITY

How can you stay on top of all available patches and deploy them fast—without breaking your operations or budget? With GE Vernova's patch validation program, you can harness comprehensive patch management services that fuel optimized security, reliability, and operational efficiency.

BUSINESS CHALLENGES

- **\$243 billion – \$1 trillion:** Impact to the US economy of an electricity blackout across 15 states affecting 93 million people.¹
- **64% of power and utilities** believe that their security strategy is not aligned with today's risk environment.²
- **\$4.45 million:** Average total cost of a data breach.³

CONTENDING WITH THE CHALLENGES OF PATCH MANAGEMENT

For operators and owners of power generation systems, ensuring compliance and guarding against evolving cybersecurity threats represent critical, continuous imperatives. Toward that end, it's vital to quickly apply patches and fixes when vulnerabilities are identified. However, for resource-constrained operations teams, these patch validation, testing, and deployment efforts can present a number of challenges:

- **Risk.** Patches can address vulnerabilities but they can also introduce performance and availability issues when they are deployed in production environments—jeopardizing critical power systems and services.

- **Complexity.** Staying on top of vulnerabilities and patches available can be difficult. For internal teams, it can be hard to verify which vulnerabilities affect specific environments and how interdependent systems may be affected.
- **Administrative overhead.** Applying patches can be very labor intensive. Teams need to dedicate significant time and effort to stay abreast of vulnerabilities and patches; download, install, and test patches; and deploy new code into production.

SOLUTION INTRODUCTION

Now, your organization can gain the security and compliance benefits of optimized patch management capabilities, while offloading a lot of the effort and risk associated with handling these efforts internally—with GE Vernova's patch validation program. This program offers comprehensive patch management services that promise the availability, integrity, and confidentiality of your critical controls and related networks.

Through this service, we'll deliver the patches you need—in validated, tested, and easy-to-deploy packages. We further support your patch management efforts through cumulative updates, deployment automation, and useful, easily accessible documentation. By employing this service, your organization can mitigate its exposure to cyber risk, maximize the availability of your critical systems, and boost operational efficiency.

KEY FEATURES

Testing and Validation

As part of the program, GE Vernova will test and validate antivirus (AV) signature updates as well as operating system (OS) patches. First we'll verify whether these new releases apply to your environment, and based on that, we'll establish a list of candidates for testing.

GE Vernova's staff then test applicable updates in controlled, representative lab environments that offer safeguards against intrusion and tampering. Through this testing we determine whether updates adversely affect the functional operation of the control system, related interfaces, or system communications. Based on our findings, we can exclude any updates that may introduce performance or availability issues. Further, if a given patch is excluded, we provide documentation to support this exclusion.

WHAT'S COVERED

Host Based Patching (Non-Centralized)

- Microsoft Windows® Operating System — Microsoft Office – Word® and Excel®
- Adobe® programs
- Internet Browser (Google Chrome/ Microsoft Edge coming [future])
- Antivirus signature updates

Centralized Patching (Requires Ivanti Security Controls)

- Microsoft Windows® Operating System and other security patches for OS components — Microsoft Office – Word® and Excel®
- Internet Browser
- Adobe® programs
- SQL server
- .NET
- Antivirus signature updates
- Switch firmware updates, when impacted by security vulnerability
- Firewall signature updates and firmware updates are offered through a subscription to GE Vernova's cybersecurity platform

Operating System Support

- Server 2012 (Until October 2022)
- Server 2016
- Server 2019
- Server 2022 (Still in progress)
- Windows 10 Build 1607
- Windows 10 Build 1809
- Windows 10 2021 (Still in progress)

Patch Packaging and Delivery

Once patched have been tested and validated, we make them available to customers via a secure web portal. We provide cumulative updates so that your organization can stay completely up-to-date with the latest releases, even if an earlier update wasn't applied. By delivering these complete, scripted packages, we make it easy for your team to incorporate updates into your transfer and change management processes.

Host-based and Central, Network-based deployment Options

GE Vernova's patch validation program is available as a stand-alone offering. Through the program, we deliver scripted files that automate the deployment of patched and antivirus updates. In addition, your organization can deploy these patches using GE Vernova Cybersecurity Platform which brings centralized management to the deployment process, reducing the need to run patch deployment tools locally on each system being patched. By harnessing these combined offerings, your team can enjoy even greater speed and efficiency gains.

Backed By a Commitment to Quality

We employ Six Sigma tools and we empower team members to make customer-focused quality the highest priority. Further, our team participates in a number of external quality certification programs, including ISO-9001:2015 and ISO-27001:2013.

SOLUTION BENEFITS

Put GE Vernova's patch validation program to work for your organization and you can realize the following benefits:



Reduce Cyber Risk Exposure

This program helps your team more quickly and consistently apply patches and other mitigation tactics, so you can more effectively safeguard your environment and adhere to cybersecurity best practices.



Enhance Compliance

With this program, you can more consistently and comprehensively comply with a number of government and industry cybersecurity standards, including North American Electric Reliability Corporation Critical Infrastructure Protection (NERC CIP), Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) 08-09, and ISA 99/IEC 62443.



Maximize System Availability

By employing the program's validated, pre-packaged updates, your organization can avoid the potential risks of implementing patches that can have a negative impact on production environments.



Boost Operational Efficiency

By harnessing these services, your internal teams can reduce the time they spend on laborious efforts like patch testing. Plus, they can deploy tested and validated patches that have been proven to run in a similar environment—and so minimize the trial, error, and remediation efforts associated with implementing untested patches.

SERVICE SPECIFICS

Environment Support

- GE Vernova's turbine, generator, and plant controls and associated networks
- GE Vernova's HMI and Historian hosts, GE Vernova's Thin Client HMI / Control Server environments
- Platform Support: Windows Server 2012 R2 and Windows Server 2016

Onsite Training

- GE Vernova offers up to eight hours of onsite patch deployment training during the initial implementation period

Patch Validation Program Support

- GE Vernova's Product Security Incident Response Team (PSIRT) is responsible for monitoring for cybersecurity issues that affect products and coordinating responses. You can report an issue through the PSIRT website at the following URL: www.ge.com/security.

HOW TO GET STARTED

To learn more and sign up, please contact your local GE Vernova Account Executive or call 770-722-2552.

Sources

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