

SECURE BY DESIGN: TECHTRACE EMBEDS SECURITY REVIEW AND RISK EVALUATION INTO APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

TechTrace develops web and mobile platforms to help consumers and customs administrations around the world fight against counterfeiting and illicit trade. As the developer of the only global, real-time anti-counterfeiting product verification and on-line authentication platform for law enforcement and rights holders, protecting their sensitive information is paramount.

The Client

As a provider of web-based platforms used by law enforcement and brands in the fight against illicit trade, TechTrace provides secure, private and confidential platforms for rights holders to exchange and monitor information on illicitly traded or counterfeit products. As such, TechTrace is particularly concerned with the security of its IT systems and applications.

TechTrace applications are unique on the market and its technology is deployed in over 90 countries and used by more than 400 leading brands around the world.

TechTrace was recently mentioned in The Economist for its continuous work in promoting awareness about the far reaching implications of illicit trade.



- **Industry:** fighting illicit trade and counterfeiting
- **Business:** web and mobile platform and tool development for protection against counterfeit products and illicit trade.
- **Scope:** 2 platforms, 2 offices, with its technology deployed in 91 countries.
- **Size:** 4 employees in Lausanne, 5 in Brussels and a team of developers at Abu Dhabi's Media Zone.
- **Business challenge:** developing secure online applications that are optimized against all types of internal or external data breach.
- **Solution:** Kudelski Security Web App Penetration Test
- **Why they chose Kudelski Security:**
 - With Kudelski Security, TechTrace is able to schedule pen tests within their tight timeframes and successfully identify and eliminate risks before product launch.
 - TechTrace now demonstrates due diligence and availability to stakeholders, including law enforcement agencies, who entrust them with their extremely sensitive data.
 - TechTrace now has benchmarks in place to ensure prudent IT strategies and development practices. Ipsum sem dapibus sem, vitae gravida justo dui non purus. Nunc eros metus, mollis sed ullamcorper nec.

Our transition to Kudelski Security has been flawless. Since working with their teams, we now have unprecedented visibility on the strength of our security measures. We are confident that our partnership with Kudelski will allow us to continue to safeguard the integrity of our clients' data.

Margot Stuart – TechTrace Director, Operations

The Challenge

It should come as no surprise that a sizable portion of TechTrace's application development efforts are focused on ensuring that all of its applications, tools and networks are highly secured and designed to maintain the confidentiality, integrity and availability of sensitive information.

A crucial part of these efforts includes the ability to quickly identify security vulnerabilities, fix them and develop best practices for consistently secure application design.

The Solution

TechTrace contracted Kudelski Security to assess the security of their two anti-counterfeiting platforms: Anti-Counterfeiting Tool (ACT) and its law enforcement tool. The Kudelski Security web and mobile application assessment team evaluated the two applications and found that they were both composed of a mobile and web application, with a simple user-interface, and a backend server that routed real time data to and from its users. Thanks to its extensive experience in both web app and mobile security research, Kudelski Security's assessment team was able to use a multi-faceted approach to analyzing TechTrace's platform. This is what made it possible to identify security issues that would have gone unnoticed if separate teams were analyzing the different components.

Additionally, the assessment team identified opportunities to further increase the security standards of TechTrace's platforms, staying ahead of potential risks.

The Outcome

“Kudelski Security provided absolutely everything we wanted in an app audit,

making it well worth the price. To prove that our security testing is both consistent and unbiased, we chose to get an outside entity provide us with validation. After interviewing a few leading security assessment providers, it was immediately clear that Kudelski Security had more exhaustive methods, deeper expertise and would provide better communication and reporting. Because of the approach we've established with Kudelski Security, and our resulting ability to respond quickly and patch any issues, we are confident that our stakeholders will recognize that we've tested everything to the best of our abilities in the same manner that a hacker would. Bottom line: every new TechTrace application must go through Kudelski Security pen testing before it is allowed to go live,” resumed Margot Stuart, TechTrace Operations Director.

Kudelski Security, a division of the Kudelski Group (SIX: KUD.S), is an innovative, independent provider of tailored cybersecurity solutions to enterprises and public sector institutions. Kudelski Security is headquartered in Cheseaux-sur-Lausanne, Switzerland, and Phoenix, Arizona, with operations in countries around the world.

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