

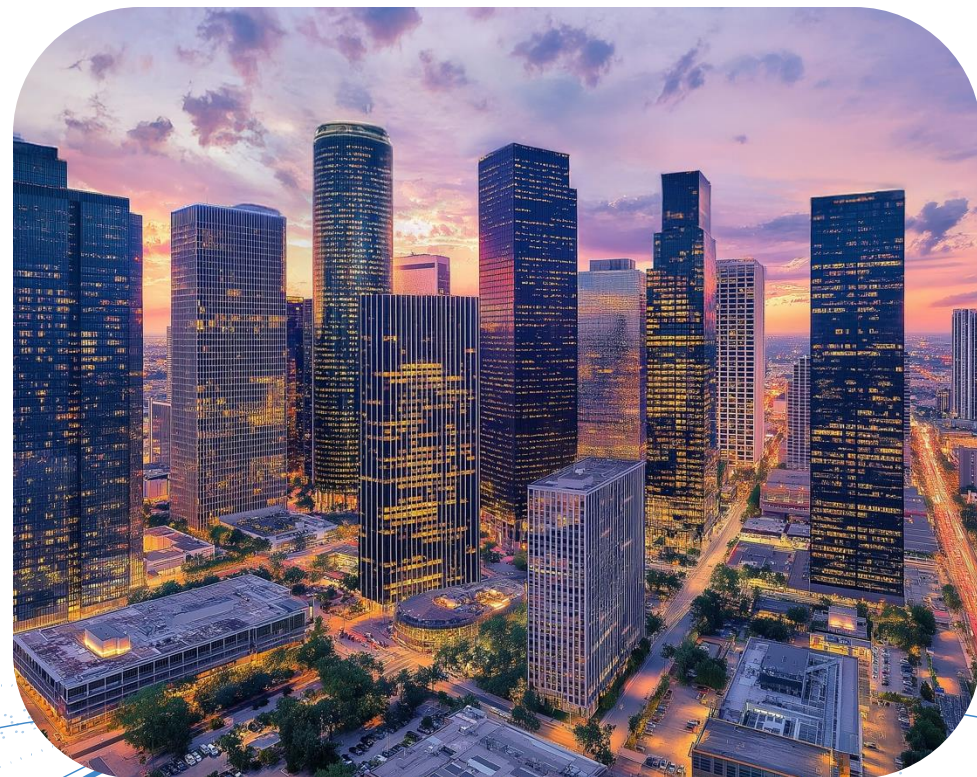
# One Agent to Rule Them All

Consolidation, Coverage, and Control Without the Sprawl



**Spencer Brown**

Principal Product Manager,  
Cloud Agent, Qualys



# Agenda

One Agent to Rule Them All

**01** Agent Fatigue

**02** Qualys Cloud Agent

**03** New Capabilities

**04** Innovations

**05** Customer

# Too Many Agents, Not Enough Time

Agent sprawl slows teams, increases risk, and drains resources.



**3–5**

Organizations run three to five agents per device, but some endpoints still have 10 or more, creating performance and management headaches.



**11%**

Only 11% of MSPs report their tools integrate seamlessly, meaning most are stuck juggling disconnected dashboards and manual workflows



**75%**

Three out of four security buyers are actively consolidating vendors to simplify operations, cut costs, and reduce risk

# Business Impact of Agent Consolidation

Driving efficiency, savings, and strategic value



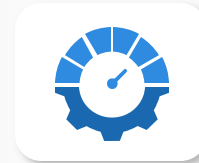
## Faster Time-to-Value

Centralized, consistent data enables quicker insights and faster business decisions.



## Improved Resource Efficiency

Less CPU, memory, and storage usage across endpoints minimizes hardware strain.



## Reduced Operational Overhead

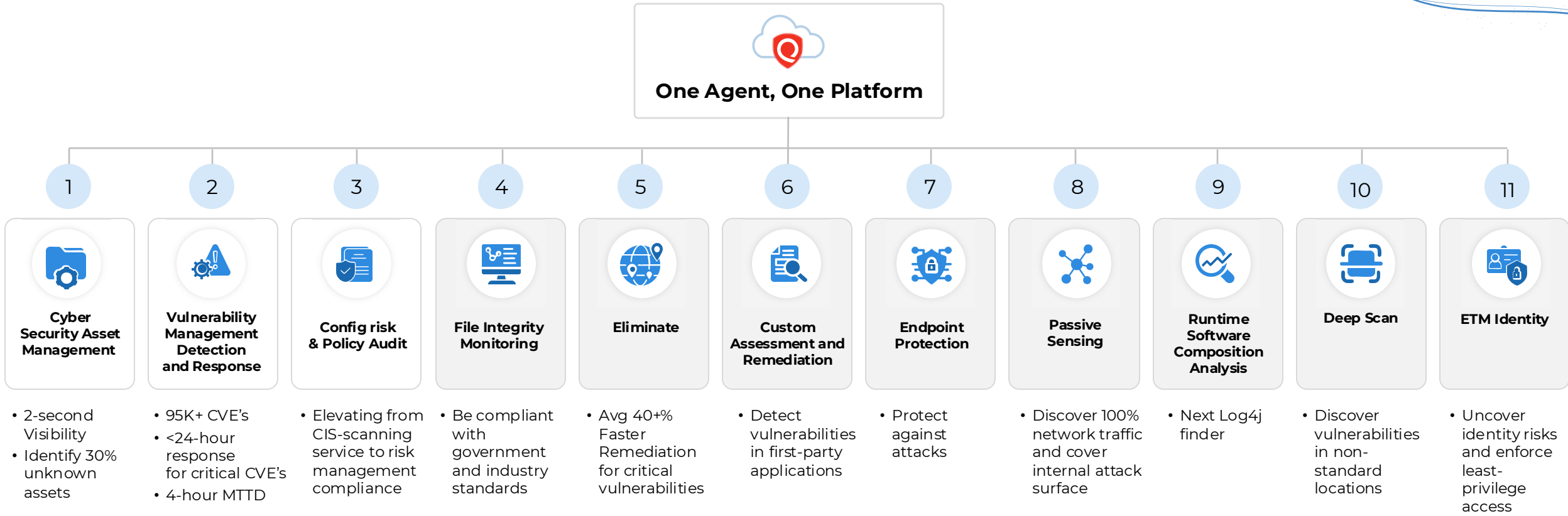
Simplified management cuts time spent on upgrades, troubleshooting, and conflicts.



## Lower IT Costs























Fewer agents to license, deploy, and maintain reduces overall infrastructure and support expenses.

# One Agent to Rule Them All

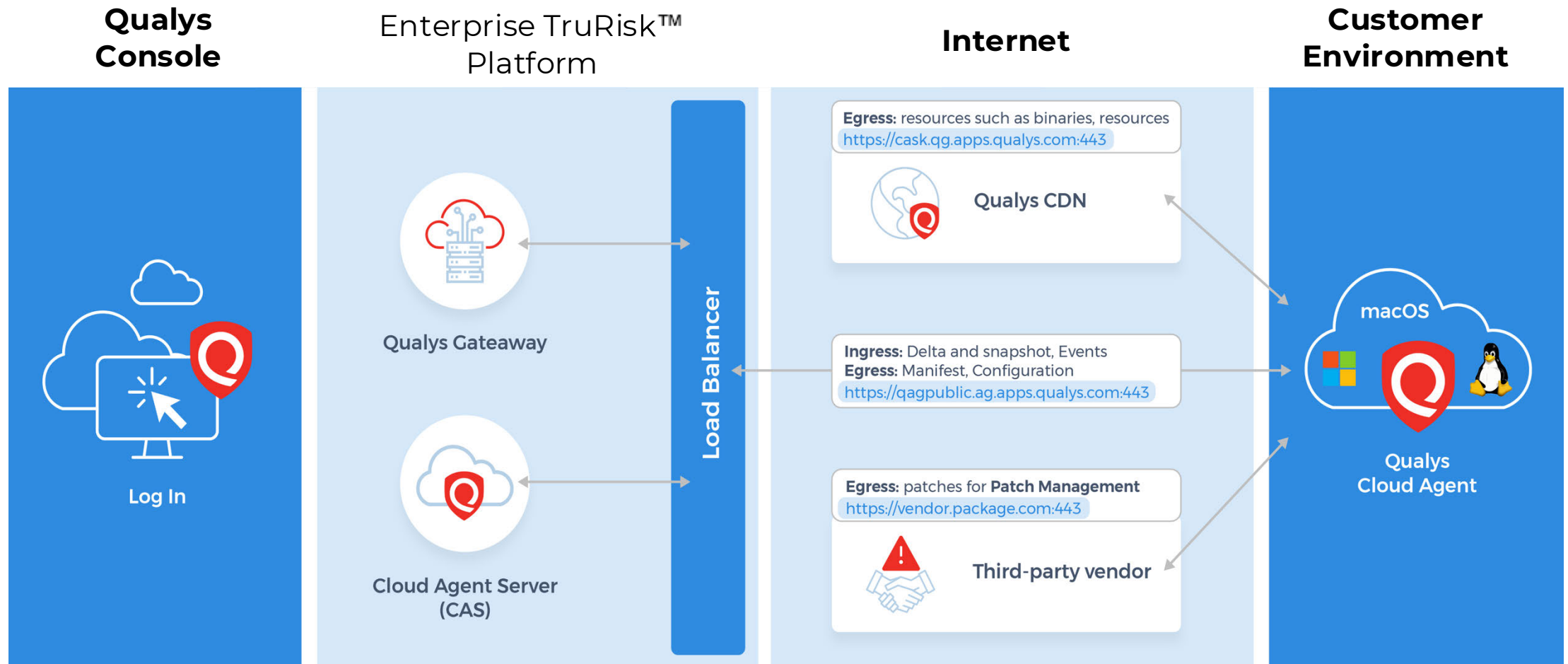


- Qualys Cloud Agent Only

# Most Expansive Platform Coverage

 <b>Windows</b> .exe (x86_64)	 <b>Windows</b> .exe (ARM64 with emulation)	 <b>Linux</b> .rpm (x86_64)	 <b>Linux</b> .rpm (ARM64)	 <b>Linux</b> .rpm (ppc64le)	 <b>Linux</b> .deb (x86_64)
 <b>Windows</b> .exe (x86_64)	 <b>zSystems LinuxONE</b> .rpm (s390x)	 <b>zSystems LinuxONE</b> .rpm (s390x)	 <b>Mac</b> .pkg (x86_64)	 <b>Mac</b> .pkg (Apple Silicon)	 <b>BSD UNIX</b> .txz (x86_64)
 <b>AIX</b> .bff (POWER)	 <b>Solaris</b> .pkg (x86_64,SPARC)	 <b>GenToo</b> .tar (x86_64)	 <b>ChromeOS</b> .apk (x86_64)	 <b>SQL Server</b>	 <b>Oracle Database</b>
 - Qualys Only	 <b>Bottlerocket OS</b> .tar (x86_64)	 <b>Container-optimized OS by Google</b> .tar (x86_64)	 <b>CoreOS</b> .tar (x86_64)		

# Qualys Cloud Agent Architecture





# Qualys Cloud Agent Missing from Hosts

Discover eligible assets which are missing the Qualys Cloud Agent



**QID:** 45592

**Title:** Qualys Cloud Agent Not Installed

## About



Authenticated Information Gathered  
QID



Supported by Scanner



Flags on eligible assets only



Create alerts



Monitor via dashboards

**Qualys Cloud Platform**

**VMDR** | DASHBOARD | **VULNERABILITIES** | PRIORITIZATION | RESPONSES | SCANS | REPORTS | REMEDIATION | ASSETS | THREAT INTELLIGENCE | KNOWLEDGEBASE | USERS

**Vulnerabilities**

348 Total Assets

Vulnerability: `vulnerabilities.vulnerability.qid: '45592'`

Qualys Insights consolidates data to get an enhanced view of the security posture.

Asset | Vulnerability | Group by | Filters

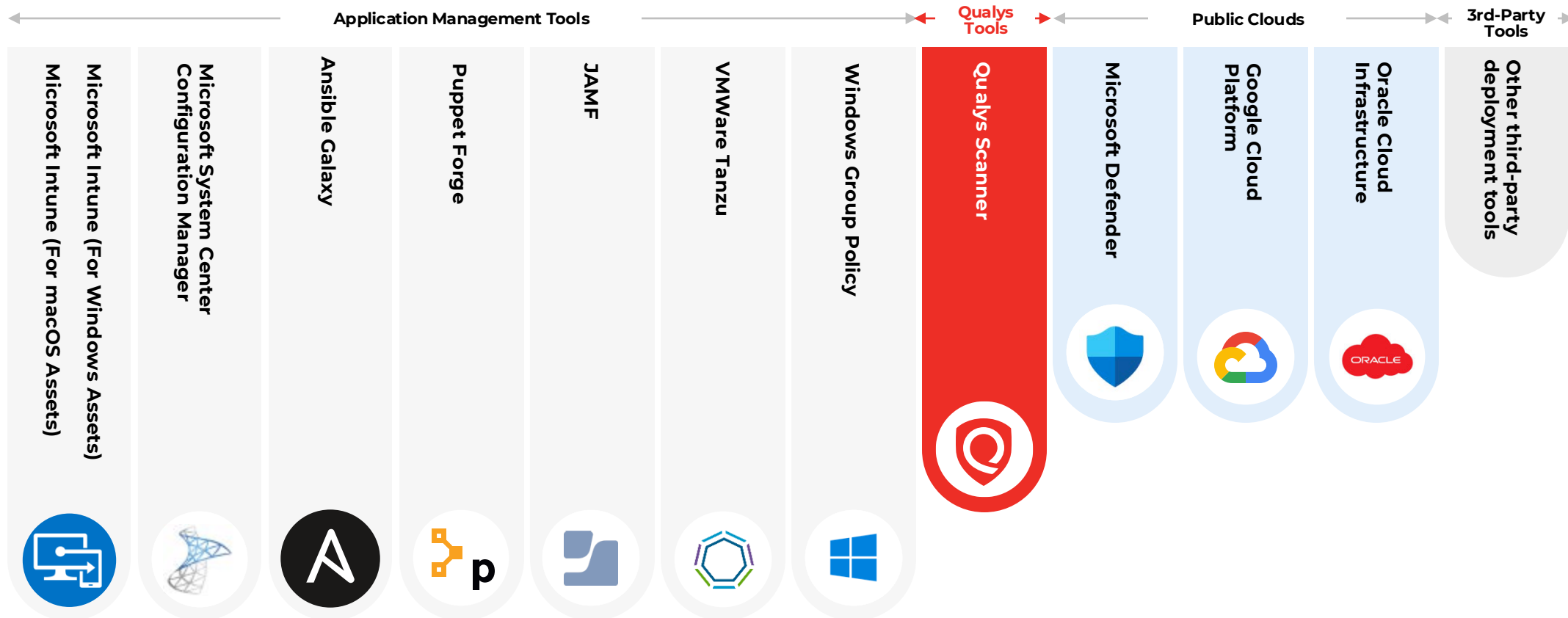
NAME	CRITICALITY	TrueRisk™ Score	OPERATING SYSTEM	LAST LOGGED IN	LAST SCANNED	SOURCES
<b>ctomcatw2008r2</b> 10.11.70.93	4	707	Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2 Enterprise 6.1 SP1 64-Bit	Administrator	VM: 3 hours ago PC: 3 days ago	
<b>vscent76gp516sdw2</b> 10.11.70.162	4	691	The CentOS Project CentOS 7 7.6 1810	root	VM: 4 hours ago PC: 3 days ago	
<b>sdw1</b> 10.11.70.209	4	695	The CentOS Project CentOS 7 7.3 1611	root	VM: 4 hours ago PC: 3 days ago	
<b>vscent76gp516sdw1</b> 10.11.70.161	4	693	The CentOS Project CentOS 7 7.6 1810	root	VM: 4 hours ago PC: 3 days ago	
<b>cdmariadb201</b> 10.11.70.228	4	697	The CentOS Project CentOS 6 6.9	root	VM: 4 hours ago PC: 3 days ago	
<b>cdmsql2017.com2012r2.com...</b> 10.11.70.150	4	698	Microsoft Windows Server 2016 Datacenter 1607 Build 14393.0 64-Bit	Administrator	VM: 4 hours ago PC: 3 days ago	
<b>cdmongodb32e</b> 10.11.70.111	4	698	The CentOS Project CentOS 6 6.6	root	VM: 4 hours ago PC: 3 days ago	
<b>sdw2</b> 10.11.70.210	4	696	The CentOS Project CentOS 7 7.3 1611	root	VM: 4 hours ago PC: 3 days ago	LICcap



# Cloud Agent Deployment Methods

Qualys Cloud Agent supports various deployment methods to accommodate different systems and varying user requirements. Following are the important deployment methods you can use to deploy Cloud Agents on on-premise and remote assets.

## CLOUD AGENT DEPLOYMENT METHODS



# Zero Touch Lifecycle

No More Remote Sessions or IT Tickets

## Zero Touch Lifecycle



### Discover Unknown Assets

Continuous and unobtrusive detection of all the assets on your network



### Deploy Agent with Scanner

Leverage Qualys Scanner Appliance to deploy Cloud Agents



### Zero Touch Patch



### Troubleshoot Remotely

Remotely enable debug logging, restart agents, disable Self-protection, capture agent logs



### Clean Up

At the end of the lifecycle, purge agent data  
If agent checks-in again, agent will not be uninstalled

# New Capabilities

# Manifest Version Control

Flexibility and Stability for Your Critical Environments

## Control & Flexibility

- Delay updates for critical systems while applying them to non-production assets immediately.

## Customizable Profiles

- **Delay:** Delay updates by a set number of hours based on daily manifest changes.

## Increased Visibility

- Clear details on each manifest, including QID, and title plus change classification:
  - **High Delta** – Command modifications or introductions.
  - **Low Delta** – Minor changes such as registry keys or file path inclusions.

## Incident Management

- Pause updates globally during issues, ensuring stability for critical environments.

### Manifest Version Control Profile Details

Provide information for the Manifest Version Control profile.

Profile Name \*

Enter MVC Profile Name

100 characters remaining

Description

Enter Description

100 characters remaining

☐ Prevent manifest update ⓘ

#### Delay Manifest Assignment

Select the delay interval to postpone the new manifest assignment for the Cloud Agent.

Time Delay (In Hours) ⓘ

Select delay

0

1

2

3

4

ns on associated agents

or Tag Set

o apply this mvc profile to associated Cloud Agents.



Join Upcoming  
Webinar

Access Available. Submit a Support Ticket

# Deep Scan: Discover Vulnerabilities in Non-Standard Installations

Detect risks in widely used technologies—no matter where they're installed.



## Expanded Detection Coverage

Find vulnerabilities in supported technologies such as OpenSSL, PHP, Node.js, Notepad++, and more—even when installed outside default system directories.



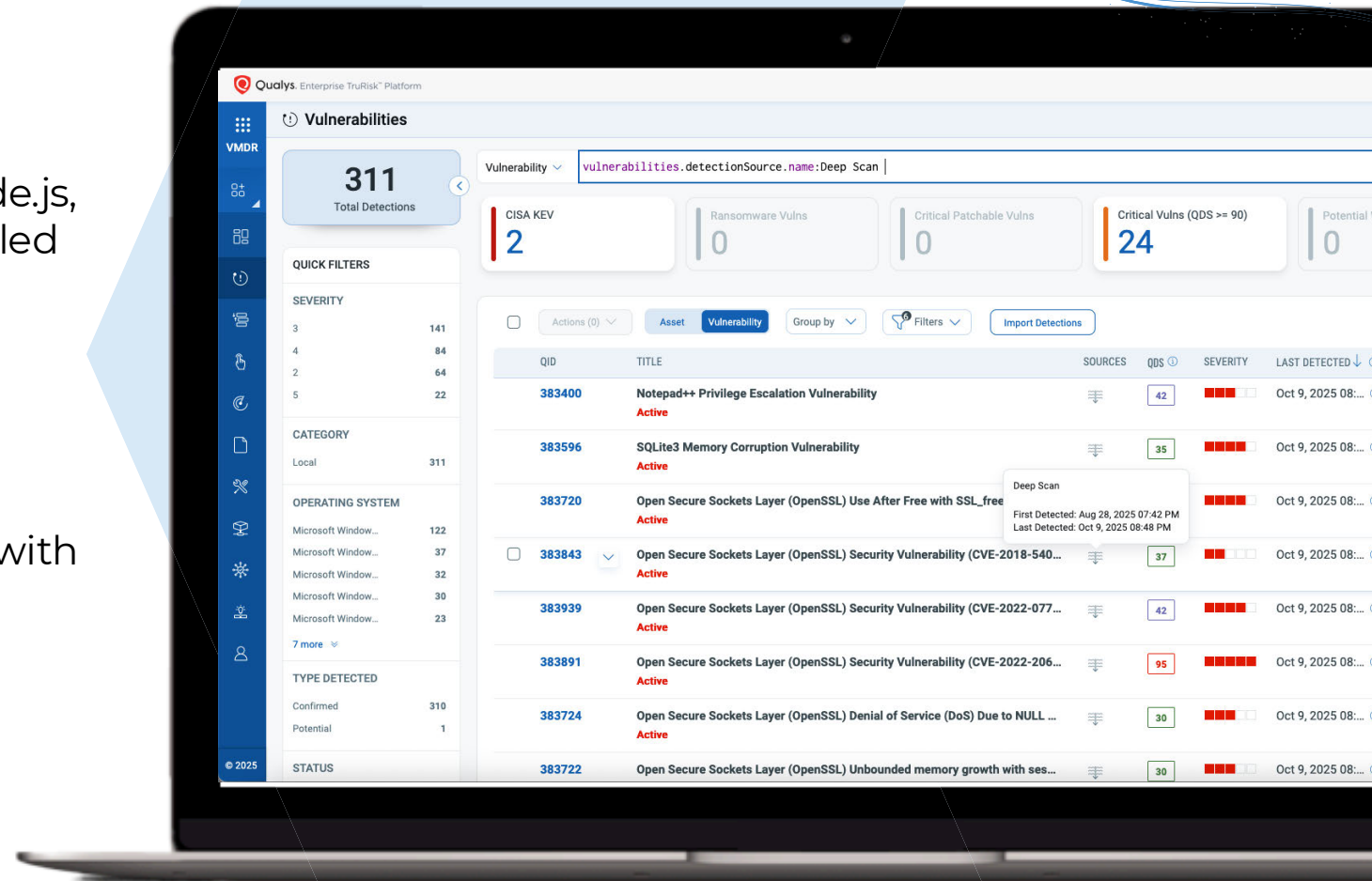
## Configurable and Efficient Scanning

Define which folders or drives to scan or exclude, set scan intervals, timeouts, and CPU usage—all to balance performance with deeper coverage.



## Integrated Results

View and analyze Deep Scan detections directly within VMDR for consistent remediation workflows.



# De-risk human and machine identities for reduced identity-driven attack surface

Built inside Qualys ETM, **Qualys ETM Identity** consolidates identity security and active directory posture into **a single prioritized risk view** to **measure, communicate, and eliminate identity risks** across your entire identity attack surface.



**Measure** identity posture with full inventory of identities across AD, Entra ID, IDaaS, IdPs.



**Communicate** identity risks in a single TruRisk™ score to prioritize responses.



**Eliminate** high-risk attack paths with policy enforcement, automated remediation.



# Unified View Across All Sensor Types

Correlate Scanner Data with Agents and Other Sensors for Complete Coverage



## Reduce Duplication

Prevent multiple records for the same asset when data comes from different sensors.



## Flexible Correlation Rules

Define how assets are matched using attributes like MAC address, hostname, or serial number.



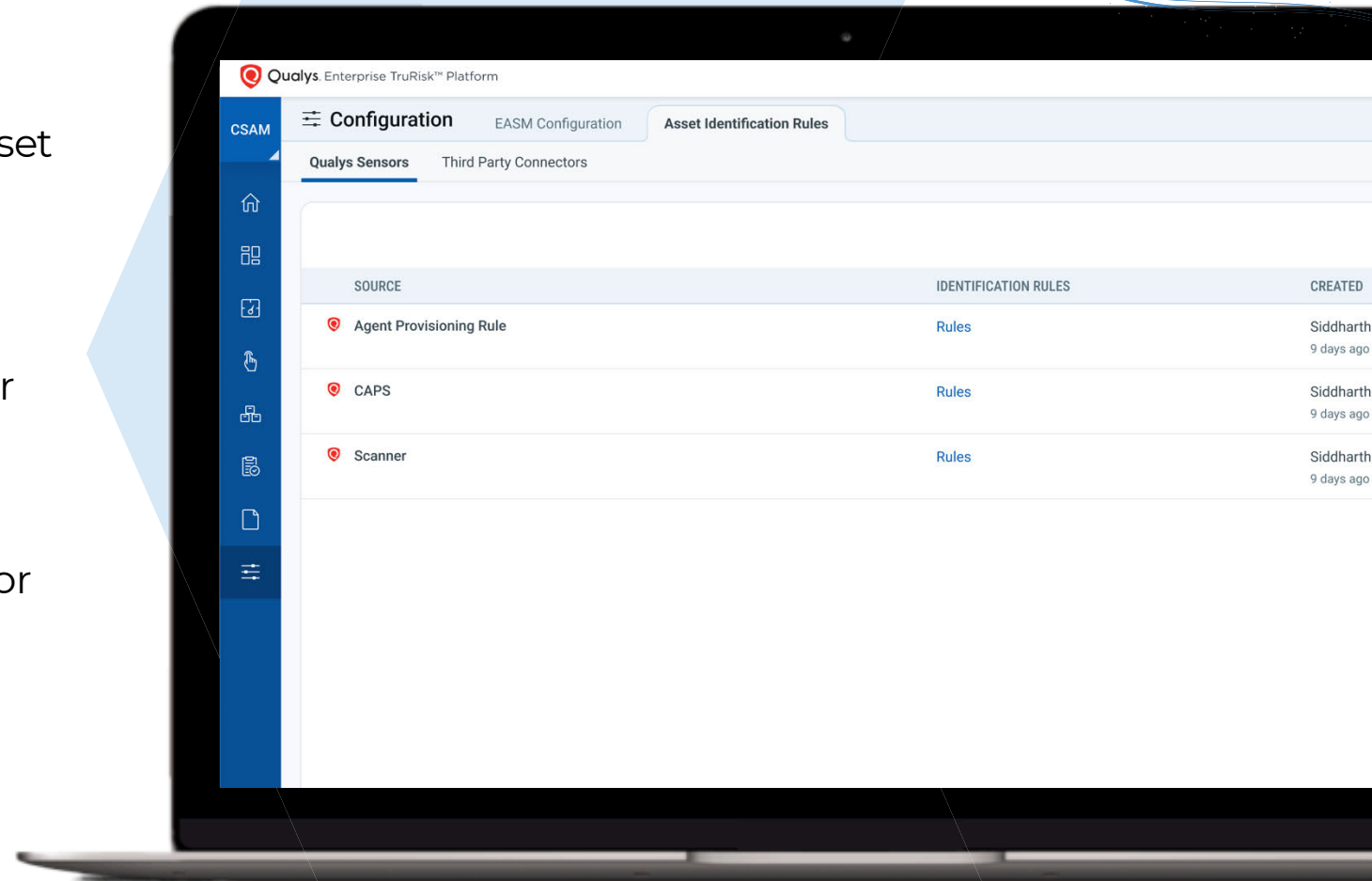
## Comprehensive Visibility

Combine scanner, agent, and other sensor data into a single, accurate asset record.



## Stronger Insights

Improve detection accuracy, reporting consistency, and overall security posture.





# Innovations

# Peer-to-Peer Caching

Optimize Bandwidth and Speed by Allowing Agents to Share Resources Locally



## Accelerate Patch Deployment

Agents can download and share patch resources among themselves, reducing download times.



## Reduce Bandwidth Usage

Minimize redundant downloads across large environments, especially for big patch files.



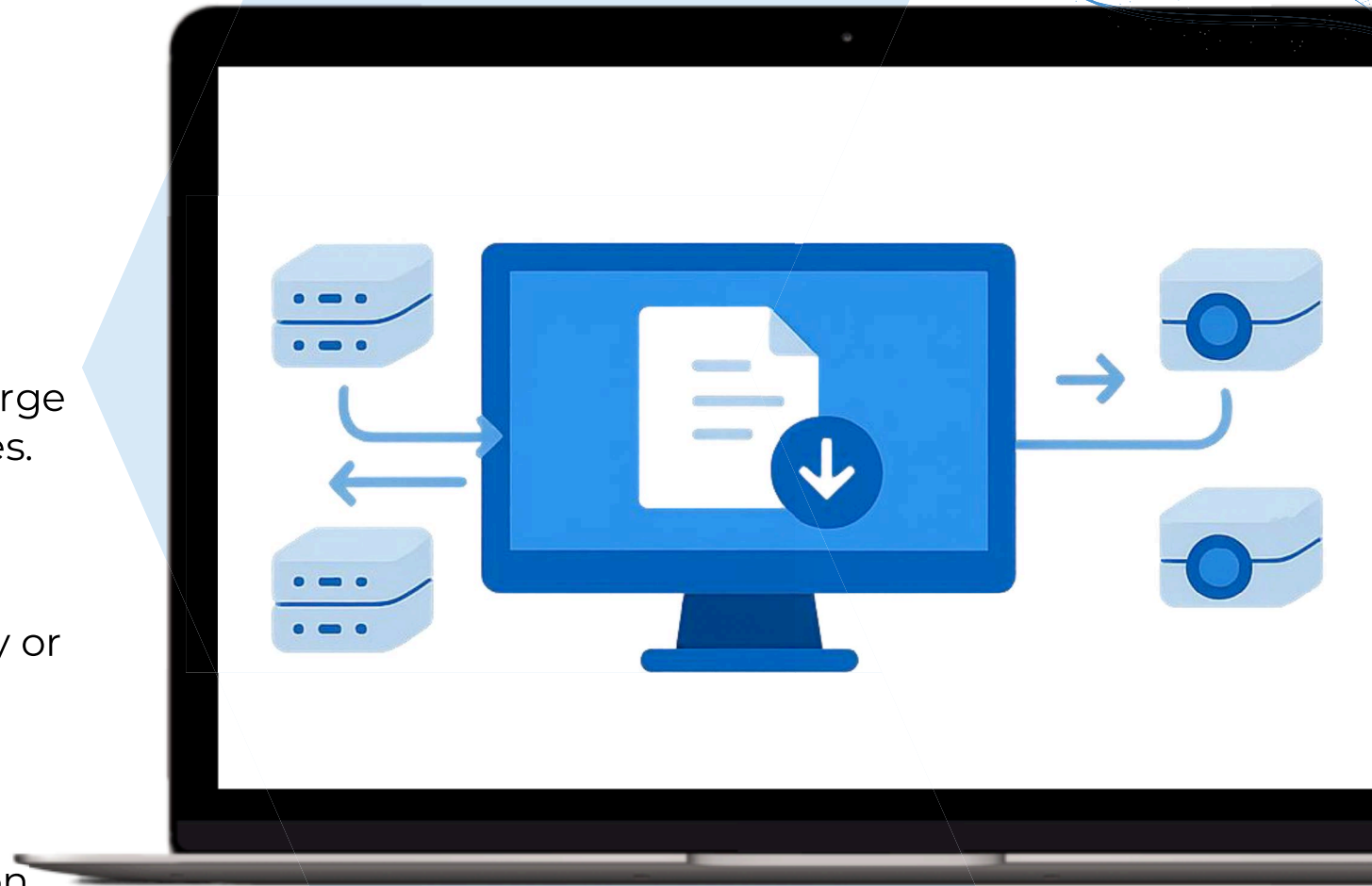
## Granular Control

Define which groups of agents can share resources and limit sharing by geography or network boundaries.



## Built-In Intelligence

Assets automatically determine when to share locally or download directly when on VPN or remote networks.



# Full Coverage with Agent-Based Remote Detections

Achieve Complete Visibility Without a Scanner Appliance



## Eliminate the Need for Two Sensor Types

Prevent multiple records for the same asset when data comes from different sensors.



## Simplify Operations

No more managing scanner authentication, scheduling, or network access.



## Reduce Network Load

Fewer scans mean lower bandwidth usage and faster assessments.



## Avoid Data Gaps and Overlap

End issues like duplicate detections, merge complexity, and detection flip-flops.

## Scan Configuration

Scan configuration enables the data collection for the agent host associated with Cloud Agent.

To configure the scan intervals, go to **Agent Management > Configuration Profile**

← Create New: **Configuration Profile**

STEPS 3/8

- 1 Basic Details
- 2 Assign Cloud Agent Host
- 3 **Scan Configuration**
- 4 Application Configuration
- 5 Agent Scan Merge

### Scan Configuration

Select the applications for which you want to enable data collection.

#### Vulnerability Management (VM)

Configure the interval at which the agent collects data for Vulnerability Management for the assets a

Data Collection Interval (240-43200 Min) \*

240

Scan Delay (0-1440 Min) \*

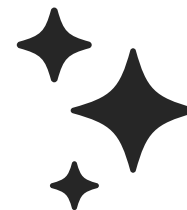
0

☒ Enable Scan on Startup ⓘ

☐ **Enable Remote Detections ⓘ**

# Thank You!





# ROCon 25

The Risk Operations Conference

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October 15, 2025

# The Risk Operations Conference

Qualys Cloud Agent and Patch Management



**Ali Zaher CISSP, CISM, PMP**

Cyber Security Vulnerability Manager, SLB







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**CISSP, CISM, PMP**

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Vulnerability Manager

22+ years with SLB

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Vulnerability  
Management



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Large-scale Data Center  
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Committed to advancing SLB's  
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Year Founded

**1926**

Headquarters

**Houston, TX**

**SLB**, formerly known as Schlumberger, is a global technology company that provides advanced solutions for the energy industry, focusing on decarbonizing fossil fuels and developing scalable new energy technologies.



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## Cloud Connectors, Agent Capabilities, and Patch Management Benefits

1

Understanding Cloud Connectors

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2

**Agent Capabilities:**  
Enhancing Security Posture

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3

**Patch Management:**  
A Critical Component

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**Conclusion:**  
Key Takeaways and Future Directions

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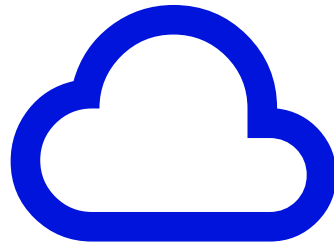
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# Qualys Deployment— Scale, Coverage & Platform

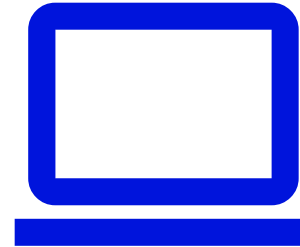
Deployment footprint, agent coverage, and platform diversity within our enterprise environment



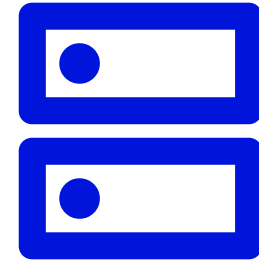
**Global Deployment  
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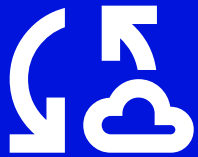
**Deployment:  
Cloud & On-Prem**



**OS Platforms  
Covered**



**Client and  
Server Coverage**



# Understanding Qualys Cloud Connectors



## Definition and purpose of Cloud connectors

Cloud Connectors bridge Qualys & multi-cloud environments, extending visibility to cloud assets while automatically tracking active VMs and removing inactive ones to maintain an accurate inventory



## Integration with existing systems

Integrates Qualys with existing IT systems, ensuring consistent security across on-premises and cloud environments.



## Real-time data access and analysis

Cloud Connectors provide real-time security data for faster analysis and response to emerging threats and vulnerabilities.

# Agent Capabilities: Enhancing Security Posture

## Overview of Agent functionalities:

Qualys Agents continuously monitor and assess endpoints, collecting essential security data to ensure compliance with organizational policies.

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## Benefits of deploying Agents:

Agents enhance endpoint visibility, enable rapid vulnerability detection, and simplify compliance reporting, strengthening overall security posture.

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## Case studies of successful implementations:

Organizations using Qualys Agents report stronger security posture and fewer incidents through continuous visibility and proactive risk mitigation.

# Patch Management: A Critical Component

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## Definition and importance of Patch Management

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Patch Management involves the systematic process of managing updates for software applications and technologies, crucial for mitigating vulnerabilities and ensuring system integrity.



## How it fits into the security framework

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Effective Patch Management is integral to a comprehensive security framework, as it addresses known vulnerabilities and reduces the risk of exploitation by malicious actors.



## Statistics on vulnerabilities and patching

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Research indicates that a significant percentage of security breaches are due to unpatched vulnerabilities, underscoring the critical need for robust Patch Management practices.

# Benefits of Using Patch Management

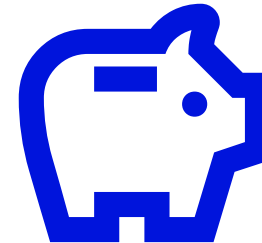
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**Reduction in  
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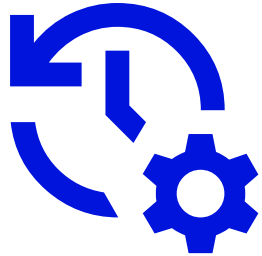
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Imagine needing a separate agent for every task — now, imagine not needing that



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**Unified Security  
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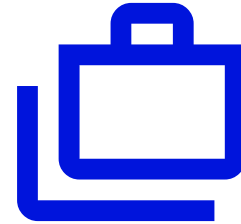
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**Real-Time Inventory  
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**Lightweight &  
Non-Intrusive**



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**Supports Multiple  
Use Cases**

# Conclusion: Key Takeaways and Future Directions



## 1 Key insights:

The integration of solutions, including Cloud connectors, Agents, and Patch Management, is essential for enhancing security in modern environments.

## 2 Future trends in security management:

As cyber threats evolve, organizations must adopt proactive security measures, including automation and real-time monitoring, to stay ahead.

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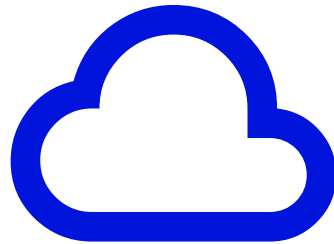


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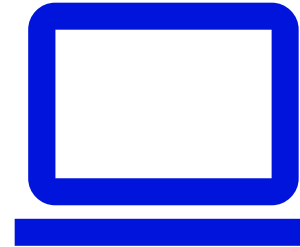
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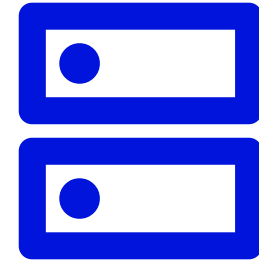
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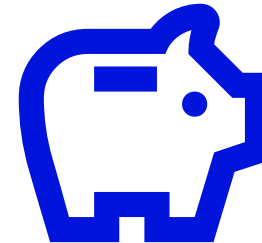
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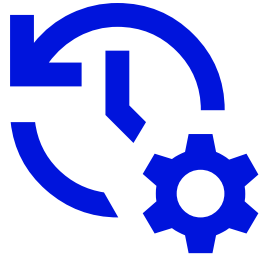
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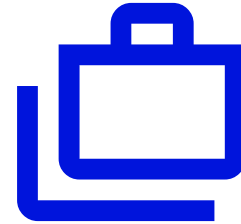
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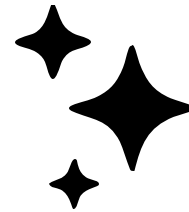
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