



Credit Union Safeguards Flagship App

NowSecure Platform integrated DevSecOps mobile application security testing helps support soaring company growth.

About

Founded decades ago to serve a select employee group, a credit union grew to be one of the largest in the country. The organization is proud to continue its tradition of “people helping people,” bringing value to consumers and the communities it serves.

Executive Summary

A mobile app has been instrumental in the company’s growth from a midsize to large business. Because the financial industry is a prime target for attackers, the credit union must ensure its mobile app safeguards sensitive information to protect its customers.

NowSecure Platform integrated mobile application security testing for DevSecOps helps the credit union increase efficiency and achieve the following benefits:

- Protect customer information
- Speed the mobile app release cycle
- Ease security bug remediation

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— IT security analyst, credit union

The Story

As a rapidly growing financial institution poised to reach over \$16 billion in assets in 2022, a credit union banks heavily on its digital channels. Having a secure mobile banking app remains critical to attracting and retaining new members, especially among the younger generation.

“It’s a tumultuous world out there with a lot of bad and nefarious people trying to do bad and nefarious things,” says the IT security analyst for the credit union. “We’re doing everything we can to improve our security posture to make sure that people don’t lose their money.”

The security team had a problem, however — it lacked the in-house capability to test its Android and iOS mobile banking apps for security and privacy vulnerabilities. Given the difficulty and expense of hiring analysts skilled in mobile pen testing, the company sought test automation and turned to NowSecure to ensure its apps can’t be leveraged or compromised by an attacker.

Self-Service DevSecOps Testing

The credit union partnered with NowSecure to integrate NowSecure Platform automated mobile application security testing directly into its CI/CD system and test each and every build for security and privacy vulnerabilities. When the developers deploy code, assessments are triggered autonomously without human intervention. The security team uses a vulnerability management system to track vulns and assign them to developers to remediate prior to putting the app into production.

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NowSecure Platform automated mobile AppSec testing empowers developers to quickly assess their code and tap the embedded remediation assistance to fix security bugs. Enabling the dev teams to self serve testing significantly speeds cycle times and helps them meet a demanding biweekly release schedule.

Developers appreciate the autonomy to work independently. Thanks to test automation, the security team doesn't need to intervene unless someone has a question about a test finding. Meanwhile, the security team has confidence that NowSecure Platform is finding vulnerabilities and that developers are fixing them.

Before the security analyst joined the credit union, it used NowSecure Platform in an on-demand fashion to test apps and export reports. “It was all a manual process,” he says. He was tasked with shifting security left and creating more of a DevSecOps process to boost efficiency and improve mobile application development security.

Today, the credit union runs three instances of NowSecure Platform to test its flagship iOS and Android apps throughout the software development lifecycle: in development, staging and production. “NowSecure was fantastic and worked with us to get everything set up,” says the analyst. “It was a very smooth, easy integration and I know my leadership appreciates that.”

NowSecure Investment Yields Dividends

NowSecure Platform completes a full battery and SAST/DAST/IAST and APIsec tests and provides helpful remediation assistance such as evidence of the security bug, details about how to fix it, good and bad code examples and links to Apple iOS and Google Android help files and developer documentation. Those resources aid developers in meeting their service-level agreements to remediate security issues within 24 hours to ensure the upcoming mobile banking release stays on track.

“Devs have a skillset but finding vulnerabilities is typically not at the top of their list.” says the security analyst of the need for mobile AppSec test automation. However, using NowSecure Platform provides them with a fast feedback loop and they've strengthened their secure coding practices. “Now that we have been running NowSecure Platform for awhile, we have found and fixed a number of issues. For the last couple of iOS development cycles, there have been zero vulnerabilities or warnings,” the analyst says. As the devs continue to improve their code quality, they can also enroll in NowSecure Academy free training to upskill on secure mobile development.

The credit union places its trust in NowSecure and the security team values the relationship it has built with the customer service and support teams. “We're very, very impressed with the support team at NowSecure.”

He recommends NowSecure solutions to anyone who cares about mobile security. “Unless you have infinite time and money and can hire your own team of penetration testers, then NowSecure is an absolutely incredible solution for testing your mobile apps for security vulnerabilities,” he says.

[NowSecure](#) offers a comprehensive suite of automated mobile app security and privacy testing solutions, penetration testing and training services to reduce risk. Trusted by many of the world's most demanding organizations, NowSecure protects millions of app users across banking, insurance, high tech, retail, healthcare and government. The company is SOC2 certified and was named a mobile security testing leader by IDC and a DevSecOps transformational leader by Gartner. Visit www.nowsecure.com to discover strategies for strengthening security and speeding the development of high-quality mobile apps.