

SECURITY MANAGEMENT



Taking Control of Mainframe Security

The Problem

Managing security in the mainframe environment is becoming an increasingly difficult task as the list of challenges grows longer every day. Today's enterprises contend with massive amounts of stored data, huge distributed networks connected to numerous disparate systems and users and crippling budget restraints, hindering their ability to secure data in an era when protection is more important than ever.

Unfortunately, many have found that simply adding employees does not solve the problem. Most personnel hired to manage mainframe security today come from administrative backgrounds and therefore lack the training required to operate the Resource Access Control Facility (RACF®), the industry's most widely used security server for managing z/OS mainframe environments. Through time, they struggle to learn the technical nuances of RACF, but rarely rise to the level of mastery.

Even the most experienced security administrators can labor under the workload as security systems increase in size and networks grow in density. As systems continue to support more data, users, applications and services, effective security management in the mainframe environment becomes significantly more difficult. Acquisitions and mergers complicate the issue, as enterprises grapple with the difficulties of integrating myriad devices, network elements and systems into the management scheme. The thousands of reports, policies and logs generated by the typical enterprise mainframe environment make adequate oversight and evaluation difficult if not impossible. New government regulations such as the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (SOX) and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) mandate development and management of highly complex access policies, further compounding the difficulty of security administration.

Taming the Security Management Beast

Given the complexity of the mainframe environment, IT security managers need powerful, easy-to-use tools for more effective data security management.

Solutions that automate processes, offer powerful batch and real-time management and provide more control over individual profiles than z/OS Security Server (RACF) offers.

Taking Control

Vanguard provides the industry's most comprehensive and effective security management solution for the enterprise mainframe environment. This powerful suite of security tools enables IT security personnel to accomplish more work quickly and with more accuracy than ever before. Enterprise security teams can capture higher volumes of important data with greater ease and with fewer personnel than by using less functional native RACF systems. This complete solution suite includes:

- **Vanguard Administrator™**—complete day-to-day security administration, reporting and analysis
- **Vanguard Advisor™**—dynamic security reporting and real-time problem solving
- **Vanguard Enforcer™**—powerful security policy enforcement and configuration management
- **Vanguard Policy Manager™**—monitors and controls z/OS Security Server (RACF) commands to enforce compliance with corporate security policies
- **Vanguard SecurityCenter™**—easy to use security administration via a graphical, Windows-based application

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Enterprise security teams equipped with the Vanguard Security Management Solution can manage mainframe security with greater ease and with fewer personnel than they can using native RACF commands.

Complete Management of RACF Environment

Vanguard's integrated security management suite — including Administrator, Security Center Advisor, Enforcer and Policy Manager—offers the most advanced and complete solution controlling data security in the mainframe environment. This robust solution helps enterprises strengthen mainframe security, minimizes time spent performing routine operations and improves security staff productivity. With the Vanguard Security Management Solution, businesses can accomplish more work with the same number of personnel and ensure their RACF-based mainframe environment remains highly protected and compliant with regulatory requirements.

Vanguard Administrator

With Vanguard Administrator, even inexperienced security staff breeze through what would have been difficult tasks using native z/OS Security Server (RACF). Security teams accomplish more work using the same number of staff, resulting in rapid return on investment (ROI). This robust solution automates routine administrative jobs, reducing time to results from minutes or hours to seconds. The resulting time savings enable staff to focus more intently on trend analysis and problem solving, improving overall protection.

The solution eliminates the need to use the RACF command line interface by automatically generating the appropriate commands. It automates routine processes such as adding and deleting users, transferring users between departments, granting or removing access rights and resetting passwords, among numerous other actions.

By providing powerful batch functionality, Vanguard Administrator eliminates the need to perform time consuming repetitive tasks; the solution can more easily retrieve information from the RACF database and produce easy to read, professional looking reports. Reports are fully customizable and easily delivered to key managers via email.

Vanguard Advisor

Vanguard Advisor's intuitive monitoring capabilities let security administrators see exactly what happens to their critical security resources in real time, giving them the power to stop issues before they become a problem. Extensive monitoring and troubleshooting capabilities enable staff to determine who has issued z/OS Security Server (RACF) commands, which ones have been invoked, what resources have been accessed, when data has been viewed and what has been changed. This powerful, and easy-to-use tool lets users examine SMF log records generated by RACF systems as well as records from outside the RACF environment, including TCP/IP, DB2 and UNIX Systems Services (USS) events and then quickly and easily create reports. Customizable alerts notify personnel as events occur, enabling them to intercept violators before long-term damage occurs. Vanguard Advisor also enables retrieval of historical data, providing a powerful tool for evaluating patterns and undiscovered events.

Vanguard Enforcer

Vanguard Enforcer prevents policy erosion that can occur over time. Without a strong enforcement mechanism, even the most restrictive access policy can eventually become useless as accidental or intentional changes to the z/OS Security Server (RACF) environment may take place.

Vanguard Enforcer works in the background, where it automatically reviews rules and processes to ensure policies work exactly as designed. The application ensures that all changes are approved before they take place, preventing tampering and accidental revisions that can permanently alter policies and erode security. Customizable alerts notify administrators of unauthorized access and when changes are made.

Vanguard Policy Manager

Vanguard Policy Manager provides highly granular control over execution of specific z/OS Security Server (RACF) commands, further reducing security risks and helping organizations meet regulatory compliance requirements. In many organizations today, security personnel have been granted broader security privileges and the ability to issue more types of commands, than are actually required for them to perform their job functions. With Vanguard Policy Manager, enterprises can prevent security personnel from issuing unauthorized commands. The application specifies which commands can be issued, unlike RACF, which does not have the ability to apply such precise restrictions. Vanguard Policy Manager even controls the types of commands that can be issued by users with the highest level "Special" authority.

Vanguard SecurityCenter

Vanguard SecurityCenter provides a highly effective solution for enterprises with less technical security administration staff and distributed security management operations. SecurityCenter enables security staff to administer z/OS Security Server (RACF) with an intuitive, point-and-click Windows-based interface, eliminating the need to learn RACF command syntax. As with Vanguard Administrator, users simply input data and the application generates commands automatically. By leveraging both Vanguard Administrator and SecurityCenter for security management tasks, security managers can plan and oversee the entire security operation while delegating day-to-day tasks to less technical administrative staff.

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For More Information

To learn more about the features and benefits of Vanguard Enterprise Security Software Solutions, visit www.go2vanguard.com.

Security Management Solutions:

Vanguard Administrator
Vanguard Advisor
Vanguard SecurityCenter
Vanguard Enforcer
Vanguard Policy Manager

Compliance and Audit Solutions:

Vanguard Analyzer
Vanguard inCompliance
Vanguard Enforcer
Vanguard Policy Manager

Access Management Solutions:

Vanguard Authenticator
Vanguard ez/SignOn
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