



OWASP Top 10

Application Security #2-3
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The Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP) is an open community dedicated to enabling organizations to develop, purchase, and maintain applications and APIs that can be trusted.

<https://owasp.org/Top10/A00-about-owasp/>

The OWASP Top 10 is a standard awareness document for developers and web application security. It represents a broad consensus about the most critical security risks to web applications.

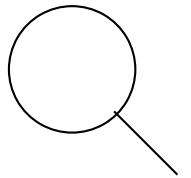
<https://owasp.org/www-project-top-ten/>

OWASP Top 10 in a nutshell

- Latest release: 2021-09-24, The 7th edition
- Next release is going to be publish in the 1st half of 2025
- First Top 10 published in 2003
- Risk awareness document not an oracle nor easily testable issues
- High level description
- Top 1 = most serious security risk

Methodology

- **Data and survey driven research**
 - Grouped all CVEs with CVSS scored by CWE (exploitability and technical impact)
- **Provided data covers over 500,000 applications**
- **8 categories derived from data, 2 from a survey**
- **Almost 400 CWEs considered**
- **Focus on a root cause**



Factors

CWEs Mapped	Max Incidence Rate	Avg Incidence Rate	Avg Weighted Exploit	Avg Weighted Impact	Max Coverage	Avg Coverage	Total Occurren- ces	Total CVEs
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Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures

- The mission of the CVE® Program is to identify, define, and catalog publicly disclosed cybersecurity vulnerabilities. There is one CVE Record for each vulnerability in the catalog. [3]
- Operated by The Mitre Corporation
- More info + podcasts: <https://www.cve.org/About/Overview>
- Example CVE:
<https://cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CVE-2022-48454>

CVE-ID**CVE-2022-48454**[Learn more at National Vulnerability Database \(NVD\)](#)[• CVSS Severity Rating](#) • [Fix Information](#) • [Vulnerable Software Versions](#) • [SCAP Mappings](#) • [CPE Information](#)**Description**

In wifi service, there is a possible out of bounds write due to a missing bounds check. This could lead to local denial of service with no additional execution privileges needed

References

Note: [References](#) are provided for the convenience of the reader to help distinguish between vulnerabilities. The list is not intended to be complete.

- [MISC:https://www.unisoc.com/en_us/secy/announcementDetail/https://www.unisoc.com/en_us/secy/announcementDetail/1719615756246777857](#)
- [URL:https://www.unisoc.com/en_us/secy/announcementDetail/https://www.unisoc.com/en_us/secy/announcementDetail/1719615756246777857](#)

Assigning CNA

Unisoc (Shanghai) Technologies Co., Ltd.

Date Record Created**20230413**

Disclaimer: The [record creation date](#) may reflect when the CVE ID was allocated or reserved, and does not necessarily indicate when this vulnerability was discovered, shared with the affected vendor, publicly disclosed, or updated in CVE.

Phase (Legacy)

Assigned (20230413)

Votes (Legacy)**Comments (Legacy)****Proposed (Legacy)**

N/A

This is an record on the [CVE List](#), which provides common identifiers for publicly known cybersecurity vulnerabilities.

SEARCH CVE USING KEYWORDS:

You can also search by reference using the [CVE Reference Maps](#).

For More Information: [CVE Request Web Form](#) (select "Other" from dropdown)

[BACK TO TOP](#)



Common Vulnerability Scoring System

- Open framework for communicating the characteristics and severity of software vulnerabilities
- CVSS is owned and managed by FIRST.Org, Inc.
- Score range from 0 to 10
- See: <https://www.first.org/cvss/calculator/4.0>

CVSS Metrics

Base Metric Group

Exploitability Metrics

Attack Vector

Attack Complexity

Attack Requirements

Privileges Required

User Interaction

Impact Metrics

Vulnerable System Confidentiality

Vulnerable System Integrity

Vulnerable System Availability

Subsequent System Confidentiality

Subsequent System Integrity

Subsequent System Availability

Threat Metric Group

Exploit Maturity

Environmental Metric Group

Modified Base Metrics

- Attack Vector
- Attack Complexity
- Attack Requirements
- Privileges Required
- User Interaction
- Vulnerable System Confidentiality
- Vulnerable System Integrity
- Vulnerable System Availability
- Subsequent System Confidentiality
- Subsequent System Integrity
- Subsequent System Availability

Confidentiality Requirement

Integrity Requirement

Availability Requirement

Supplemental Metric Group

Automatable

Recovery

Safety

Value Density

Vulnerability Response Effort

Provider Urgency



Common Weaknesses Enumeration

- Community-developed list of common software and hardware weakness types
- The CWE List includes both software and hardware weakness types
- Every CWE has its id in CWE-[1-9][0-9]* form
- Example entry: <https://cwe.mitre.org/data/definitions/787.html>

Example – CWE-787: Out-of-bounds Write

CWE-787: Out-of-bounds Write

Weakness ID: 787

Abstraction: Base

Structure: Simple

View customized information:

Conceptual

Operational

Mapping
Friendly

Complete

Custom

▼ Description

The product writes data past the end, or before the beginning, of the intended buffer.

▼ Extended Description

Typically, this can result in corruption of data, a crash, or code execution. The product may modify an index or perform pointer arithmetic that references a memory location that is outside of the boundaries of the buffer. A subsequent write operation then produces undefined or unexpected results.

▼ Alternate Terms

Memory Corruption: Often used to describe the consequences of writing to memory outside the bounds of a buffer, or to memory that is invalid, when the root cause is something other than a sequential copy of excessive data from a fixed starting location. This may include issues such as incorrect pointer arithmetic, accessing invalid pointers due to incomplete initialization or memory release, etc.

► Relationships

▼ Modes Of Introduction

Phase **Note**
Implementation

▼ Applicable Platforms

Languages

C (Often Prevalent)

C++ (Often Prevalent)

Class: Assembly (Undetermined Prevalence)

Technologies

Class: ICS/OT (Often Prevalent)

Example – CWE-787: Out-of-bounds Write

```
int id_sequence[3];  
  
/* Populate the id array. */  
id_sequence[0] = 123;  
id_sequence[1] = 234;  
id_sequence[2] = 345;  
id_sequence[3] = 456;
```

Countdown

**Server-Side
Request Forgery**

#10

**Security Logging
and
Monitoring Failures**

#9

Countdown

**Software and Data
Integrity Failures**

#8

**Identification
and
Authentication
Failures**

#7

Countdown

**Vulnerable
and
Outdated Components**

#6

**Security
Misconfiguration**

#5

Countdown

Insecure Design

#4

Injection



Countdown

**Cryptographic
Failures**



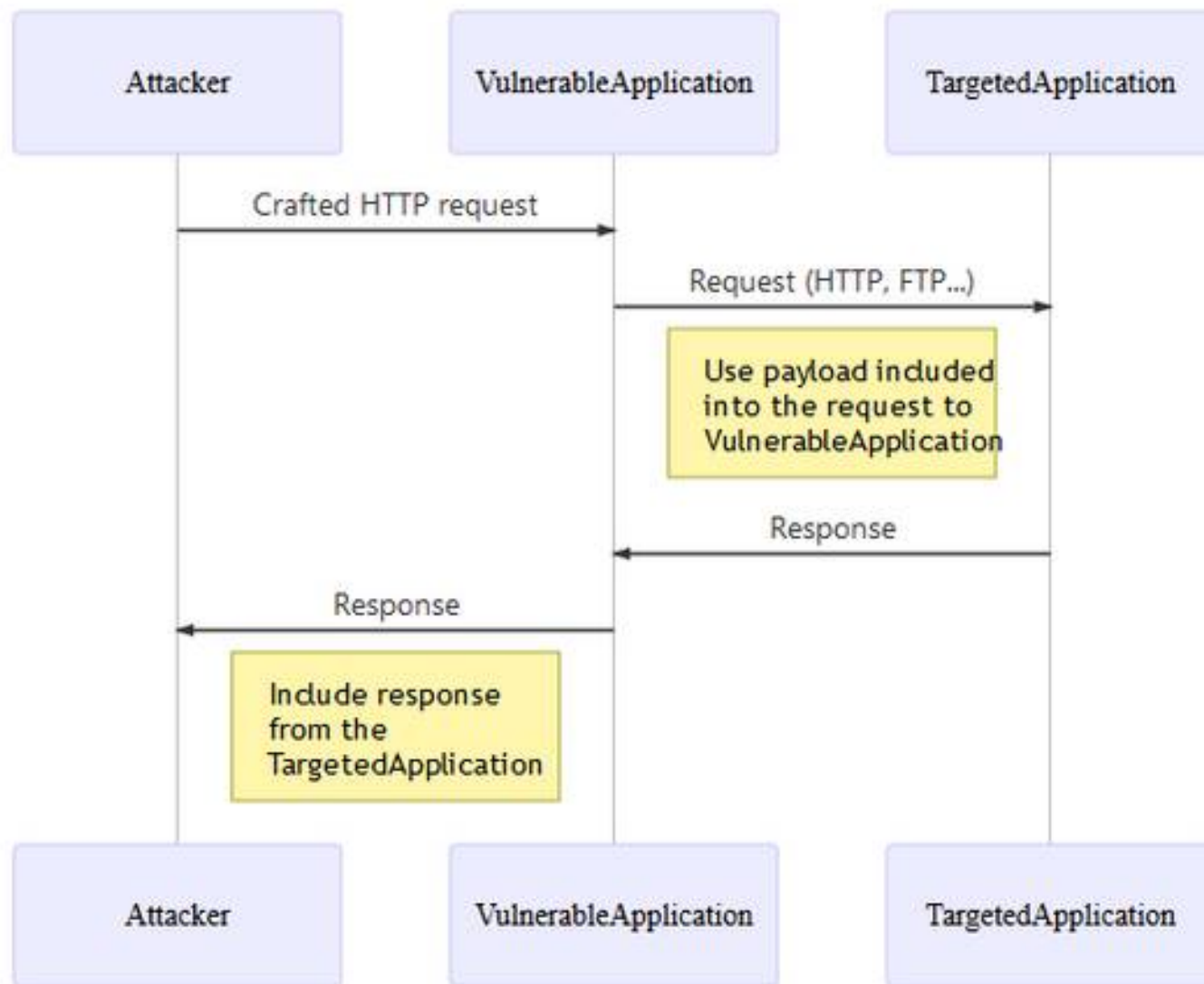
**Broken
Access Control**



#10 Server-Side Request Forgery (SSRF)



- Occurs whenever a web application is fetching a remote resource without validating the user-supplied URL
- Application can send a crafted request to an unexpected target, bypassing firewall, VPN or other ACLs
- **CWE-918**



SSRF prevention



Network Layer:

- Segment components in separate networks
- Enforce “deny by default” rule

Application Layer:

- Sanitize and validate user input

#9 Security Logging and Monitoring Failures

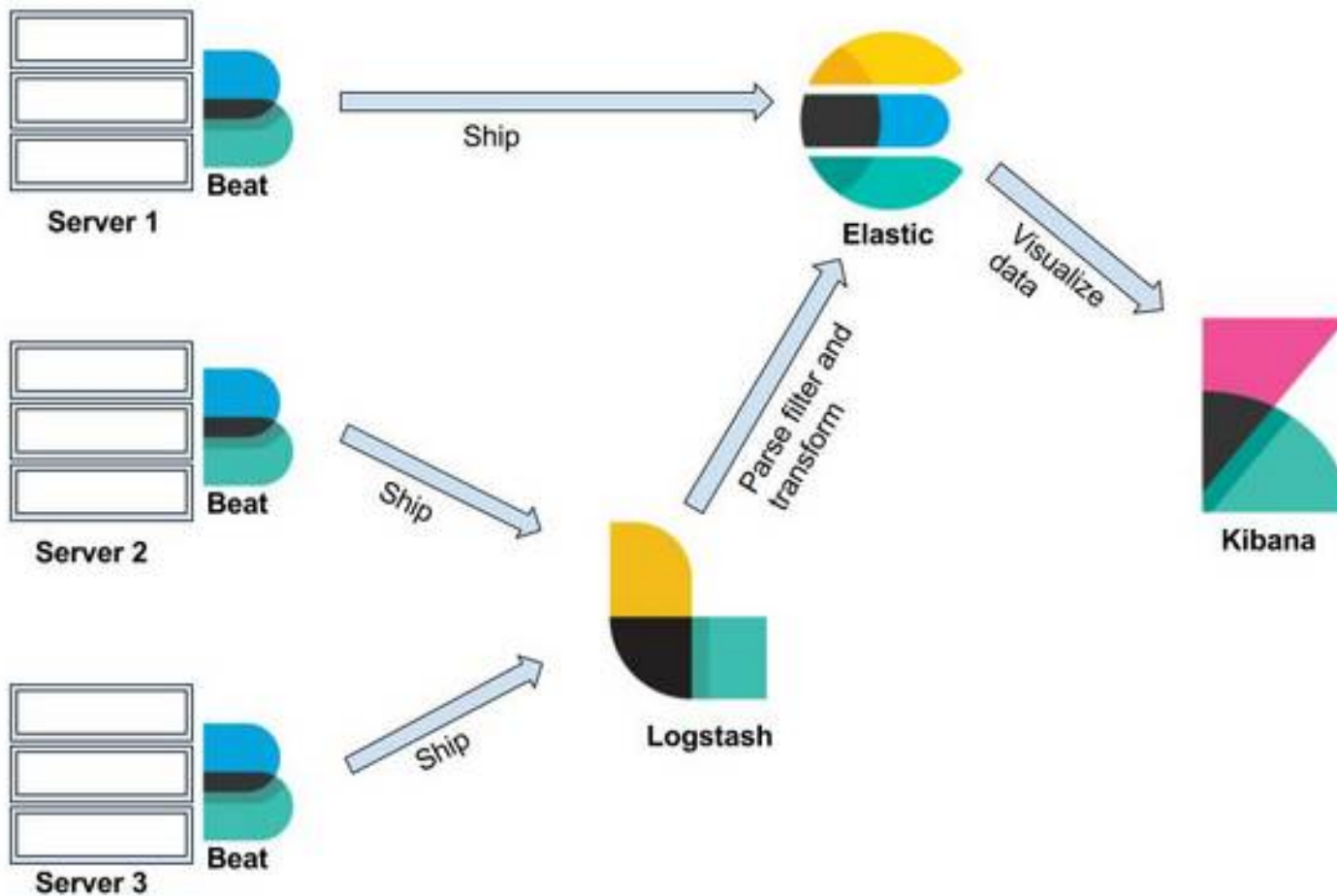


- Auditable events not logged...
- ...or logged not meaningful events
- Inadequate severities (e.g. errors being warnings)
- Unclear messages
- Logs stored only locally
- Lack of log analysis mechanisms
- [CWE-778](#), [CWE-223](#)

Road to better logging...



- Ensure all security events are logged
- Ensure all high-value transactions are logged
- Use consistent log format across application
- Store logs in a separate system
- Consider using log analytics tools (e.g. ELK Stack)



Log and System Metrics Management with Elastic Stack

#8 Software and Data Integrity Failures



- Relying on data or components we cannot prove integrity
 - e.g. using front-end library by including it with an external link
- When implementing an auto-update feature, not using digital signatures and/or SHA sum for verification
- Supply-chain attack
- Example: SolarWinds

Prevention



- Use valid digital signatures
- Ensure libraries and dependencies are downloaded from a trusted source
- Use least possible privilege approach

#7 Identification and Authentication Failures



- **Permits automated attacks for login actions**
 - Using list of valid credentials to check permissions
 - Brute-force passwords
 - Allow to use weak phrases like “Admin1”
- **Stores passwords in a plain text**
- **Exposes session identification in URLs**
- **Improper invalidation of expired sessions**
- **Example: <https://portswigger.net/web-security/jwt>**

eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJ1c2VyIjoid2llbmVyIiwiaXNBZG1pbiI6InRydWUifQ.

```
{  
  "alg": "nOnE",  
  "typ": "JWT"  
}  
{  
  "user": "wiener",  
  "isAdmin": true  
}
```



Avoiding identification and auth failures

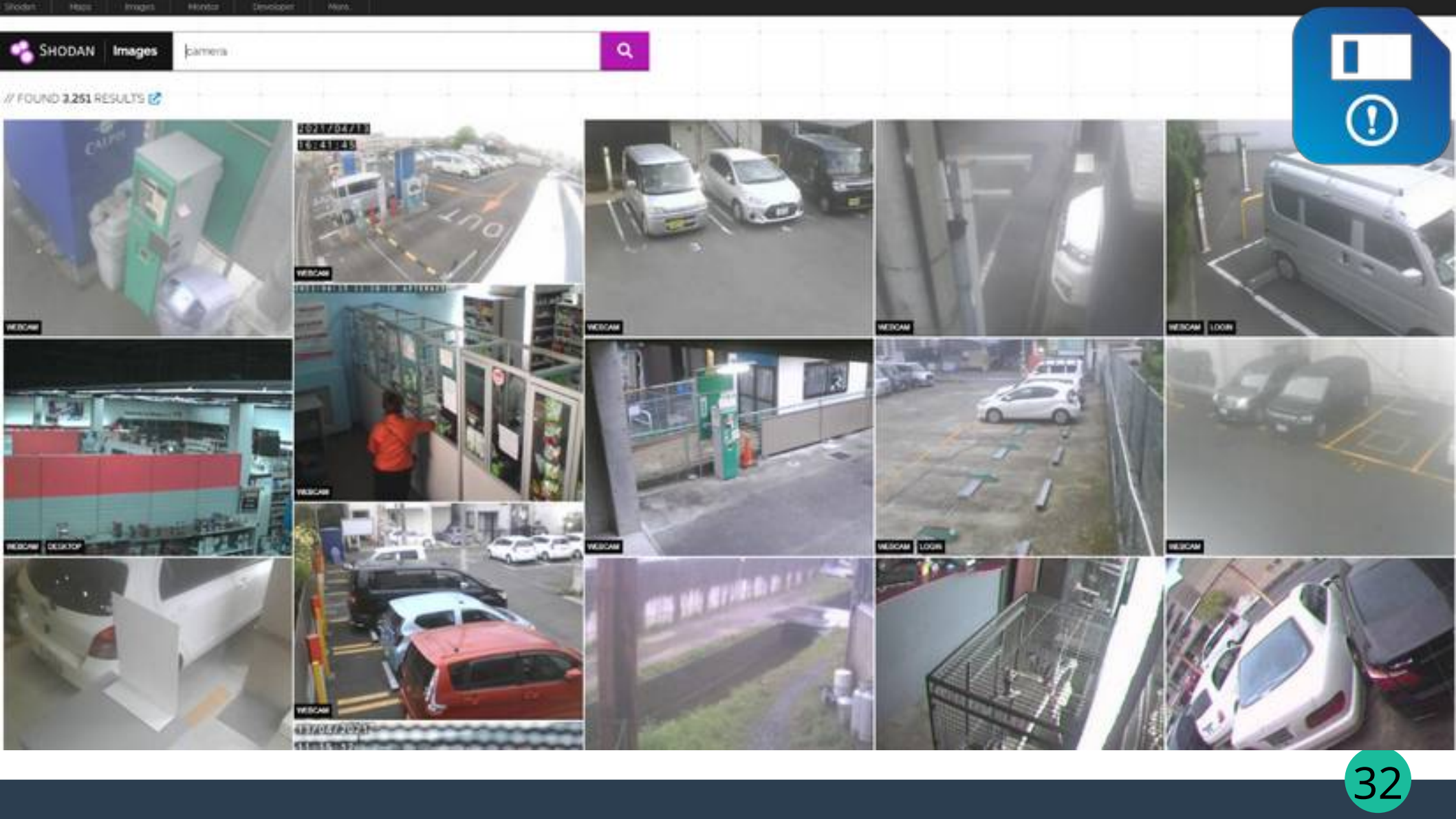


- Implement MFA where possible
- Do not ship default credentials
- Enforce using good passwords
- Limit/throttle failed login attempts
- Store session IDs on a server side

#6 Vulnerable and Outdated Components



- No track of used dependencies versions
- Lack of scan of used dependencies
- Using unpatched version of an OS
- Lack of maintenance (especially IoT devices)



Prevention



- Remove unused components, keep other up to date
- Continuously scan your dependencies (e.g. GitHub does this automatically now)
- Obtain components from official sources (mostly)
- If a component is not maintained by its original author, consider creating a custom patch or reimplement feature without it

#5 Security Misconfiguration



- Improperly configured permissions
- Unnecessary features enabled
- Using default credentials
- Disabled security updates
- Server not sends security headers when possible
- Examples: <https://brightsec.com/blog/misconfiguration-attacks/>

Security Misconfiguration



- Audit used and configured permissions
- Disable/remove unused features
- Always change default credentials
- Keep OS software up to date
- Configure HTTP Security Header for your application

#4 Insecure Design



- Most fuzzy category describing all architectural weaknesses possible to introduce
- General output: think about application security eagerly and through all the development, and maintenance process

#3 Injection



- Probably we all know this
- This was on the list back in 2003, 2023 still valid :(
- All kind of introducing data other than expected
- Lack of sanitizing, filtering user inputs

Fixing injection is easy?



- General idea: validate user input
- Use well-tested libraries for checking user inputs
- Minimize opportunities to introduce a raw parameter from a user into a query

#2 Cryptographic Failures

- Is data really encrypted during transfer?
- Use of weak, compromised algorithms
- Lack of certificate validation
- Insecure modes (e.g ECB in AES)
- Use of old hash functions
- Too eager decryption

Scenario #1

An application encrypts credit card numbers in a database using automatic database encryption. However, this data is **automatically decrypted when retrieved**, allowing a SQL injection flaw to retrieve credit card numbers in clear text.

Scenario #2

A site doesn't use or enforce TLS for all pages or supports weak encryption. An attacker monitors network traffic (e.g., at an insecure wireless network), downgrades connections from HTTPS to HTTP, intercepts requests, and steals the user's session cookie. The attacker then replays this cookie and hijacks the user's (authenticated) session, accessing or modifying the user's private data. Instead of the above they could alter all transported data, e.g., the recipient of a money transfer.

Scenario #3

- <https://github.com/wybory2014/Kalkulator1>
- PL ONLY: <https://niebezpiecznik.pl/post/calyswiatoglada-i-komentuje-kod-zrodlowy-obslugujacy-polskie-wybory/>

Prevention

- Encrypt all sensitive data at rest
- Enforce TLS and use features making harder to downgrade secure session e.g HSTS in HTTPS
- Don't use insecure protocols like FTP to transfer data
- Always validate certificates validity (validity date, issuer, CRLs, etc.)
- Classify data transferred by application

#1 Broken Access Control

- Violation of least possible privilege principle / deny by default for resources which should be protected
- Bypassing access control check
- Insecure direct object references
- Privilege escalation
- CORS
- Hidden but publicly accessible resources

How to prevent BAC?

- Deny by default for non-public resources
- Avoid exposition of specific resources (like .git directory)
- Implement resource ownership for data to avoid editing data owned by an other user
- Disable web directory listing
- Log all authentication events, alert admins when needed
- Use tokens (e.g. JWT) properly (short lived / revocation)

Summary



Sources

- [1] OWASP Top 10, <https://owasp.org/www-project-top-ten/> (accessed 2023-10-26)
- [2] OWASP Top 10 – 2021, <https://owasp.org/Top10/> (accessed 2023-10-26)
- [3] CVE, <https://www.cve.org/> (accessed 2023-10-27)
- [4] CVSS Specification Document, <https://www.first.org/cvss/v4.0/specification-document> (accessed 2023-10-27)
- [5] OWASP Cheat Sheet Series, <https://cheatsheetseries.owasp.org/index.html> (accessed 2023-10-28)
- [6] PortSwigger - Server-side request forgery (SSRF), <https://portswigger.net/web-security/ssrf> (accessed 2023-10-28)