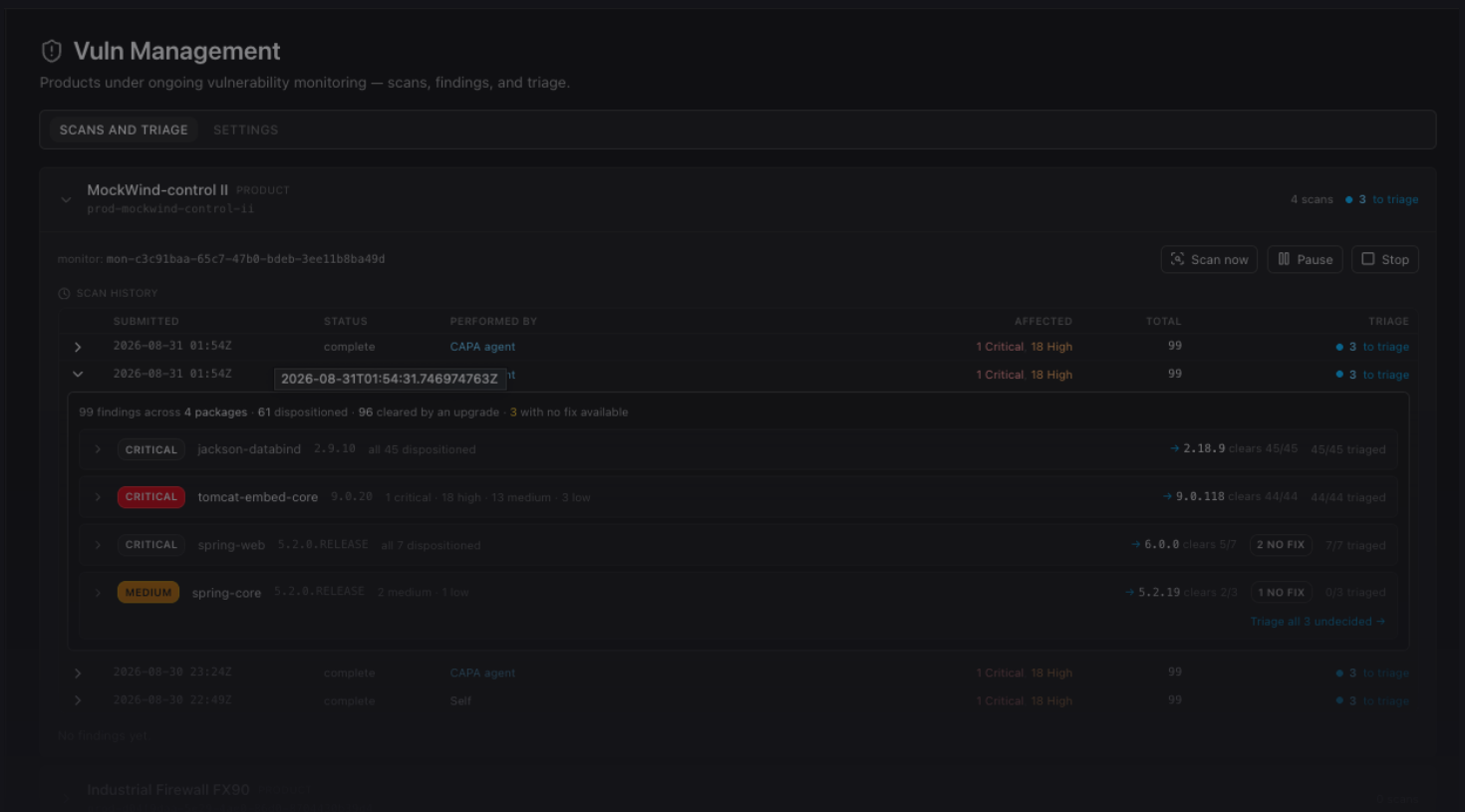


THE CAPA SUITE · RISK & COMPLIANCE

Supply Chain Assurance

Securing your IT and OT supply chain

Supply chain compromise is one of the most common attack vectors on critical infrastructure. Under Australia's enhanced CIRMP obligations, made under the SOCI Act, operators must map their vendor supply chains, obtain assurance that software is vetted for vulnerabilities and malware, and run tamper-proof patch management across IT and OT environments.

CAPA Aquila delivers a two-sided assurance capability — for OEM product vendors and for renewables operators — providing attestation, trust and authenticity for every digital system installed and operated within IT and OT critical infrastructure. The capability is delivered in three tiers.

CAPA\

THE CHALLENGE

You carry the risk but lack the visibility.

A renewable asset is an assembly of a dozen manufacturers across as many jurisdictions. The operator holds the obligation; almost none of the evidence sits inside the operator's control.

A single wind farm or BESS runs turbine or inverter controllers, a plant controller, SCADA and historian, protection relays, edge network devices, metering and condition monitoring — plus the OEM cloud platforms behind them. Those products are built from thousands of third-party software components, delivered through integrators, and maintained by contractors under long-term service agreements that require standing remote access.

The operator holds the licence, the connection agreement and the regulatory obligation. The vendors hold the knowledge. Under the Australian enhanced CIRMP obligations under SOCI, that gap is now a compliance problem as well as a security one: operators must map the supply chain, obtain assurance that software is vetted for vulnerabilities and malware, and run tamper-proof patch management across IT and OT.

> *The operator is accountable for a supply chain it cannot see, cannot test, and with legacy contractual arrangements*

The questions that we should be asking:

- What is actually inside the products we run — components, libraries and firmware, and who wrote them?
- How do vendors reach our plant remotely today, from where, and under what conditions are they able to patch software systems?
- When a critical vulnerability is published, who performs triage and how quickly do we know if it is material?
- Can we prove the image running as a supervisory controller is the one the vendor built and released?
- What are the governance structures for each vendor, and has that changed since we procured them?
- If a vendor platform is compromised or withdrawn, can we still operate and recover?

Where today's practices expose risks to operators:

Qualitative assurance

Questionnaires — a compliance driven annual tick-box exercise, self-attested and unverifiable and not managing risk.

Spreadsheet inventories

A hand-maintained list of products without sub-components or versions that very quickly goes out of date, with no record of the production state.

Contractual flow-down

Clauses oblige the vendor to be secure but with no clear metrics or reporting, and no assurance regime as a result.

Patch when you can

OT patching is bounded by warranty, availability and maintenance windows with little to no involvement and oversight by the operator.

THE SOLUTION

What good assurance looks like

Six characteristics separate a working assurance capability from a documented intention.

1. **A live registry, not a spreadsheet**

   Every product, version and sub-component in the estate, held per site and updated as the plant changes rather than as the audit approaches.

2. **Vendor evidence, independently verified**

   SBOMs and signed attestations produced at release and checked on receipt — not a declaration taken at face value once a year.

3. **Vulnerability intelligence tied to your estate**

   PSIRT and VEX feeds monitored across the whole vendor ecosystem, triaged against the products and versions you actually run, and tracked to closure against an SLA.

4. **Chain of custody from build to site**

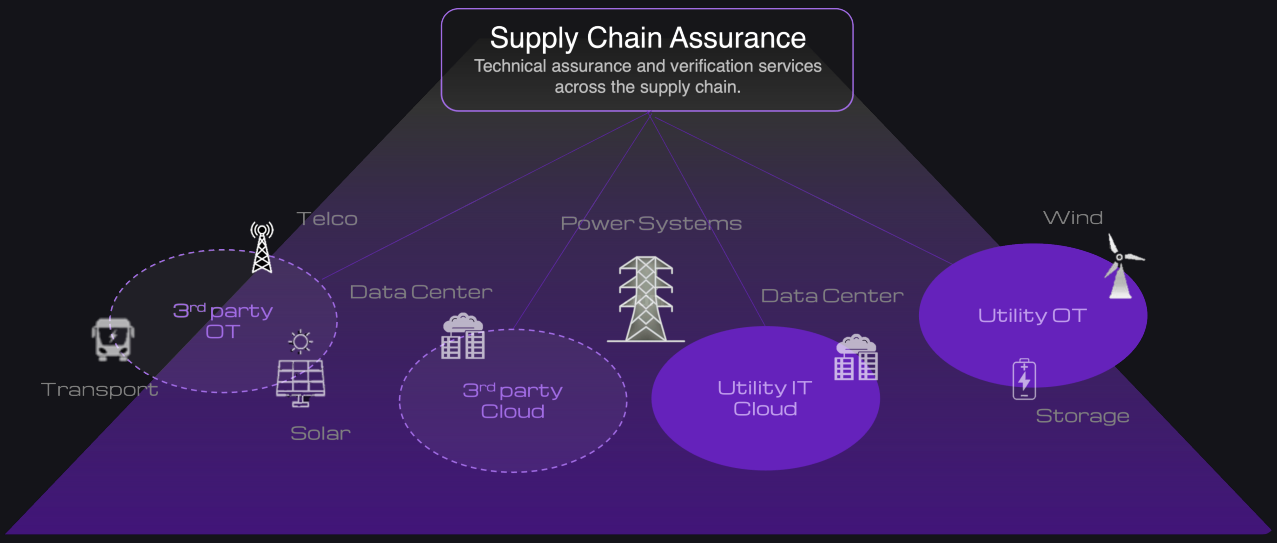
   Product images signed at source and verified at install, so what runs on the controller is provably what the vendor released — and any substitution is visible.

5. **Jurisdictional and personnel visibility**

   Ownership, control and influence assessed across vendors and their sub-components, and a record of who can touch the plant, from where, and on whose authority.

6. **Recovery you have actually tested**

   An offsite image repository and a restoration path proven before it is needed, rather than discovered during the incident that requires it.



Technical assurance and verification services across the supply chain — power systems, utility IT and OT, cloud, telco and transport.

HOW CAPA DELIVERS IT

Three tiers of assurance

A design baseline every operator needs, an entry-level vulnerability tier, and comprehensive assurance across the full chain of custody.

Each tier is two-sided: obligations on the product vendor for what must be produced, signed and published at release, and the corresponding assurance for the operator at the site. What the vendor attests is what the operator verifies.

DESIGN BASELINE

Supply chain mapping

A governance requirement for operators to map their supply chains, quantify risk tolerance, and flag foreign interference risk.

Mapping the supply chain is the baseline capability for every entity operating critical infrastructure assets. It is a systematic collation of the systems, software and hardware that sit within a critical asset or act as a critical operational dependency.

Aquila automates the creation of a digital registry for each product and version in the IT/OT estate, maps the key sub-components within each product, and lets asset managers or assurance providers run foreign interference (FOCI) checks across every element to meet new federal obligations.

SOLUTION 1 / ENTRY LEVEL

Vulnerability assurance

Entry-level assurance against known, published security vulnerabilities introduced in IT and OT systems.

Vulnerabilities are identified through inspection of third-party dependencies and published advisories, with publishing and reporting against vulnerability-management SLAs.

FOR PRODUCT VENDORS

Product vulnerability scanning

- Product SBOM inspection, release scans and attestation
- Continuous vulnerability scanning and triage management
- PSIRT VEX publishing and continuous reporting

FOR RENEWABLES OPERATORS

Site vulnerability assurance

- Monitoring of product-vendor PSIRT VEX feeds for critical vulnerabilities
- Site triage of critical vulnerabilities against site particulars
- Escalation to SOC and patch-management processes

SOLUTION 2 / COMPREHENSIVE

Complete supply chain assurance

Comprehensive processes to manage vulnerabilities, introduced malware, FOCI risk and Fortify disaster-recovery scenarios.

Full-chain assurance across product images and their third-party dependencies, covering the chain of custody from vendor to site, plus disaster recovery and restoration.

FOR PRODUCT VENDORS

Product attestation

- Product SBOM inspection, release scans and attestation
- Continuous vulnerability scanning, triage and PSIRT VEX publishing

FOR RENEWABLES OPERATORS

Product malware scanning

- Product image signing and chain-of-custody register for FOCI products
- Product image scanning and source-code attestation
- Offsite image repository backup

FOR RENEWABLES OPERATORS

Site vulnerability assurance

- PSIRT monitoring across the product-vendor ecosystem
- VEX feed and SLA monitoring for critical vulnerabilities, with site triage

FOR RENEWABLES OPERATORS

Site version management & recovery

- OT maintenance windows and priority patch schedules
- Site BOM registry, offsite image repository and restoration
- Chain of custody and personnel access assurance for FOCI products

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DELIVERY

In-house or fully managed

Assurance can be run in-house by the operator through the Aquila platform, or delivered as a turnkey CAPA managed service covering the baseline supply chain mapping and the ongoing assurance needed to meet the service levels required for IT and OT critical infrastructure operations.

THE STREAM

Risk & Compliance

Supply chain assurance is one of three modules in Risk & Compliance — the second stream (S2) of the CAPA Suite.

The modules share one asset registry, one vendor record and one audit trail, so a mapped supply chain, a compliance obligation and a nominated risk all resolve to the same product, version and site. Risk & Compliance sits alongside Secure by Design and Secure in Operation on one platform.

Risk Management

Consequence-driven risk built on High Consequence Events, their crown jewels, and the mitigations that break the attack path.

Compliance

Framework controls mapped to evidence, with the overlaps between SOCI, AES-CSF and corporate frameworks resolved once.

Supply Chain

Vendor and supply-chain assurance across the estate — SBOM validation, chain of custody, and foreign interference (FOCI) risk.

ABOUT CAPA

CAPA Intelligence is an Australian based cybersecurity company servicing the global electricity / renewables sector, and global supply chains involved in supporting critical infrastructure. Our clients sit across the supply chain – governments, networks, retailers, system operators, IPPs, integrators and OEMs with operations in Australia and abroad.