hackerone

CASE STUDY

Multinational Financial Institution Achieves Real-Time Code Security with HackerOne Code

A leading multinational investment management corporation with a large global software development team faced significant challenges in securing its codebases without compromising development efficiency. Their existing approach relied on annual point-in-time security audits, which failed to provide the continuous protection needed in a fast-moving development environment. With teams working across multiple time zones, technology stacks, and business units, implementing consistent security controls was complex.

Security Goals

- **Early and Frequent Analysis:** Introduce secure code analysis and review earlier and more frequently—in real-time while code changes are still in development.
- **Effective Detection:** Ensure proven effectiveness in identifying security-related flaws.
- **Pre-Production Remediation:** Achieve proven effectiveness in remediating security flaws before production, providing developers with clear and actionable information.
- **Non-Disruptive Solution:** Implement a solution that does not impact development timelines and offers fast turnaround times, avoiding any distraction for developers.

Key Challenges

Resource Constraints:
Conducting secure code reviews for all changes during the development phase was impractical due to limited resources.

Team Silos:
Developers often worked in isolated teams, resulting in inconsistent secure code practices throughout the development processes.

System Compatibility:
Secure code needed to align with the systems and workflows already in place.

Timeline Preservation:
It was crucial that the solution did not disrupt development timelines, as many existing solutions were known to distract developers unnecessarily.

Platform Solutions

HackerOne Code

Scaling Security in Complex Dev Environments Requires a Balance of Speed, Security, & Productivity

To successfully transition from periodic security audits to a real-time security model without completely disrupting developer workflows, the financial institution needed a solution that met several critical requirements:

Maintains Developer Velocity: Avoids impeding developers with unnecessary distractions.

Ensures Clear Remediation: Delivers clear and precise remediation guidance.

Catches Risk Proactively: Implements earlier and more frequent code reviews in the development lifecycle to lower the cost of later fixes.

Provides Continuous Oversight: Offers continuous security monitoring across rapidly evolving codebases.

Moves Beyond Annual Reviews: Reduces dependency on annual security reviews that leave vulnerabilities unchecked for extended periods.

Integrates Seamlessly: Enables effortless integration with Azure DevOps, their primary source control tool.

> *HackerOne Code not only gives us real-time security before code goes to production, we're seeing value in getting insight from professional developers in the industry.*
>
> ***Software Engineer, VP***

HackerOne Code Preserved Developer Workflow & Velocity

Using HackerOne Code, the organization enabled their development teams with timely and relevant remediation actions without slowing them down.

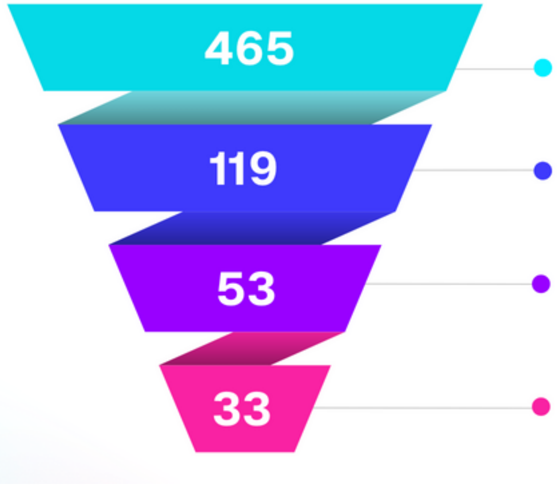
Rather than burdening developers with security reviews that slowed progress, HackerOne Code provided clear, actionable remediation at the right time—early and often in the development lifecycle.

AI-driven analysis and expert human validation was embedded into their existing Azure DevOps environment, ensuring continuous, real-time security guidance without distracting developers.

This reduced the cost of fixes later and minimized reliance on infrequent, large-scale security audits that left vulnerabilities undetected for too long.

Most importantly, the solution maintained development velocity by eliminating false positives and providing actionable guidance. **With a median scan time of just three minutes and expert validation within an hour, security feedback arrived quickly enough to avoid disrupting development timelines.**This streamlined developer experience helped security become an integrated part of the workflow—allowing teams to maintain velocity while strengthening code security.

Investment Results



Pull requests scanned
Median scan time: 3 min

Flagged for human review
Median review time: 64 min

Security issues raised
Filtered noise: 875

Confirmed remediations
Security issues fixed before changes were merged.

53	Security flaws raised to developers
33	Confirmed fixed prior to merge
21	Hours median time to merge (remained stable)
100%	Developer satisfaction rate

DID NOT impact developer velocity

Why HackerOne Code

Seamless Integration: Fully compatible with existing development workflows and processes.

Actionable Insights: Scanning output is validated by expert engineers, ensuring high-signal, actionable information is communicated to developers.

Context-Aware and Adaptive: Automated analysis gathers relevant context, which is continually refined through self-learning interactions.

Non-Blocking and Collaborative: Exception management is handled through discussion-based approaches within familiar developer collaboration tools, ensuring lessons learned are retained for future code reviews.

Outcomes

- **Fast and Efficient**: Median scan completion of 3 minutes and manual code review of 1 hour.
- **Actionable**: 62% of potential risks resolved before merge through high-signal insights surfaced to developers. Over 800 false-positives pre-filtered.
- **Compatible**: Fully functional integration with enterprise-grade source code management platform.
- **Awareness**: Continuous secure coding reinforcement.
- **Developer-First**: 100% developer satisfaction.

About HackerOne

HackerOne pinpoints the most critical security flaws across an organization's attack surface with continual adversarial testing to outmatch cybercriminals. HackerOne's Attack Resistance Platform blends the security expertise of ethical hackers with asset discovery, continuous assessment, and process enhancement to reduce threat exposure and empower organizations to transform their businesses with confidence. Customers include Citrix, Coinbase, General Motors, GitHub, Goldman Sachs, Hyatt, PayPal, Singapore's Ministry of Defense, Slack, the U.S. Department of Defense, and Yahoo. In 2023, HackerOne was named a Best Workplace for Innovators by Fast Company.

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