



Automated Incident Response

Bring Your Own SOAR

GitLab Security Incident Response Team



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In this workshop, you will learn about:

- The GitLab Security Incident Response Team
- Automation opportunities in incident response
- Integrating multiple platforms using Tines
- Creating your own automations to make your lives easier



But first...who are you?



Workshop Breakdown



Theory

A little bit of context

Break

Get yourself ready

Lab 1

Let's build something together!

Lab 2

Let's build something on your own!

Closing Notes

Conclusion, future work, Q&A



First Challenge

Let's create your accounts!

- Tines
- GitLab
- Slack

<http://bitly.ws/Sk4Y>

(this is not a phishing domain)



Theory



Outline

- Who is GitLab SIRT
- A day at SIRT
- It's not just incident response
- Automation opportunities
- A day at SIRT - walkthrough



Who are we?



VM

- ★ Offensive security
- ★ Coding
- ★ Threat hunting
- ★ Mountains
- ★ Automation



Harjeet

- ★ Detection engineering
- ★ Monitoring
- ★ Learning new things like AI
- ★ Traveling
- ★ Automation



Who is us?





SIEM DEVO



generate

investigates



Incidents

reported by



Team Member

SIEM

DEVO

come from



Alerts

handles



Team

automate

collaborate

communicate



Slack



Tines



GitLab



Obvious Automations

When we think IR automation, we think about investigations:

How can I analyze faster?

- Filtering logs
- Gathering IoCs
- Enrichment
- Mundane tasks like blocking a user or leaked key revocation



Where to use automation?



Detection Engineering

- All alerts should uphold quality standards
- Team members review/approve alerts
- Deploy alerts automatically to our SIEM
- Generate metrics about alerts
- SIEM-agnostic solution



Where to use automation?



Incident Management

- Make it easy to report incidents
- Automate the initial Severity/Priority triage
- Keep ongoing incident documentation up to date
- Use GitLab as SSoT for incidents
- Smooth incident handovers available to the whole team
- High-quality and consistent incident reviews
- Metrics on our incidents



Where to use automation?

Metrics Generation

- Insights on most/least noisy alerts/incidents
- Identify trends
- To reduce alert fatigue
- Insights on most/least common alerts/incidents
- Make it easy for team members to provide feedback on alerts
- Insights on false/true positives alerts/incidents
- Metrics to justify necessary team growth



Why automate?

- ★ To make it easy
- ★ To standardize
- ★ To save time
- ★ To not forget
- ★ To scale better



And so, we automated:

- Alert creation
- Alert deployment
- Alert tuning

- Incident reporting
- Incident handling
- Incident handovers
- Incident reviews

- Metrics generation



Walkthrough

A typical scenario to show the entire pipeline



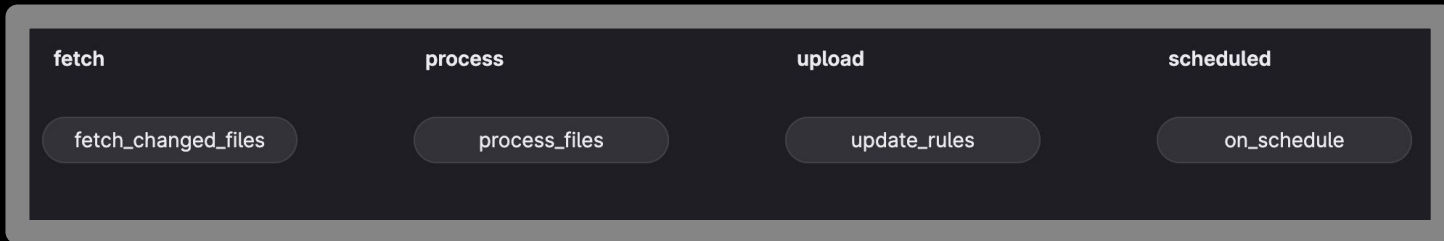
Walkthrough

- **GitLab API tokens can be dangerous. We want to monitor their creation.**
 - We create an alert as code
 - We deploy this alert on our SIEM through our pipeline
 - We wait...
- **Alert triggers**
 - Automation validates the creation of the token directly with the actor
 - Automation notifies SIRT
 - SIRT closes the alert and gives feedback.
- **End of day**
 - SIRT writes a handover for the next responder on call.

Alert as code

```
{
  "name": "SecOps_gitlab_any_pat_created",
  "message": "[prod]-[BlackLab]- PAT created for blacklab.com account $username",
  "description": "$parsed_json",
  "subcategory": "SecOps",
  "isActive": true,
  "alertCorrelationContext": {
    "querySourceCode": "from my.synthesis.railsprod.logs where controller =
'Profiles::PersonalAccessTokensController' and action='create' select username as entity_username ",
    "correlationTrigger": {
      "kind": "each"
    }
  }
}
```

Deployment pipeline



User Attestation Module (UAM)



TriageBot APP 1:32 PM

SIRT detected an event:

`my.alert.gitlab_workshop.SecOps_gitlab_any_pat_created`

Actor:

gg

User Agent (if applicable):

Mozilla%2F5.0+%28Macintosh%3B+Intel
+Mac+OS+X+10_15_7%29+AppleWebKit
%2F537.36+%28KHTML%2C+like+Geck
o%29+Chrome%2F116.0.0.0+Safari%2F5
37.36

Alert Time:

2023-08-24+06%3A31%3A11.396

IP Address:

212.30.60.1

This Was Me

I don't recognize this

BlackLab Watchdog



BlackLab Watchdog APP 1:31 PM

[prod]-[BlackLab]- PAT created for blacklab.com account gg:

Actor:

gg

Runbook Link:

[]

Event Time:

Thu Aug 24 06:31:18 UTC 2023

Link to Query:

<https://eu.devo.com/#/loxcop/alert/goToQuery?id=16640875>

Alert_Name:

SecOps_gitlab_any_pat_created

Ack Alert

Close Alert

Assign alert to other team member

Select a user

SecOps Application default link


Link to SecOps Application



TriageBot APP 1:33 PM

User reported they are not aware of the activity related to the alert 16640875 . Please investigate further

Alert closure



BlackLab Watchdog APP < 1 minute ago

["16640875"]

This is True Positive
 Benign
 Benign - SIRT Testing
 Benign - RedTeam
 This is False Positive

What do you feel about this alert? :nayfrog:

👎
👍

Something fishy? :sus:

Report a Bug
Convert to Incident

Closing Summary* (This is automatically added to Devo)

Mandatory - Please fill closing comments

Resolve alert in Devo

Escalation



BlackLab Watchdog APP 1 minute ago

Awesome, I have opened an issue for you. You can access it by visiting <http://34.66.143.75/gitlab-instance-2105a4c2/security-incident-response-team/incidents/-/issues/4>

Handogotchi



Handogotchi Lite APP 12:08 PM

(̄̂̄̂̄̂) Handover

Hello team! It's time for the handover! 🍷

Is there any work required to continue? Are there any high-severity/high-priority incidents where the investigation or mitigation process phase is still ongoing? Write a detailed handover message below so that the next SIRT engineer on-call can pick up from where you left off.

Nothing today—it was a quite day.

Do you have any additional information about lower-severity incidents that could be relevant in case of escalation? Notify the team below. You still retain ownership of this incident but, as long as it doesn't escalate, it can wait for the next business day.

GG created an API key and forgot about it. We originally thought it was a hacker but turns out, it was one of her automations.

Send



Handogotchi Lite APP 12:08 PM

(̄̂̄̂̄̂) Thanks for the handoff update. It's been forwarded to the team. They all highly appreciate your work ❤️

Handogotchi



Handogotchi Lite APP 12:11 PM

(͡° ͜ʖ ͡°) Hando has the warm handoff ready for the team: 🤝

Handoff 2023-08-24

by Greylag Goose

Work required to continue:

Nothing today—it was a quite day.

Additional information

GG created an API key and forgot about it. We originally thought it was a hacker but turns out, it was one of her automations.

Feed

Pet

Give us a fun fact!

Break

Validate that you have access to:

- Tines
- GitLab
- Slack

Shout if you don't!



Lab 1

Let's make teams!

- At least 1 laptop per team
- At least 1 technical person per team

Shout if you have questions.

If you don't want to shout, you can DM us on Slack.



@Greylag Goose
(VM)



@Harjeet

Lab 1

Tokenheimer - automatic token revocation



Lab 1

Open the **Tokenheimer** story

Open the **Lab 1** story

Copy/paste the **Tokenheimer** story into **Lab 1**

Rename the first action to “**Tokenheimer** - [your team’s name]”

Once everyone has their own **Tokenheimer** story, we’ll create /commands for each team.

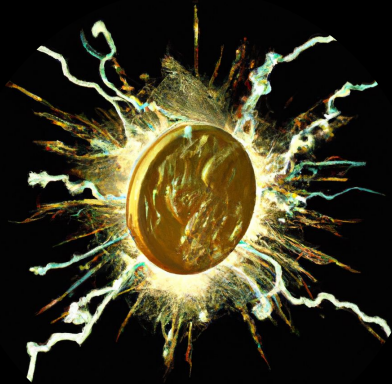
Lab 1

Show off your Tokenheimer!



Lab 2

Tokenheimer Version 2



Lab 2

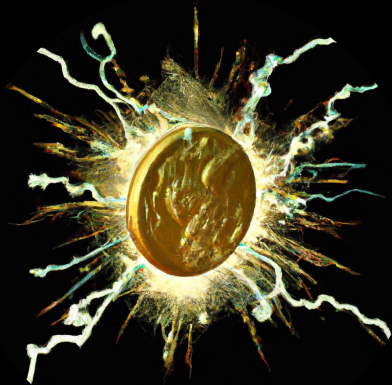
Build upon your Tokenheimer story

Need ideas?

- Tokenheimer also scopes a token (type, user, groups, etc)
- Tokenheimer accepts multiple tokens
- Tokenheimer creates an incident

Lab 2




Show off your Tokenheimer v2!



What we automated today

- Alert deployment pipeline
- Alert handling in Slack
- User attestations
- Team handovers
- Token revocation

What we've already automated at home

- Reporting incidents 
- Assessing Severity and Priority
- Triaging incidents
- Keeping incidents up-to-date
- Incident review process
- Transferring Slack messages over to GitLab incidents
- Handogotchi++ 
- Collecting metrics on detections and incidents 



The beast we've made

GitLab Universal Automated Response and Detection

- Alert deployment pipeline
- Slack-powered alert handling capabilities
- Alert feedback support
- UAM integrations
- Alert metrics collection



Future Work



GitLab Universal Automated Response and Detection

- MITRE ATT&CK expansion
- Risk scoring
- Dashboards!
- AI-integration
 - Enrichment
 - Assisted alert handling
 - Reporting

GUARD Publications

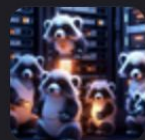
- Speaking at mWISE on September 18-20
- Blog series incoming

<https://about.gitlab.com/blog/categories/security/>


mWISE
MANDIANT WORLDWIDE
INFORMATION SECURITY EXCHANGE

As promised...

All we've talked about today is opensourced here:



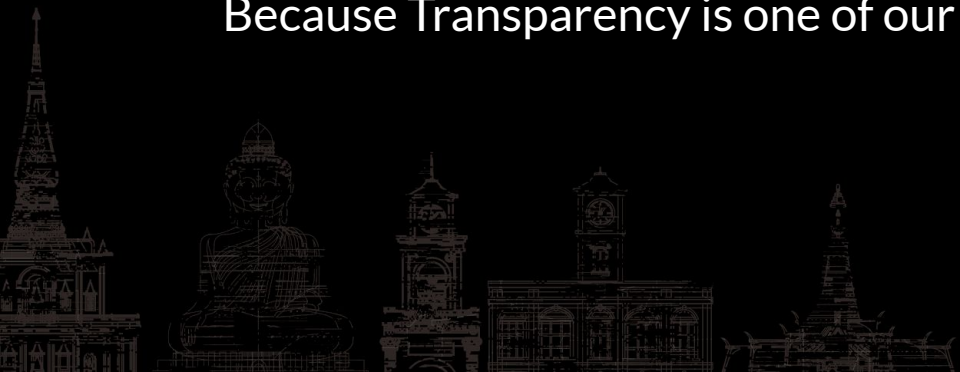
Automated Incident Response

Project ID: 48761321 

[https://gitlab.com/gitlab-com/gl-security/security-operations/
gitlab-sirt-public/automated-incident-response](https://gitlab.com/gitlab-com/gl-security/security-operations/gitlab-sirt-public/automated-incident-response)



Because Transparency is one of our core values!



THANK YOU!

