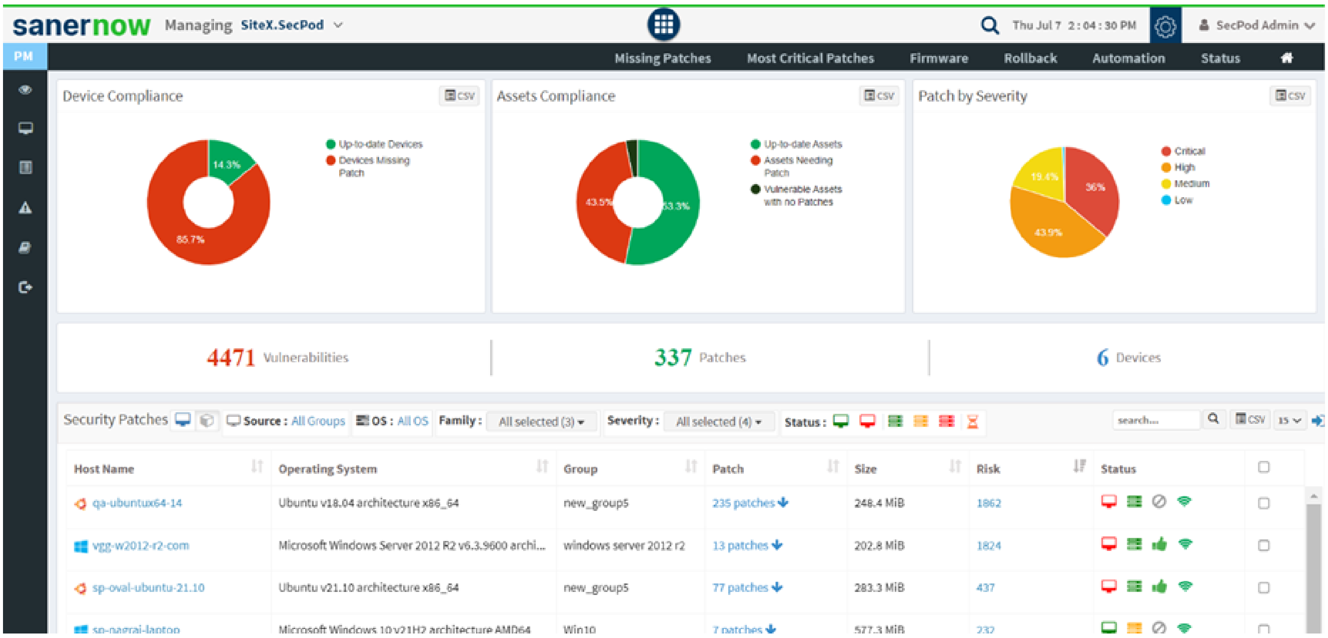
How to automate patch management in SanerNow?

SanerNow Patch Management Solution offers automation rules to remediate vulnerabilities soon after detection. You can automate the entire patch management cycle from scanning to deployment with the automation rules.

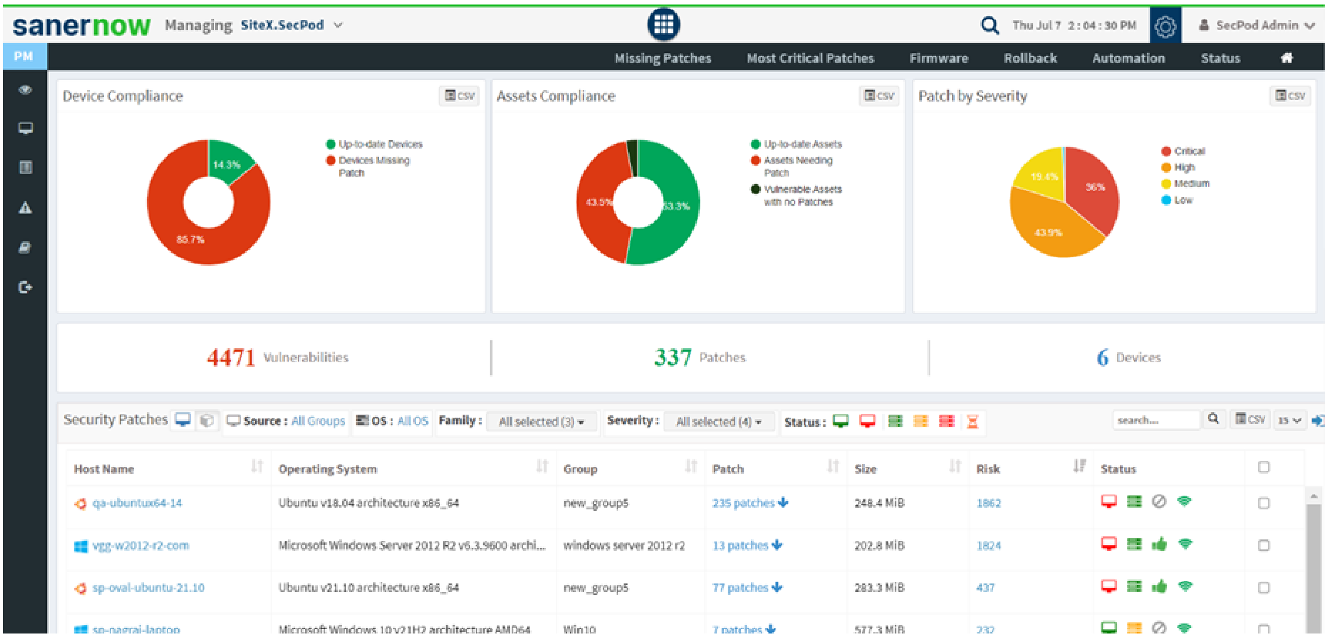
Let us learn how to automate patch management in SanerNow.

1. Go to **Patch Management Tool**: You will land on the patch management dashboard.



Host Name	Operating System	Group	Patch	Size	Risk	Status	☐
qa-ubuntux64-14	Ubuntu v18.04 architecture x86_64	new_group5	235 patches	248.4 MiB	1862		☐
vgg-w2012-r2-com	Microsoft Windows Server 2012 R2 v6.3.9600 archi...	windows server 2012 r2	13 patches	202.8 MiB	1824		☐
sp-oval-ubuntu-21.10	Ubuntu v21.10 architecture x86_64	new_group5	77 patches	283.3 MiB	437		☐
sp-nagraj-laptop	Microsoft Windows 10 v21H2 architecture AMD64	Win10	7 patches	577.3 MiB	232		☐

2. Click on **Automation**.

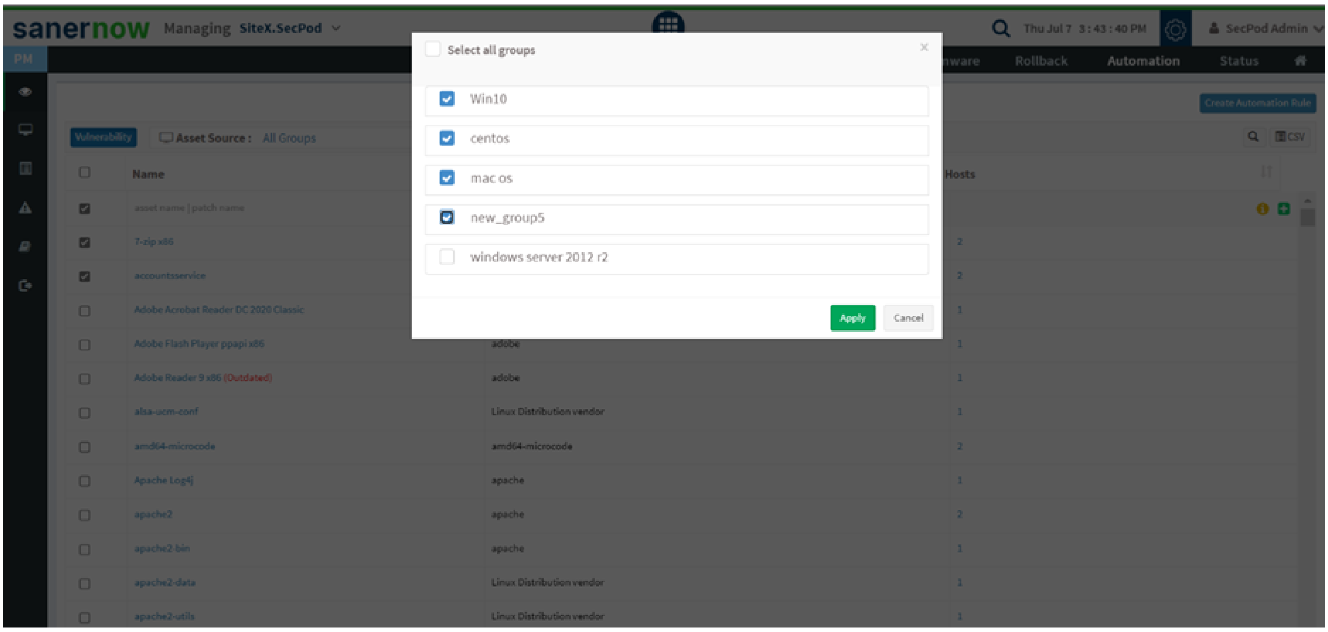


4471 Vulnerabilities | 337 Patches | 6 Devices

Security Patches | Source : All Groups | OS : All OS | Family : All selected (3) | Severity : All selected (4) | Status :

Host Name	Operating System	Group	Patch	Size	Risk	Status	□
qa-ubuntux64-14	Ubuntu v18.04 architecture x86_64	new_group5	235 patches	248.4 MiB	1862		□
vgg-w2012-r2-com	Microsoft Windows Server 2012 R2 v6.3.9600 archi...	windows server 2012 r2	13 patches	202.8 MiB	1824		□
sp-oval-ubuntu-21.10	Ubuntu v21.10 architecture x86_64	new_group5	77 patches	283.3 MiB	437		□
sp-nagraj-laptop	Microsoft Windows 10 v21H2 architecture AMD64	Win10	7 patches	577.3 MiB	232		□

3. Select desired Asset Group and Asset Family.



□ Select all groups

☑ Win10

☑ centos

☑ mac os

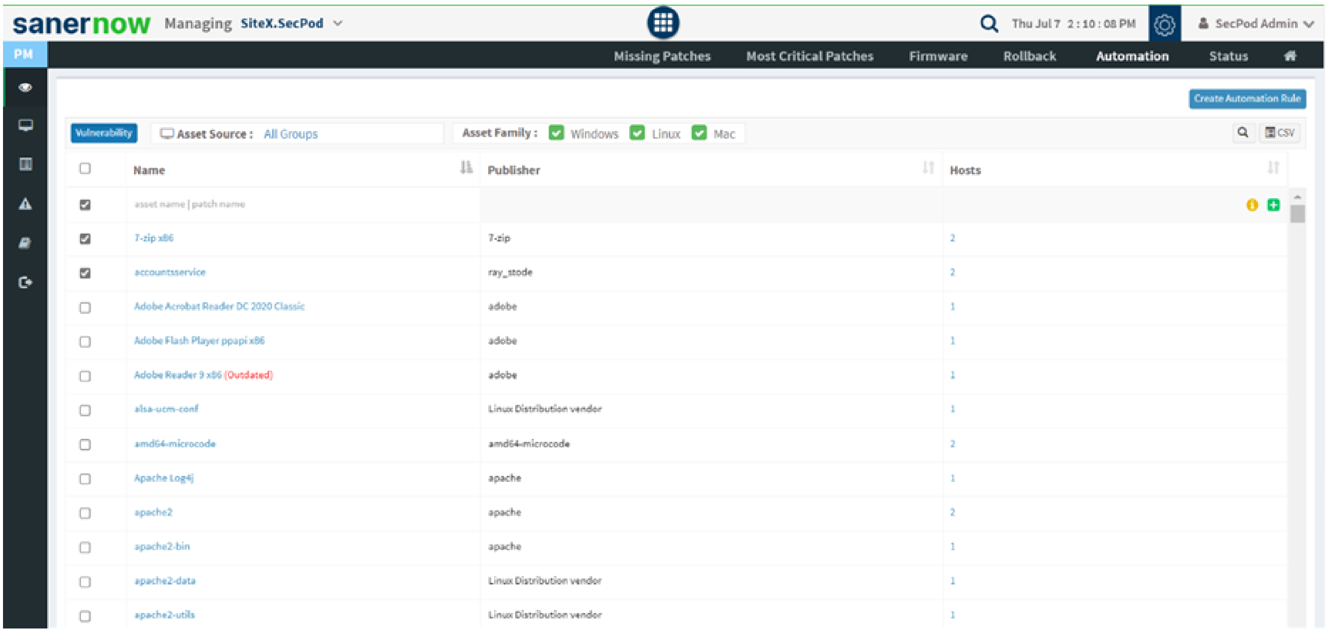
☑ new_group5

□ windows server 2012 r2

Apply Cancel

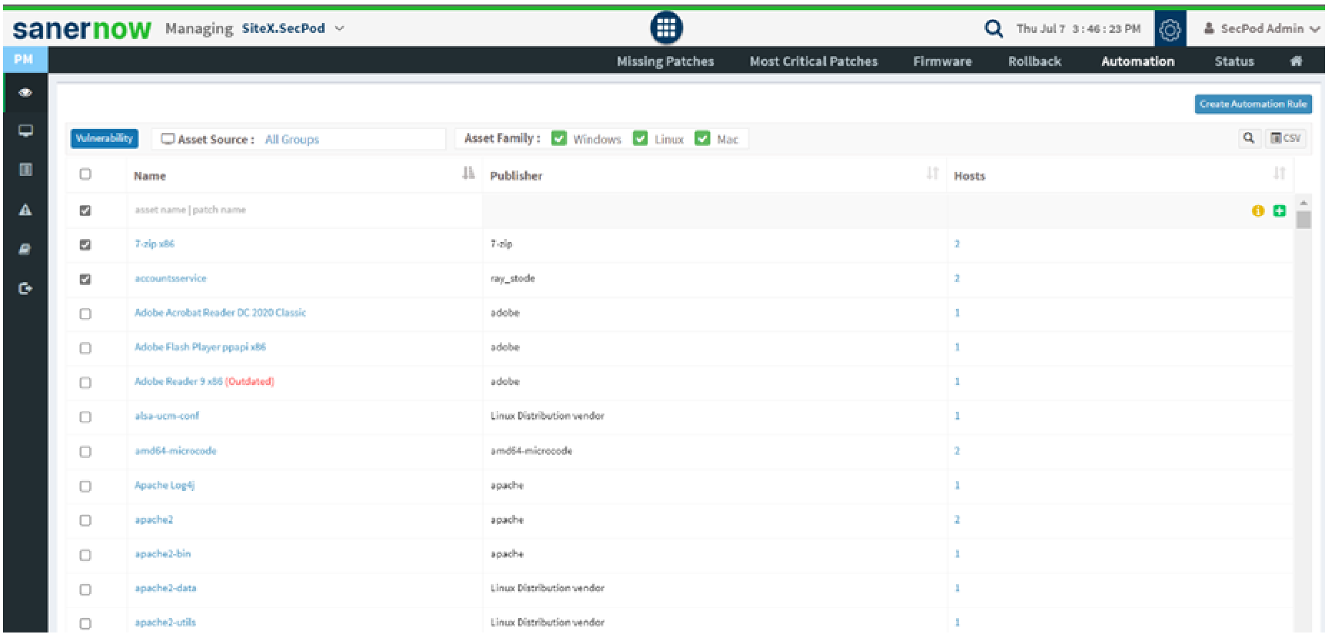
□	Name		Hosts
☑	asset name | patch name		
☑	7-zip x86		2
☑	accountsservice		2
□	Adobe Acrobat Reader DC 2020 Classic		1
□	Adobe Flash Player ppapi x86	adobe	1
□	Adobe Reader 9 x86 (Outdated)	adobe	1
□	alsa-ucm-conf	Linux Distribution vendor	1
□	amd64-microcode	amd64-microcode	2
□	Apache Log4j	apache	1
□	apache2	apache	2
□	apache2-bin	apache	1
□	apache2-data	Linux Distribution vendor	1
□	apache2-utils	Linux Distribution vendor	1

4. Now, select the assets by clicking the checkboxes.



☐	Name	Publisher	Hosts
☑	asset name | patch name		
☑	7-zip x86	7-zip	2
☑	accountsservice	ray_stode	2
☐	Adobe Acrobat Reader DC 2020 Classic	adobe	1
☐	Adobe Flash Player ppapi x86	adobe	1
☐	Adobe Reader 9 x86 (Outdated)	adobe	1
☐	alsa-ucm-conf	Linux Distribution vendor	1
☐	amd64-microcode	amd64-microcode	2
☐	Apache Log4j	apache	1
☐	apache2	apache	2
☐	apache2-bin	apache	1
☐	apache2-data	Linux Distribution vendor	1
☐	apache2-utils	Linux Distribution vendor	1

5. Click on **Create Automation Rule**.



☐	Name	Publisher	Hosts
☑	asset name | patch name		
☑	7-zip x86	7-zip	2
☑	accountsservice	ray_stode	2
☐	Adobe Acrobat Reader DC 2020 Classic	adobe	1
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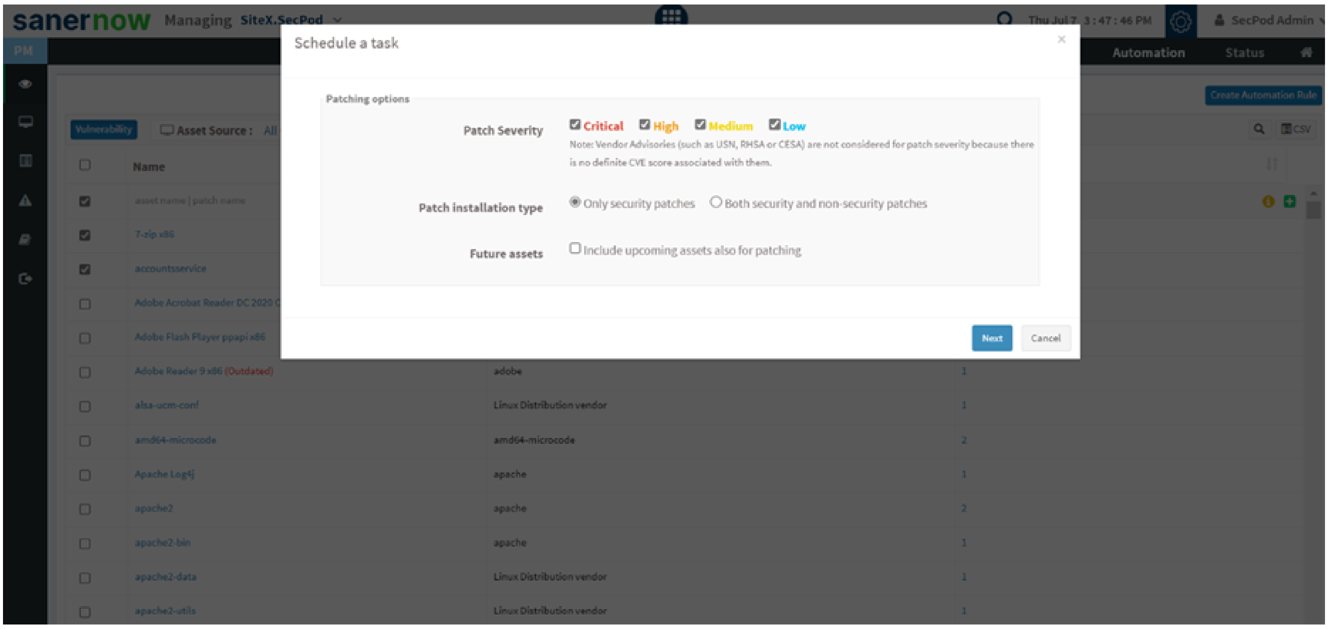
☐	Adobe Reader 9 x86 (Outdated)	adobe	1
☐	alsa-ucm-conf	Linux Distribution vendor	1
☐	amd64-microcode	amd64-microcode	2
☐	Apache Log4j	apache	1
☐	apache2	apache	2
☐	apache2-bin	apache	1
☐	apache2-data	Linux Distribution vendor	1
☐	apache2-utils	Linux Distribution vendor	1

The Schedule Task Window is displayed to create an automation rule.

6. In Schedule Task Window, you can opt for patching options.



Schedule a task

Patching options

Patch Severity ☑ Critical ☑ High ☑ Medium ☑ Low

Note: Vendor Advisories (such as USN, RHSA or CESA) are not considered for patch severity because there is no definite CVE score associated with them.

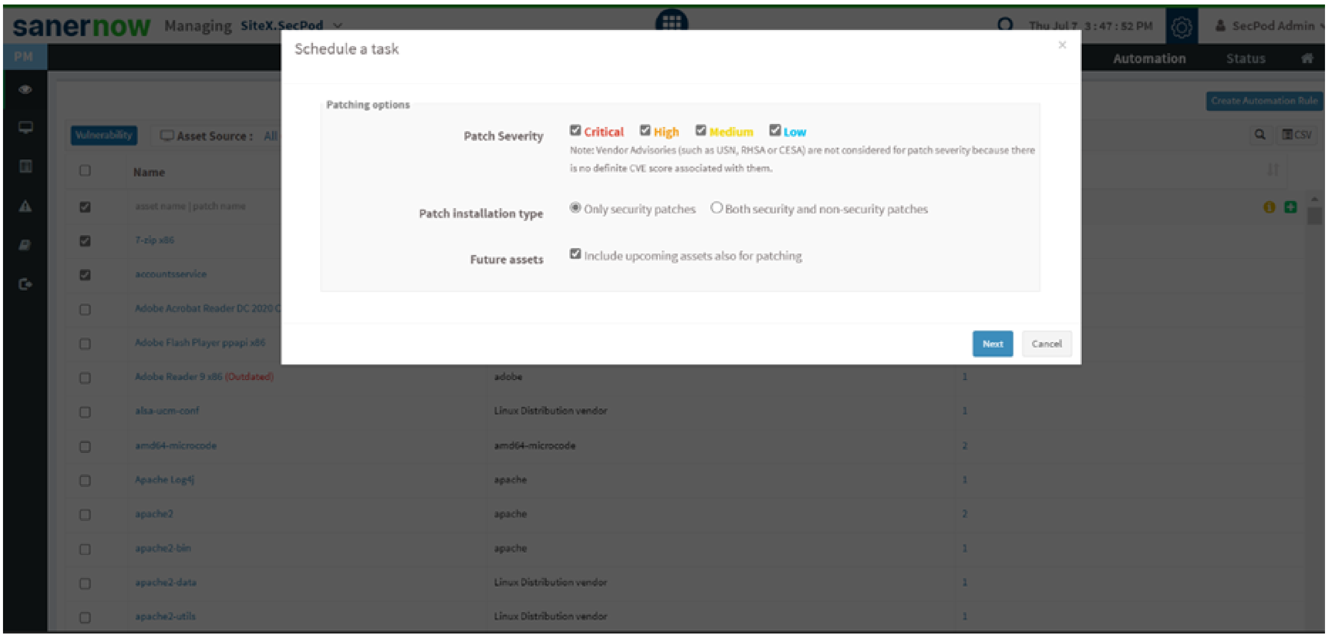
Patch installation type ● Only security patches ○ Both security and non-security patches

Future assets □ Include upcoming assets also for patching

Note: Vendor Advisories (such as USN, RHSA, or CESA) are not considered for patch severity because there is no definite CVE score associated with them.

7. Choose patch installation type: You can choose both security and non-security patches.

8. Click on the Future Assets checkbox to include upcoming assets for patching.



Schedule a task

Patching options

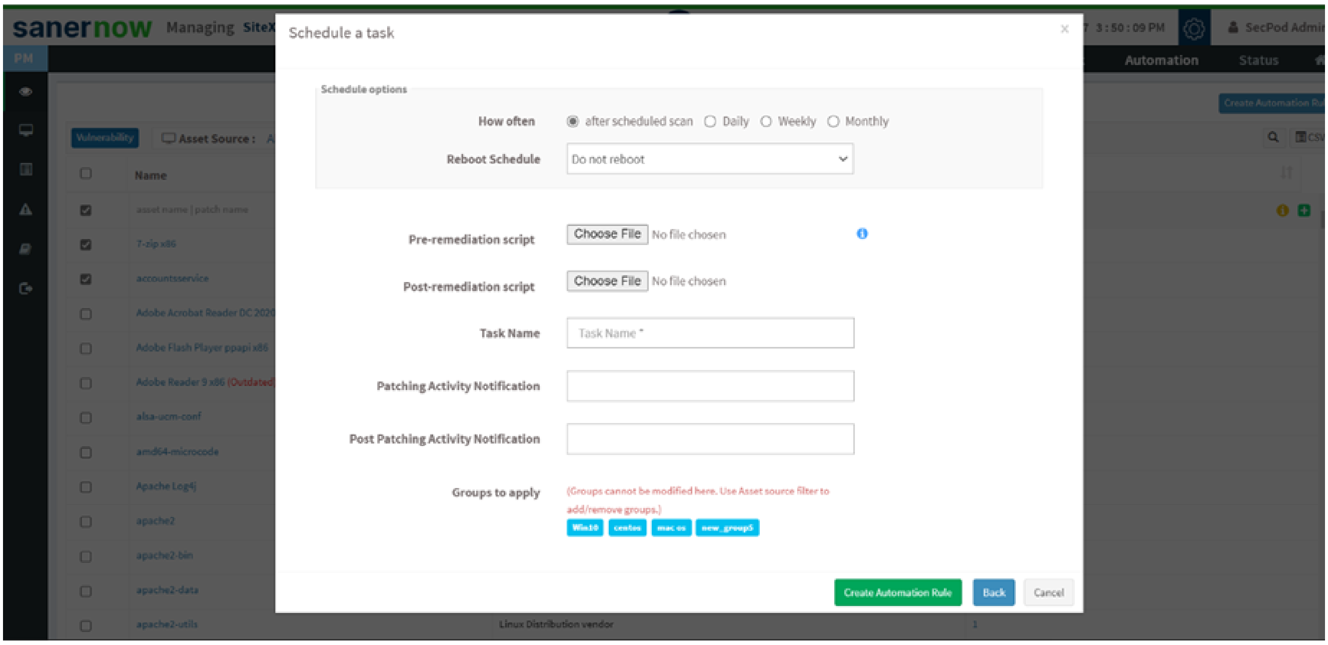
Patch Severity ☑ Critical ☑ High ☑ Medium ☑ Low

Note: Vendor Advisories (such as USN, RHSA or CESA) are not considered for patch severity because there is no definite CVE score associated with them.

Patch installation type ● Only security patches ○ Both security and non-security patches

Future assets ☑ Include upcoming assets also for patching

9. Now, click **Next** to go to the schedule a task window.



Schedule a task

Schedule options

How often: ● after scheduled scan ○ Daily ○ Weekly ○ Monthly

Reboot Schedule: Do not reboot

Pre-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Post-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Task Name: Task Name *

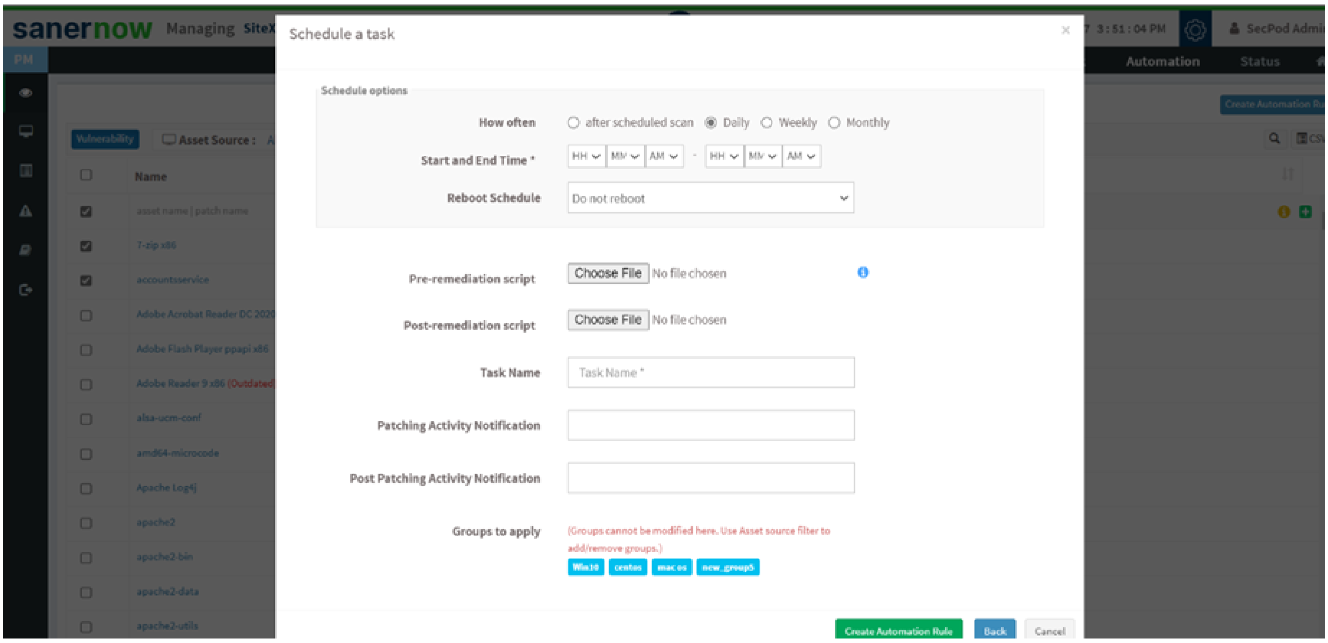
Patching Activity Notification:

Post Patching Activity Notification:

Groups to apply: (Groups cannot be modified here. Use Asset source filter to add/remove groups.) Win10 centos mac os new_group5

10. Again, in Schedule Task Window, you can set schedule options.

- Select how often the patching process must take place.
- If you select the After Scheduled Scan option, patching happens every time after the scan
- If you select to patch Daily at a specific time, mention the start and end time



Schedule a task

Schedule options

How often: ○ after scheduled scan ● Daily ○ Weekly ○ Monthly

Start and End Time *: HH MM AM - HH MM AM

Reboot Schedule: Do not reboot

Pre-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Post-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

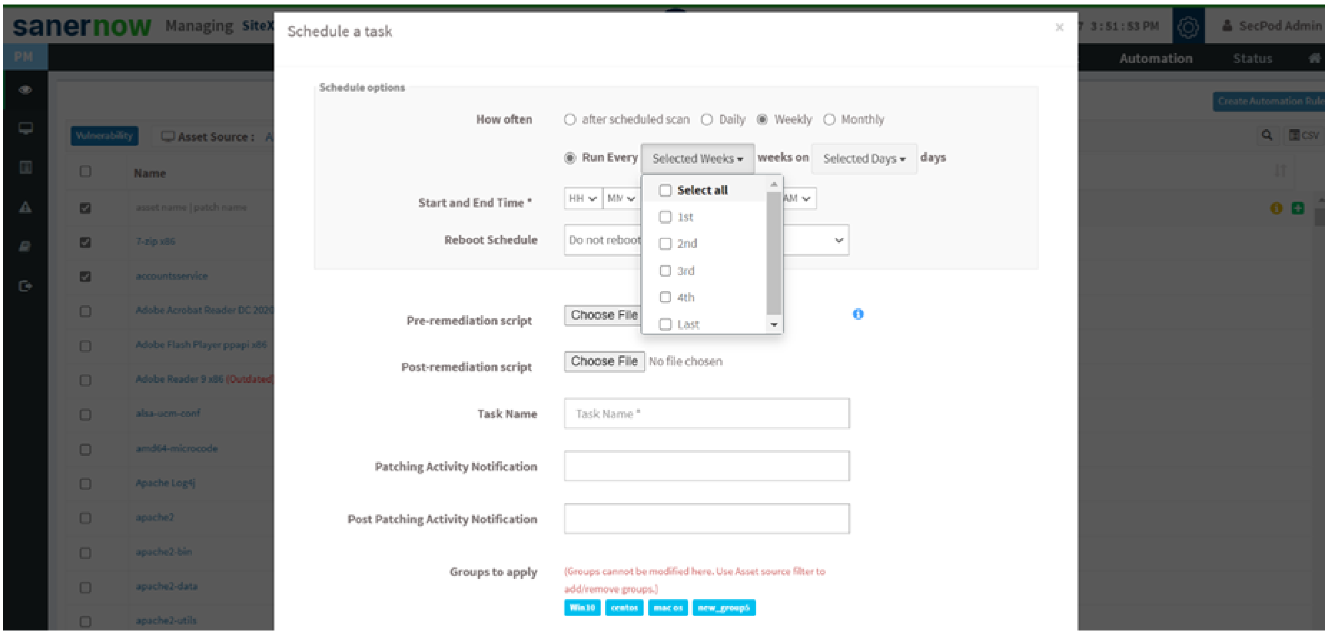
Task Name: Task Name *

Patching Activity Notification:

Post Patching Activity Notification:

Groups to apply: (Groups cannot be modified here. Use Asset source filter to add/remove groups.) Win10 centos mac os new_group5

- If you want to patch Weekly, schedule the week and the day along with a start and end time to run the automation rule



Schedule a task

Schedule options

How often ○ after scheduled scan ○ Daily ● Weekly ○ Monthly

● Run Every Selected Weeks ▾ weeks on Selected Days ▾ days

□ Select all
□ 1st
□ 2nd
□ 3rd
□ 4th
□ Last

Start and End Time * HH MM AM

Reboot Schedule Do not reboot

Pre-remediation script Choose File

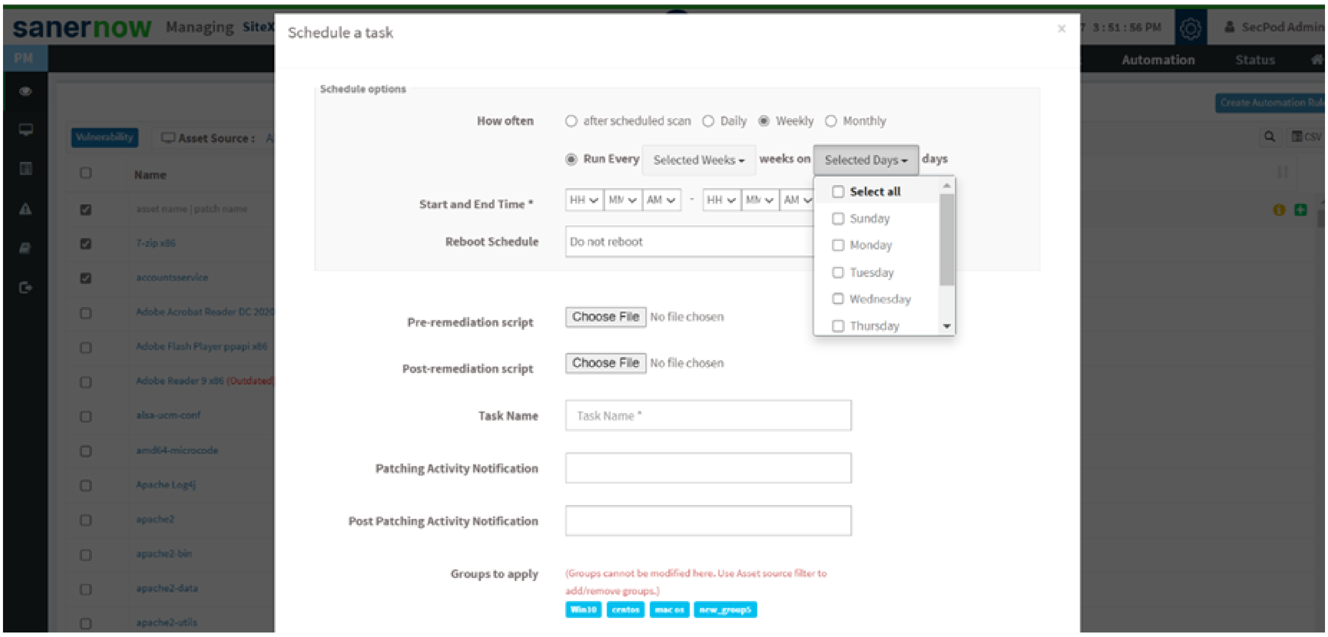
Post-remediation script Choose File No file chosen

Task Name Task Name *

Patching Activity Notification

Post Patching Activity Notification

Groups to apply (Groups cannot be modified here. Use Asset source filter to add/remove groups.)
Win10 centos mac os new_group5



Schedule a task

Schedule options

How often ○ after scheduled scan ○ Daily ● Weekly ○ Monthly

● Run Every Selected Weeks ▾ weeks on Selected Days ▾ days

□ Select all
□ Sunday
□ Monday
□ Tuesday
□ Wednesday
□ Thursday

Start and End Time * HH MM AM - HH MM AM

Reboot Schedule Do not reboot

Pre-remediation script Choose File No file chosen

Post-remediation script Choose File No file chosen

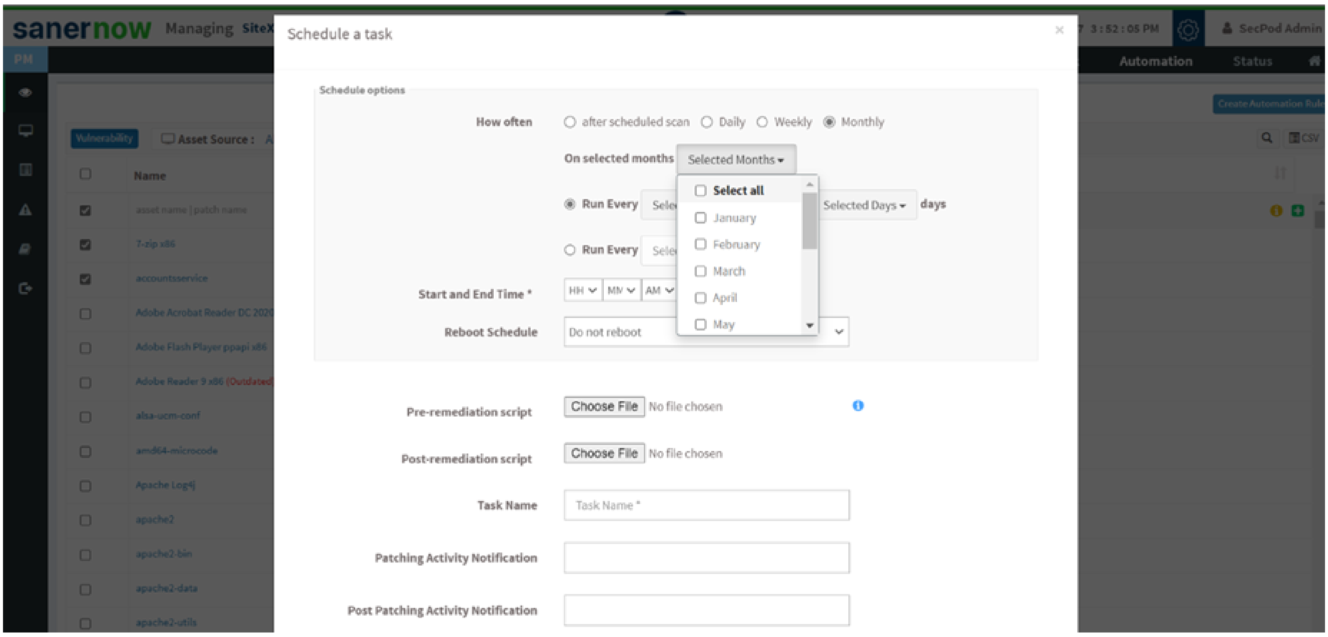
Task Name Task Name *

Patching Activity Notification

Post Patching Activity Notification

Groups to apply (Groups cannot be modified here. Use Asset source filter to add/remove groups.)
Win10 centos mac os new_group5

- If you’re going to run the rule for every month, select the month, week, day, and dates along with a start and end time to run the automation rule



Schedule a task

Schedule options

How often ○ after scheduled scan ○ Daily ○ Weekly ● Monthly

On selected months Selected Months

● Run Every Sele… Selected Days days

○ Run Every Sele…

Start and End Time * HH MM AM

Reboot Schedule Do not reboot

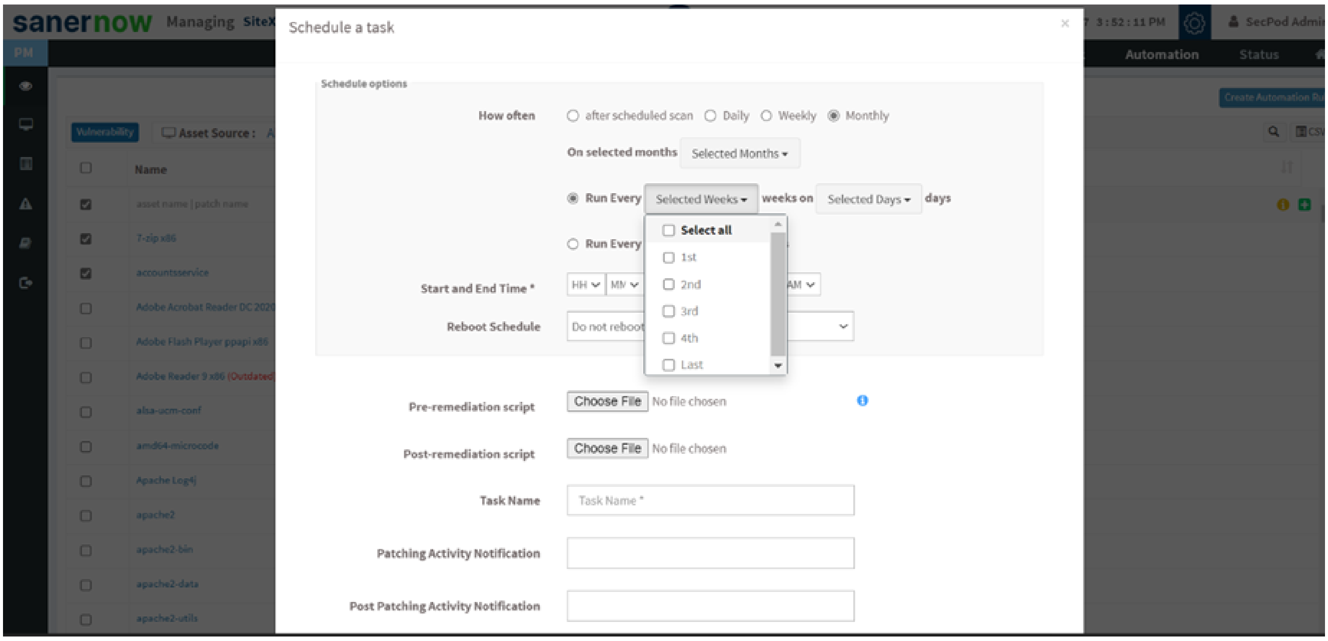
Pre-remediation script Choose File No file chosen

Post-remediation script Choose File No file chosen

Task Name Task Name *

Patching Activity Notification

Post Patching Activity Notification



Schedule a task

Schedule options

How often ○ after scheduled scan ○ Daily ○ Weekly ● Monthly

On selected months Selected Months

● Run Every Selected Weeks weeks on Selected Days days

○ Run Every

Start and End Time * HH MM AM

Reboot Schedule Do not reboot

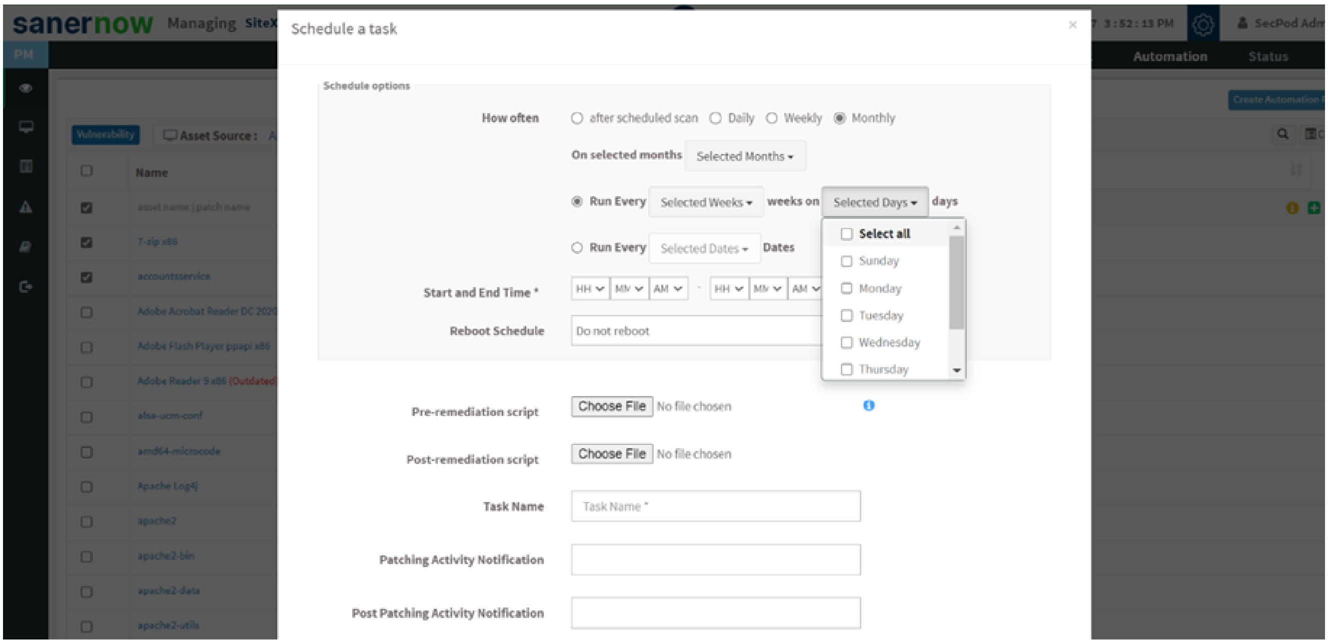
Pre-remediation script Choose File No file chosen

Post-remediation script Choose File No file chosen

Task Name Task Name *

Patching Activity Notification

Post Patching Activity Notification



Schedule a task

Schedule options

How often ○ after scheduled scan ○ Daily ○ Weekly ● Monthly

On selected months Selected Months

● Run Every Selected Weeks weeks on Selected Days days

○ Run Every Selected Dates Dates

Start and End Time * HH MM AM - HH MM AM

Reboot Schedule Do not reboot

□ Select all
□ Sunday
□ Monday
□ Tuesday
□ Wednesday
□ Thursday

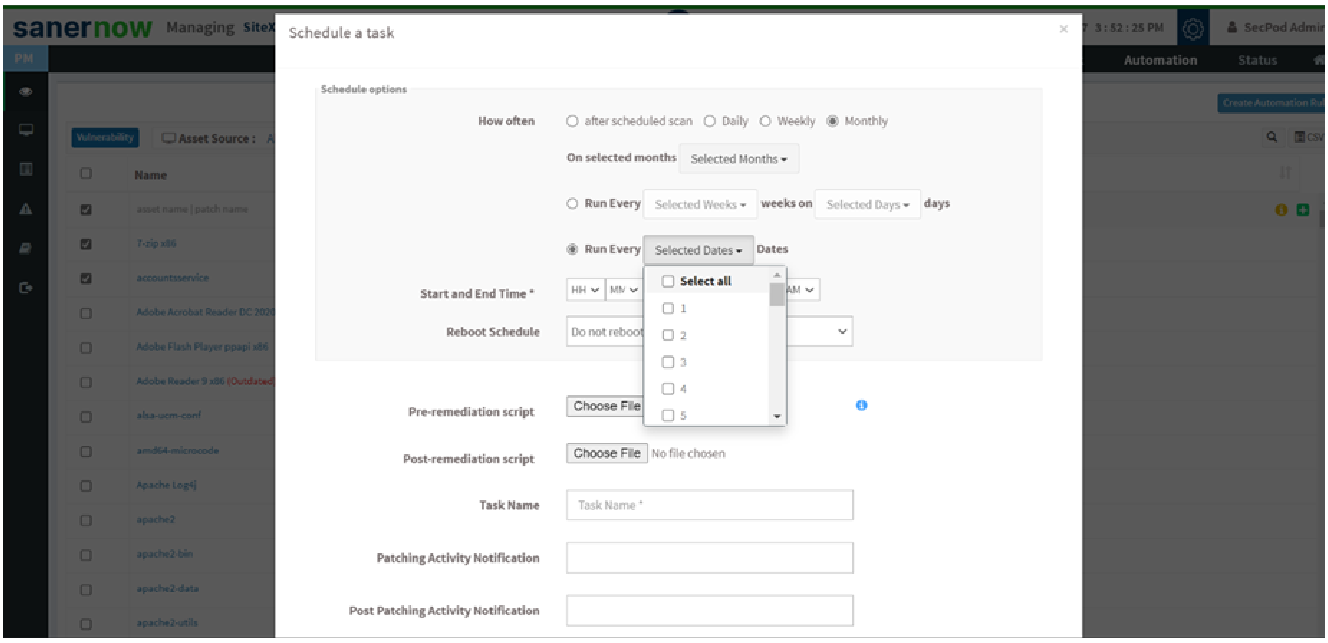
Pre-remediation script Choose File No file chosen

Post-remediation script Choose File No file chosen

Task Name Task Name *

Patching Activity Notification

Post Patching Activity Notification



Schedule a task

Schedule options

How often ○ after scheduled scan ○ Daily ○ Weekly ● Monthly

On selected months Selected Months

○ Run Every Selected Weeks weeks on Selected Days days

● Run Every Selected Dates Dates

□ Select all
□ 1
□ 2
□ 3
□ 4
□ 5

Start and End Time * HH MM AM

Reboot Schedule Do not reboot

Pre-remediation script Choose File

Post-remediation script Choose File No file chosen

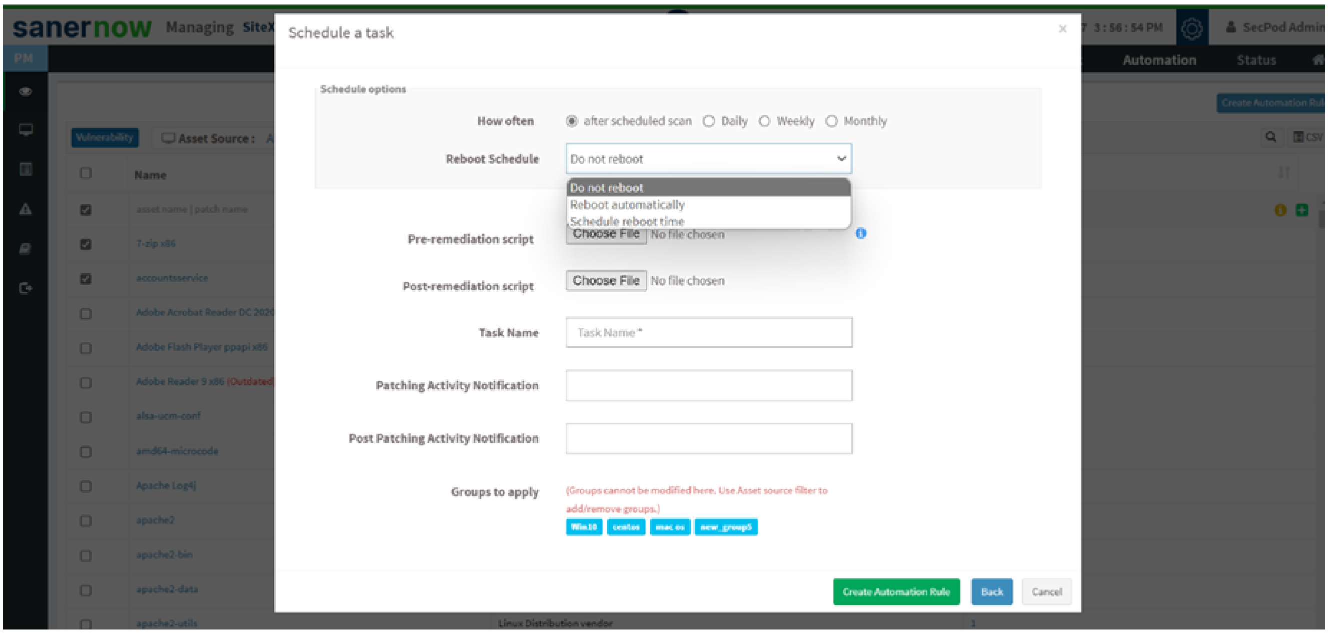
Task Name Task Name *

Patching Activity Notification

Post Patching Activity Notification

11. From the dropdown list, schedule Reboot time after patching. You got three options,

- Do not reboot



Schedule a task

Schedule options

How often ● after scheduled scan ○ Daily ○ Weekly ○ Monthly

Reboot Schedule: Do not reboot

- Do not reboot
- Reboot automatically
- Schedule reboot time

Pre-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Post-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

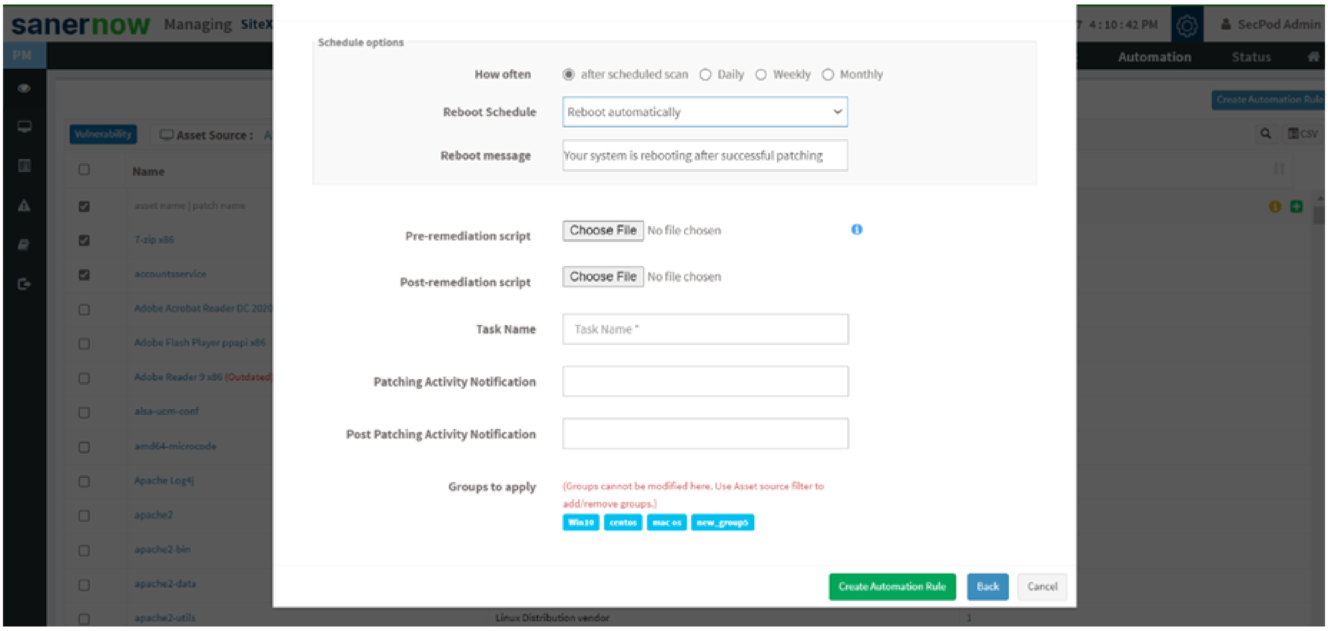
Task Name: Task Name *

Patching Activity Notification:

Post Patching Activity Notification:

Groups to apply: (Groups cannot be modified here. Use Asset source filter to add/remove groups.) Win10 centos mac os new_group5

- Reboot Automatically: Here, you can give a reboot pop-up message before rebooting starts



Schedule options

How often ● after scheduled scan ○ Daily ○ Weekly ○ Monthly

Reboot Schedule: Reboot automatically

Reboot message: Your system is rebooting after successful patching

Pre-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Post-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

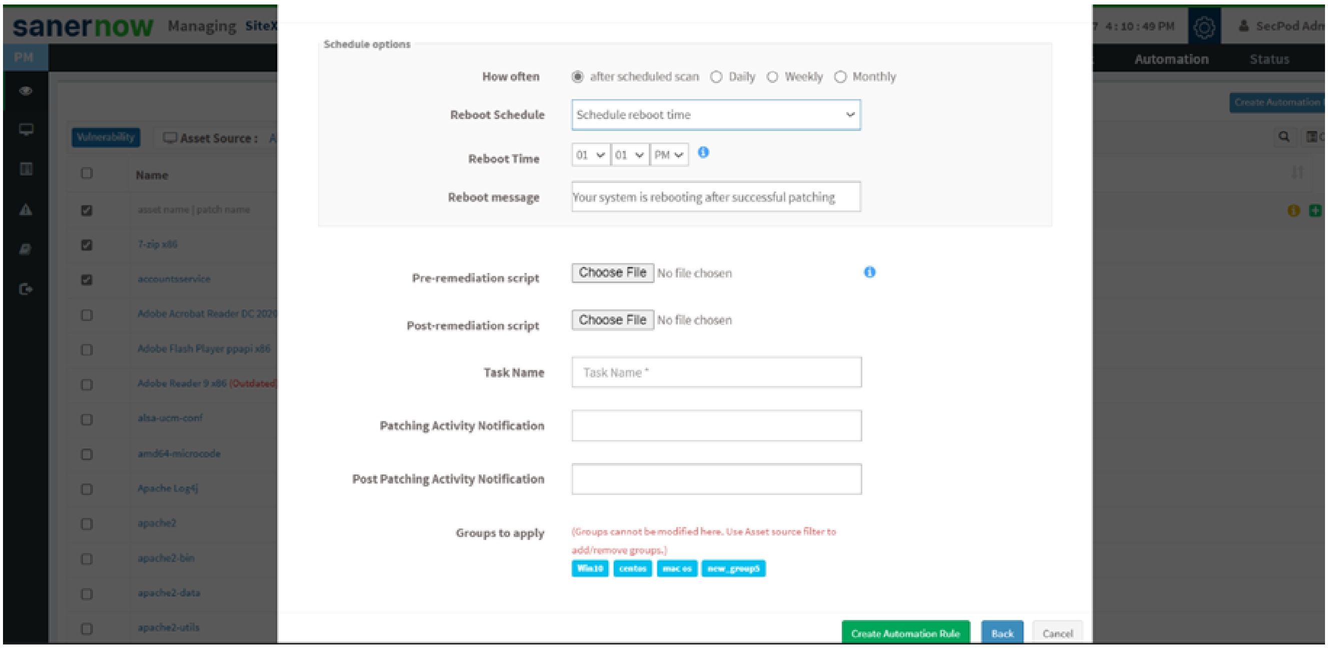
Task Name: Task Name *

Patching Activity Notification:

Post Patching Activity Notification:

Groups to apply: (Groups cannot be modified here. Use Asset source filter to add/remove groups.) Win10 centos mac os new_group5

- You can also schedule a reboot by setting reboot time and reboot message



Schedule options

How often: ● after scheduled scan ○ Daily ○ Weekly ○ Monthly

Reboot Schedule: Schedule reboot time

Reboot Time: 01 01 PM

Reboot message: Your system is rebooting after successful patching

Pre-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Post-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Task Name: Task Name *

Patching Activity Notification:

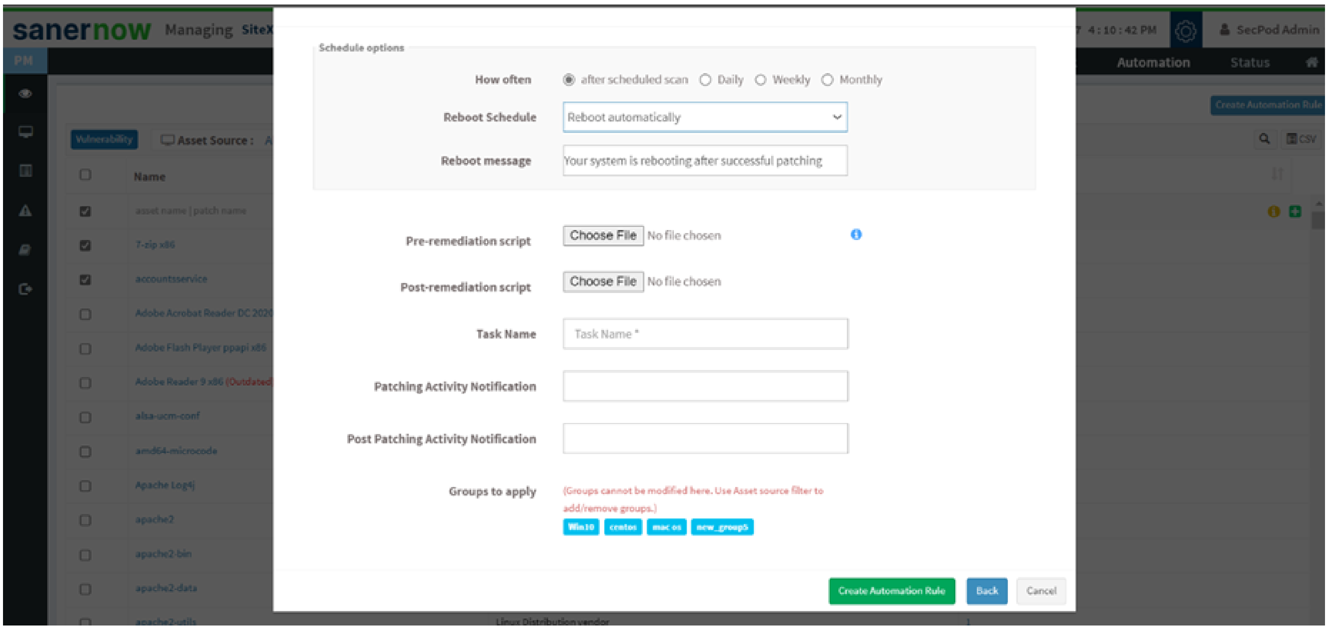
Post Patching Activity Notification:

Groups to apply: (Groups cannot be modified here. Use Asset source filter to add/remove groups.)
Win10 centos mac os new_group5

Note: This value specifies the local date and time at which reboot will be mandated on all endpoints. Logged-in users are allowed to postpone reboot on their machines until this date time value is reached. A prompt will appear on user's screen before initiating reboot.

How to run Pre-remediation and Post-remediation scripts?

1. You can choose to run Pre-remediation and Post-remediation Scripts before and after patching activity. Click on **Choose File** to upload the script from your device.



Schedule options

How often: ● after scheduled scan ○ Daily ○ Weekly ○ Monthly

Reboot Schedule: Reboot automatically

Reboot message: Your system is rebooting after successful patching

Pre-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Post-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Task Name: Task Name *

Patching Activity Notification:

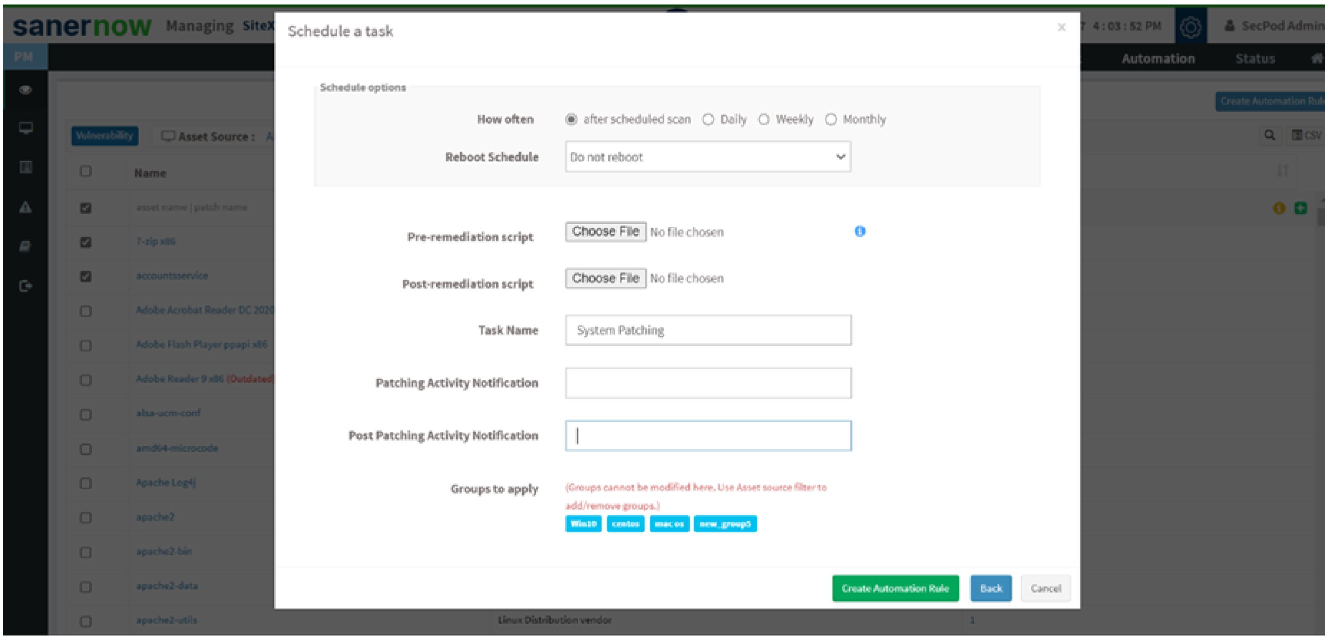
Post Patching Activity Notification:

Groups to apply: (Groups cannot be modified here. Use Asset source filter to add/remove groups.)
Win10 centos mac os new_group5

Supported file formats in the script are:

- Windows: inf, reg, ps1, bat, exe, msi, msp
- Linux: sh, deb, rpm
- macOS: sh, pkg, dmg (pkg, app)

2. Assign the desired Task name.



Schedule a task

Schedule options

How often ● after scheduled scan ○ Daily ○ Weekly ○ Monthly

Reboot Schedule: Do not reboot

Pre-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Post-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

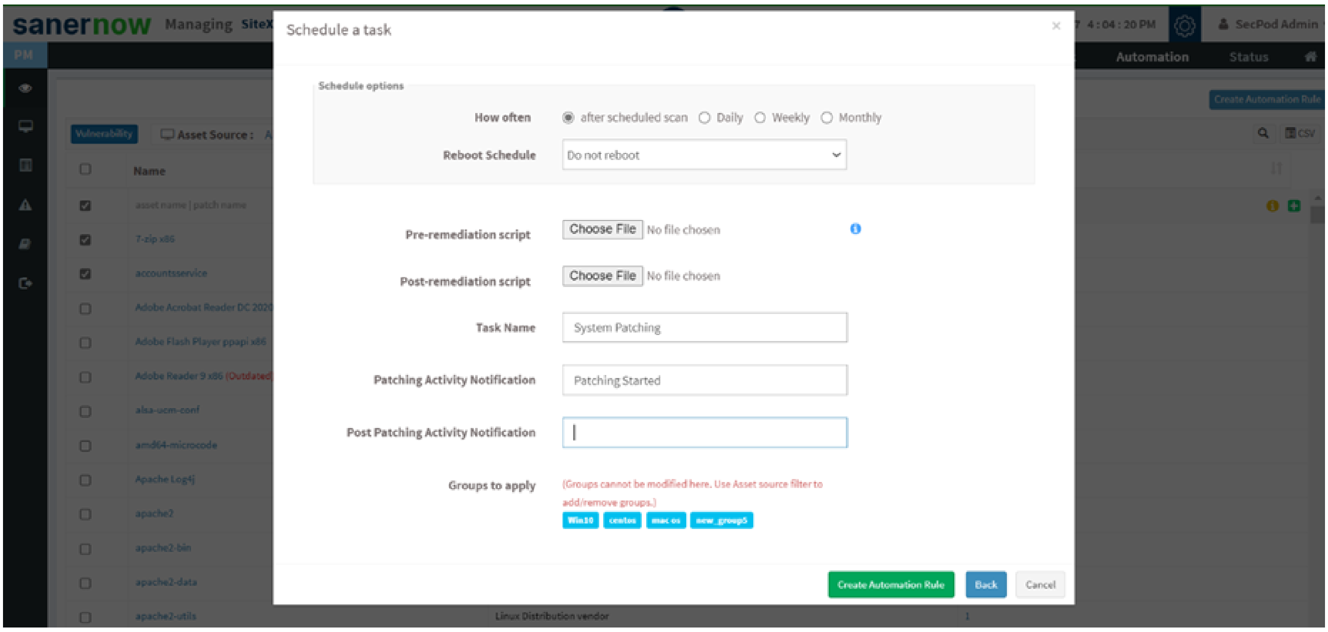
Task Name: System Patching

Patching Activity Notification:

Post Patching Activity Notification:

Groups to apply: (Groups cannot be modified here. Use Asset source filter to add/remove groups.) Win10 centos mac os new_group5

3. You can write a customized message to notify patching activity in the Patching Activity Notification field.



Schedule a task

Schedule options

How often ● after scheduled scan ○ Daily ○ Weekly ○ Monthly

Reboot Schedule: Do not reboot

Pre-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Post-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Task Name: System Patching

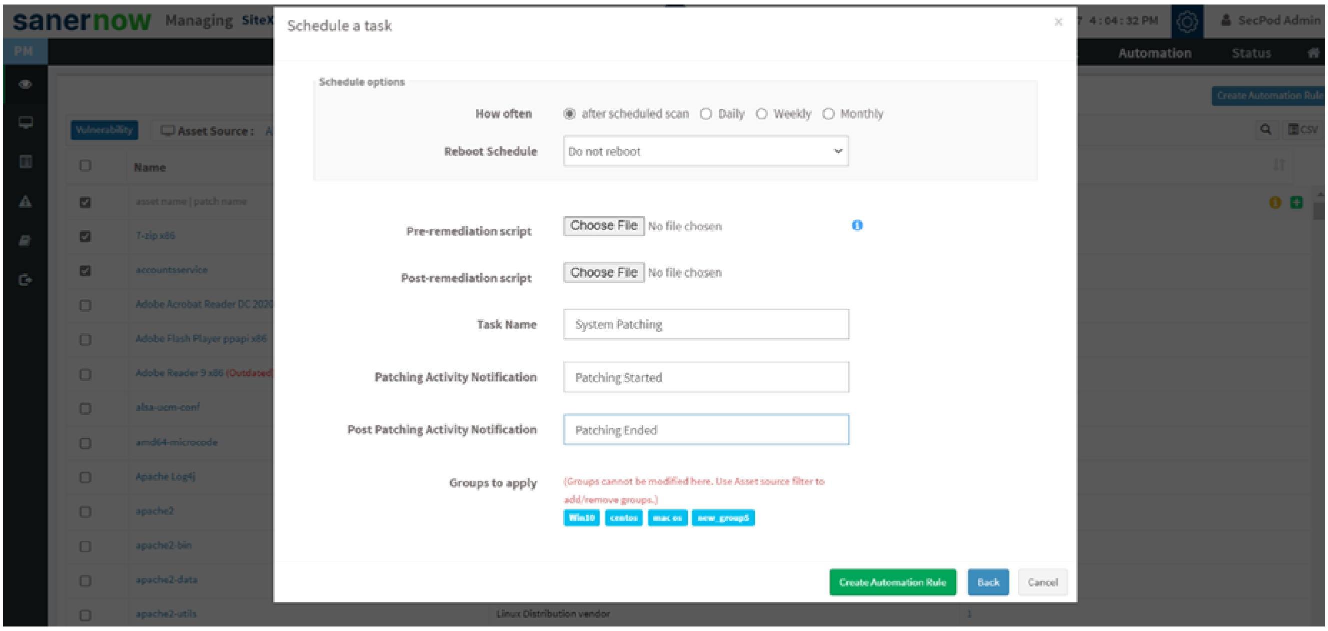
Patching Activity Notification: Patching Started

Post Patching Activity Notification:

Groups to apply: (Groups cannot be modified here. Use Asset source filter to add/remove groups.) Win10 centos mac os new_group5

Create Automation Rule | Back | Cancel

4. You can also assign a post-patching activity message in the Post Patching Activity Notification field. These notifications will keep you notified about the patching activity.



Schedule a task

Schedule options

How often ● after scheduled scan ○ Daily ○ Weekly ○ Monthly

Reboot Schedule: Do not reboot

Pre-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Post-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Task Name: System Patching

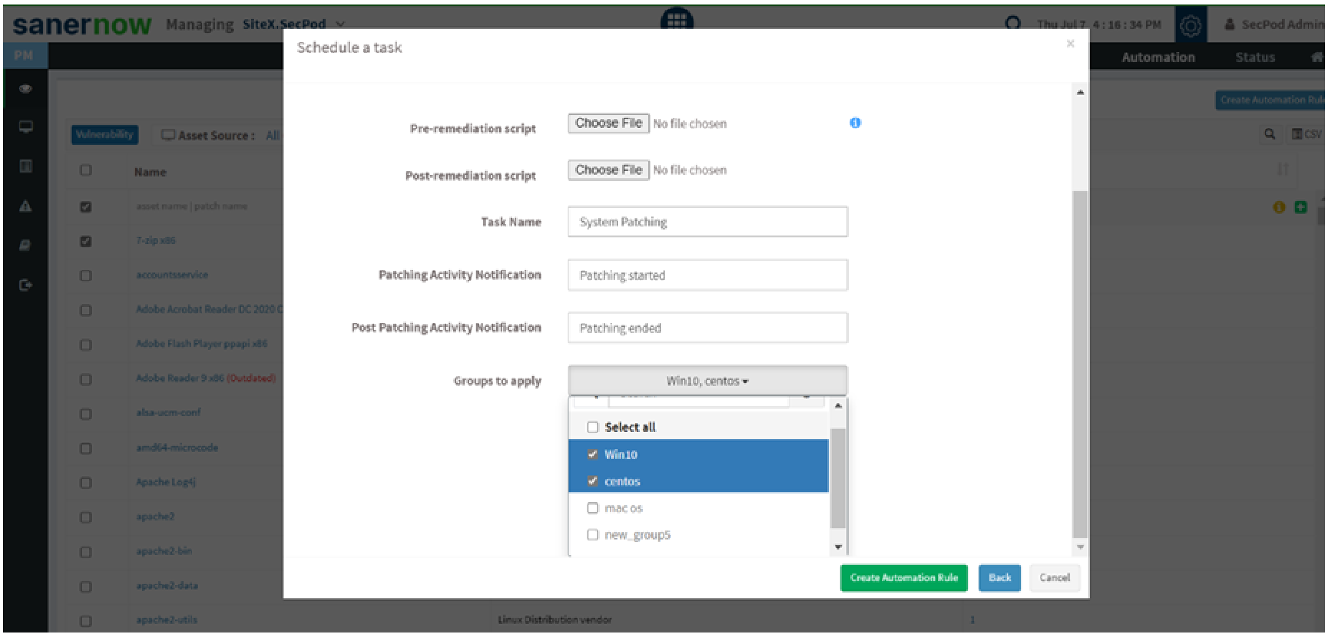
Patching Activity Notification: Patching Started

Post Patching Activity Notification: Patching Ended

Groups to apply: (Groups cannot be modified here. Use Asset source filter to add/remove groups.) Win10 centos mac os new_group5

Create Automation Rule | Back | Cancel

5. Lastly, select the asset group from the dropdown list and click on Create Automation Rule.



Schedule a task

Pre-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Post-remediation script: Choose File No file chosen

Task Name: System Patching

Patching Activity Notification: Patching started

Post Patching Activity Notification: Patching ended

Groups to apply: Win10, centos

- □ Select all
- ☑ Win10
- ☑ centos
- □ mac os
- □ new_group5

You have successfully created an automation rule in SanerNow.