

Financial Services Enterprise Uses SD Elements to Transform Software Security

Improving security awareness, reducing vulnerabilities, and managing regulatory compliance for secure software development.

INDUSTRY

Financial Services

LOCATION

U.S.

ROLE

Senior Application Security Manager

SD ELEMENTS

Our client, a leading financial services organization in the U.S., operates a worldwide online payment system that serves as an electronic alternative to traditional paper payments.

Challenge

The organization needed to scale quickly while improving their agile software development process. **But, they were mindful about software security, meeting regulatory requirements, and their overall brand reputation.** The major objective was to reduce the number of security vulnerabilities at the integration points and in products. For this purpose, they wanted to build repeatable, sustainable, and proactive security practices into their SDLC.

Some of the challenges with their current processes included:

- **Lengthy timelines:** Numerous hours were spent managing security checklists, that included hundreds of line items, for secure coding.
- **Security patchwork:** There were still a significant number of processes that returned false positives and false negatives during late stage testing.
- **Lack of compliance:** Interpretations and inconsistent adherence to existing security policies and best practices resulted in a number of security flaws.
- **Expensive resources:** Engineers and developers were redirected from revenue-generating activities to deal with software security issues.

"With a move to an agile development, traditional security processes were slowing down their business. They needed to find a way to build secure code faster. SD Elements helped them achieve that goal."

— Ehsan Foroughi
VP, SD Elements,
Security Compass

Solution

The organization needed a solution to help move from merely having security policies to ensuring they were consistently being implemented; that is, they required a model of 'security by design.' The solution also had to integrate seamlessly with their agile development process.

Leaders were left debating "Build vs. Buy." Initially they were leaning toward building a platform that would have the flexibility and ease of use that their business needed. After learning about SD Elements, the decision was made to purchase the platform, rather than build their own solution. This allowed the organization to introduce the solution into their environment within a short time period and mitigate risks sooner. It also allowed developers the time to focus on more strategic projects.

Security Compass's SD Elements solution continues to deliver several significant benefits to the customer's overall business objectives:



Seamless integration: Developers do not have to work outside their existing processes to ensure implementation of security best practices.



Speed to market: They were able to streamline their SDLC and significantly reduce the amount of time and effort required for high-quality, secure coding.



Strong security posture: Security practices and policies are consistent, and adhered to now, across the organization.



Cost savings: Since security is consistently built into code, expensive security experts are used only for high-risk tasks rather than for managing repetitive measures.

SD Elements was seamlessly integrated into the organization's release planning process. Overall, the solution did not slow down the organization's development process which ensured timely release. It also made applications more secure and created a repeatable, sustainable security process in their agile environment.

For more information on SD Elements, visit us at
<https://securitycompass.com/sdelements/>

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Better Risk Management
- ▶ Security by Design
- ▶ Faster and Secure Coding
- ▶ Manual Task Lists Reduced from 50 to <10
- ▶ Automation of Proactive Security Measures

Security Compass enables organizations to proactively manage cybersecurity risk without slowing down their business through balanced development automation.

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SecurityCompass

securitycompass.com

1.888.777.2211

info@securitycompass.com