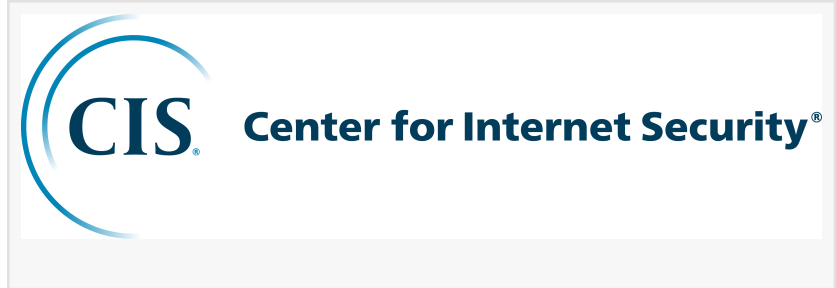


# CIS Announces Built-In Linux Benchmarks Now Available on Microsoft Azure

*Secure-by-default configurations now built into Azure for all Azure endorsed Linux distributions – automated, scalable, and aligned with CIS Benchmarks*



EAST GREENBUSH, NY, UNITED STATES,  
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EINPresswire.com/ -- The Center for

Internet Security, Inc. (CIS®) has [collaborated with Microsoft](#) to bring industry-standard security guidance into Microsoft Azure as a built-in capability by embedding CIS Benchmarks® for all available Azure endorsed Linux distributions; this brings secure-by-design principles to the operating system level and enables organizations to automatically apply trusted, audit-ready security configurations across cloud and hybrid environments without manual setup, customization, or guesswork.

This integration is powered by Azure Machine Configuration and the new azure-osconfig compliance engine, allowing organizations to implement compliance-as-code at scale while strengthening their overall security posture. It marks a strategic shift in how enterprises approach cloud-native compliance.

“Microsoft and CIS just made cloud-native compliance radically easier,” said Curt Dukes, Executive Vice President and General Manager of Security Best Practices at CIS. “With built-in CIS Linux Benchmarks on Microsoft Azure, organizations can now enforce secure-by-default configurations across hybrid environments with no manual setup and no guesswork. It’s scalable, automated, and audit ready; if you care about security, this is a game-changer.”

This advancement supports a broad range of IT and security professionals, including IT Directors, CISOs, Cloud Architects, DevOps Engineers, and compliance teams managing hybrid and multi-cloud environments. It’s especially impactful for regulated industries, public sector leaders including elections officials and state/local government IT, and IT administrators in K-12 and higher education.

Organizations running Linux workloads on Azure or elsewhere, managed by Azure Arc or implementing compliance-as-code, will benefit from reduced manual hardening, streamlined

audits, and a stronger, more resilient security posture.

Learn More:

Microsoft officially announced this capability at Microsoft Ignite, which took place on November 18 – 20, 2025 at the Moscone Center in San Francisco, California. Azure users can [enable CIS Benchmarks in Azure Machine Configuration](#), select the appropriate CIS template profile for their Linux distribution, and customize as needed.

To explore additional CIS resources, visit: <https://www.cisecurity.org/topics/cloud-security>

To arrange an interview with CIS, reach out to [media@cisecurity.org](mailto:media@cisecurity.org).

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About CIS:

The Center for Internet Security, Inc. (CIS®) makes the connected world a safer place for people, businesses, and governments through our core competencies of collaboration and innovation. We are a community-driven nonprofit, responsible for the CIS Critical Security Controls® and CIS Benchmarks®, globally recognized best practices for securing IT systems and data. We lead a global community of IT professionals to continuously refine these standards to proactively safeguard against emerging threats. Our CIS Hardened Images® provide secure, on-demand, scalable computing environments in the cloud. CIS is home to the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center® (MS-ISAC®), the trusted resource for cyber threat prevention, protection, response, and recovery for U.S. State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial (SLTT) government entities. To learn more, visit [CISecurity.org](https://www.cisecurity.org) or follow us on X: @CISecurity.

Kelly Wyland

Center for Internet Security

+1 518-256-6978

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