

# SECURE YOUR LINUX FOUNDATION ON AZURE: XTIVIA'S CIS BENCHMARK ASSESSMENT

## Establish a Trusted, Hardened Security Baseline

The **CIS Azure Linux Benchmark** provides globally recognized, consensus-based best practices for securing your Linux environments within Microsoft Azure. Developed through a community consensus process, these guidelines offer a prescriptive blueprint for hardening your systems against modern cyber threats.

As a **Proud CIS Member and Microsoft Business Partner**, XTIVIA delivers assessments built on certified trust and industry-leading security expertise.

## The Challenge: Default Insecurity and Configuration Drift

By default, cloud operating systems are often configured for general usability rather than optimal security. Manual "best guesses" during setup often lead to **Identity Drift**, insecure protocols, and unauthorized access points. In today's digital landscape, a default configuration is compromised.

## The Solution: XTIVIA's Deep-Dive CIS Assessment

We perform a high-authority forensic examination of your Azure Linux environment, auditing critical configurations against the latest CIS Benchmark standards, **typically targeting the most stringent Level 2 security profile**. Our audit provides total visibility into your posture across critical domains:

- **Identity and Access Management (IAM):** We verify "Least Privilege" access, enforce Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA), and audit for "Ghost" users or over-privileged service accounts.
- **Operating System Hardening:** We audit for insecure services, legacy protocols (like SMBv1) that should be disabled, and verify **Kernel and Boot Integrity** to protect the core OS from rootkits and persistent malware.
- **Permissions and File Integrity:** We verify restrictive file system permissions on sensitive configuration files (e.g., password, Shadow, and SSH config files), ensure only key-based authentication is permitted for SSH, and audit **Software Management and Patching Policies** to address unauthorized software.
- **Logging and Monitoring:** We confirm that comprehensive security logging is enabled and integrated with Azure Monitor and Microsoft Defender for Cloud for real-time telemetry, ensuring mandatory logging and **Audit Trail Retention** to meet compliance standards.
- **Resource and Infrastructure Defense:** We evaluate Network Security Group (NSG) rules to block high-risk ports, ensure disk encryption is enforced across all critical instances, and audit **Secrets Management** practices to prevent application secrets from being stored insecurely.

## Why Partner with XTIVIA? Robust Cloud Governance

Our assessment delivers critical benefits for your business and stakeholders:

- **Eliminate Human Error:** Identify and close security gaps, such as default administrative credentials, before they can be exploited.

- **Regulatory Acceleration:** Aligning with CIS Benchmarks provides the verified evidence required for frameworks such as **SOC 2, HIPAA, PCI DSS, and FedRAMP**.
- **Continuous Security:** We provide a prioritized remediation roadmap to stop configuration drift and guidance on integrating results into your Infrastructure as Code (IaC) templates for proactive prevention.

## Ready to Secure Your Azure Linux Environment?

Schedule your Azure Linux CIS Benchmark Assessment with XTIVIA today to establish a baseline, achieve documented compliance, and ensure continuous security for your critical infrastructure.

### Contact XTIVIA:

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- **Assessment Details:** [virtual-dba.com/cis-security](https://virtual-dba.com/cis-security)

## XTIVIA Overview

XTIVIA is a proven technology integration and innovation company known for delivering leading-edge technology solutions to our clients' specific requirements, regardless of project complexity. Since 1992, our success has stemmed from a demonstrated ability to deliver deep expertise via professional services, empowering clients to successfully, competitively, and profitably leverage their chosen technology. XTIVIA has offices in Colorado, New York, New Jersey, Texas, Virginia, and India. [www.xtivia.com](https://www.xtivia.com)