APISEC

an Intigriti look



1. Intigriti

Europe's #1 ethical hacking and bug bounty platform

Want to improve your security?

Get your security tested by our community and identify threats before the others do.

Request demo

More info for companies →

Want to hunt for vulnerabilities?

Join Europe's biggest community of security researchers. Help companies protect their assets and get paid.

Sign up

More info for researchers →



2. Bug Bounty



- Transparent ethical hacking
- Companies create scoped programs
 Responsible Disclosure, Private, Dedicated, Public
- Researchers report vulnerabilities
- Submissions are triaged by us
- Bounties are based on impact
- Security coaching





APIs start out small ... but easily get more and more complex.



 Black box testing investigate a locked chest (crawl the application)

 Gray box testing investigate a locked chest, but with clues (specify critical calls)

 White box testing hand over the chest schematics (Swagger, OpenAPI, ...)



Methodology	Input	Output	Focus	Tooling	Value
Black box	Scope	Vulnerabilities	Vulnerabilities	Scanning Proxy	Security Compliance
Gray box	Scope Clues	Vulnerabilities Pain points		Scanning Proxy Scripts	
White box	Scope Clues Specs	Vulnerabilities Pain points Flaws	Vulnerabilities Processes	Scanning Proxy Scripts Validators	Security Compliance Business



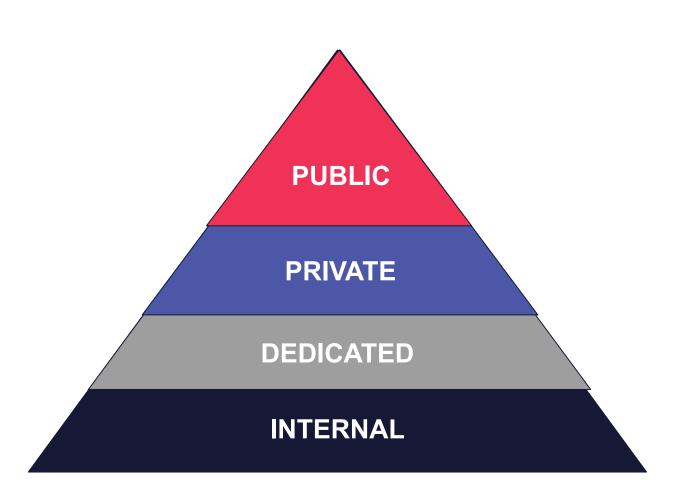
- Whitebox testing provides most added value
- Security requirements
 Divide into:
 - Baseline framework
 - Project requirements
 - Security controls
- Automated tooling
- Abuse cases
- Manual testing



The Intigriti **Testing Triangle**

- + confidence
- + creativity
- + maturity

- cost
- involvement
- feature focus





- 1. Business logic flaws
- 2. API XSS
- 3. Outdated software
- 4. Information/PII leakage
- 5. Broken access control



1. Business logic flaws

Insecure Direct Object Reference PII Leakage

- + Never trust user input
- + UUIDs or tokens > numbers

Example

GET /api/v1/users?id=2428

GET /api/v1/users?id=2429



2. API XSS

Missing context aware encoding

- + Always provide Content-Type
- + Output encoding on API & FE

Example

GET /api/v1/users?id=2428 Content-Type: application/json {"name":"<script>alert(1)</script>"}

GET /system/status/user/23 Content-Type: text/plain <script>alert(1)</script>



3. Outdated software

Patch policies for complex stacks

- + Infrastructure visibility
- + Patch policies

Example

HTTP Headers

File Metadata (PDF, ...)

Fingerprinting (Wordpress, ...)

•••



4. Information/PII leakage

Disclosing secrets

- + proper secret management
- + scan for secrets during deploy

Example

```
GET /config.php.bak
<?php
$DB_password = "SECRET";</pre>
```

GET /static/mainIndex.js

•••

let devApiCredentials = "SECRET";

• • •



5. Broken access control

Breaking flows

+ Authorize centrally

(e.g. /admin/... requires token scope)

+ Threat model functional flows

Example

POST /admin/authorize/new

Cookie: session=regularUser

user=regularUser

5. Lessons Learned



 Get your requirements right from the start OWASP ASVS, OWASP SAMM

2. Whitebox testing

Negative test cases, automated tooling

3. No harm in hacking ;-)

Dedicated + Bug Bounty

That's all folks

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