

## Consulting Report

### 2318 Endpoint Port Management Replacement and Implementation

May 24, 2023

Cindy Rougeou, LASERS Executive Director  
The LASERS Audit Committee

#### BACKGROUND

This was a planned engagement on the fiscal year end (FYE) 2023 Audit Plan. The fieldwork for this engagement was completed on May 24, 2023.

LASERS IT Division initiated a project to replace LASERS endpoint port protection and USB device controls, Ivanti Endpoint Security (formally known as HEAT), with Microsoft Defender for Endpoint Port Management. LASERS utilized Ivanti Endpoint Security to secure USB and CD/DVD drives from unauthorized write access on all LASERS workstations. This product would grant LASERS staff read-only access and a select group of approved individuals with read/write access when connecting a removable storage device to a LASERS workstation. Microsoft Defender for Endpoint Port Management directly replaces all functionality of Ivanti Endpoint Security and will provide IT with consolidated management of security solutions since Microsoft Defender is LASERS current antivirus software. Consolidating the management of the security environment into one tool will make security management more efficient for IT staff and provide a holistic view of the security environment while reducing the budgetary cost of security for LASERS.

#### SCOPE, OBJECTIVES, AND METHODOLOGY

The scope of this engagement covers the implementation phases of the Microsoft Defender for Endpoint Port Management to replace Ivanti Endpoint Security to secure USB and CD/DVD drives.

The primary objectives of this engagement were to determine if:

- Microsoft Defender for Endpoint product has adequate controls in place to protect LASERS data.
- Microsoft Defender for Endpoint meets all LASERS security requirements and has obtained certain third-party security certifications.
- The implementation and configuration of Microsoft Defender for Endpoint within the LASERS environment align with leading practices.
- All configuration steps were properly completed, and LASERS is protected using Microsoft Defender for Endpoint.

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**LASERS** Benefits Louisiana.

- Data from the previous security product was successfully migrated to Microsoft Defender for Endpoint.
- The previous security product was successfully removed from LASERS devices.

Procedures used to complete this engagement included:

- Consulting with IT to ensure the project met all objectives.
- Ensuring Microsoft Defender for Endpoint met LASERS security standards.
- Verifying Microsoft Defender Endpoint is installed on LASERS workstations and the previous solution was decommissioned.
- Confirming the port management rule is correctly assigned to LASERS staff.
- Conducting other inquiries considered necessary to achieve engagement objectives.

This engagement was conducted in accordance with the Institute of Internal Auditors' International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing and the policies and procedures of the Audit Services Division.

## ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY


Audit Services participated in a consulting role in the implementation of Microsoft Defender for Port Management. Audit Services performed the following key activities:

- Reviewed the vendor analysis completed by LASERS IT and confirmed that Microsoft Defender for Endpoint was an appropriate replacement vendor for LASERS endpoint port protection.
- Confirmed that Microsoft Defender met LASERS security requirements and has obtained certain third-party security certifications.
- Participated in the pilot of Microsoft Defender for Endpoint to confirm that this product aligns with LASERS security requirements.
- Confirmed that the port management rule is assigned correctly to LASERS staff in Microsoft Defender for Endpoint.
- Verified that the users granted read/write access were properly migrated from Ivanti Endpoint Security to Microsoft Defender for Endpoint.
- Confirmed users were provided read-only access to removable storage devices.
- Confirmed that Ivanti Endpoint Security was decommissioned, and the server has been removed from the LASERS environment.

After completing these activities, Audit Services confirmed that the implementation of Microsoft Defender for Endpoint was successful for port protection and that the port management rule was applied to all LASERS users when utilizing a LASERS workstation or laptop.

## FOLLOW-UP

No follow-up is necessary.



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