



2019 Mobile Security R&D Program Guide



Homeland Security

Science and Technology



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Introduction

Thank you for your interest in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate's (S&T) Mobile Security Research and Development (R&D) program. This technology guide introduces you to the goals and objectives for the program, as well as its alignment with DHS and federal mobile security strategies and priorities. It also provides a view into S&T's development of new and cutting-edge mobile security solutions.

This technology guide, which will be updated and published periodically, features nine new and innovative technologies. Again, it is our pleasure to introduce you to the Mobile Security R&D program and its newly developed and enhanced technologies. We are excited to share these promising mobile security technologies with you and welcome your feedback.

Through targeted R&D addressing mobile security gaps and barriers, DHS S&T helps accelerate government and mobile industry adoption of secure mobile technologies and protect the Homeland Security Enterprise (HSE). This guide represents important contributions of the overall program's Mobile Application Security (MAS) and Mobile Device Security (MDS) projects in supporting DHS component requirements, as well as broader federal government and HSE mobile security needs. The Mobile Security R&D program goals are to apply R&D to:

- Enable the mobile workforce to support the homeland security mission; and
- Enable mission success through effective, efficient and secure mobile technologies.

Going forward, the Mobile Security R&D program will be tightly aligned to new requirements put forth by the DHS Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency.

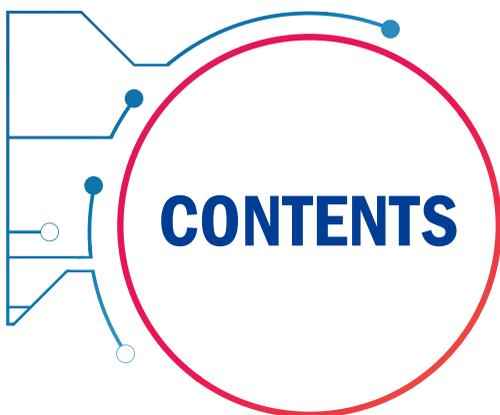
Sincerely,

Mary McGinley

Division Director
Physical & Cybersecurity Division
Science & Technology Directorate
Department of Homeland Security
Email: mary.c.mcginley@hq.dhs.gov

Vincent Sritapan

Program Manager
Office of Mission & Capability Support
Science & Technology Directorate
Department of Homeland Security
Email: Vincent.Sritapan@hq.dhs.gov



06	MOBILE SECURITY R&D PROGRAM STRATEGY
14	MOBILE APPLICATION SECURITY
15	Orchestration Platform and Correlation for Mobile Software Assurance Tools
16	Assured Mobile Application Lifecycle Using Red Hat Mobile
17	Advancing Mobile Endpoint Security
18	Android Security Toolkit
19	Hardware-Anchored Continuous Validation and Threat Protection of Mobile Applications
20	MOBILE DEVICE SECURITY
21	Virtual Mobile Infrastructure
22	Scalable Analysis of Android & iOS Firmware (SAFARI)
23	SENsor Secure Enterprise Infrastructure
24	Firmware Automated Analysis at Scale with Testing (FAAST)
25	MOBILE SECURITY GUIDANCE
26	TABLE OF MOBILE SECURITY GUIDANCE
36	CONCLUSION





Mobile R&D Program Strategy



Mobile Security Research and Development Program Strategy

Vision

The Federal government workforce has become increasingly reliant on mobile technologies to facilitate its mission and elevate productivity. As use of mobile technologies becomes more pervasive in the government, solutions are needed to secure mobile devices, for a coordinated approach to lifecycle management, and policies to guide the selection and operational use of mobile solutions. To promote the adoption of safe and secure mobile technology within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and across the entirety of the Federal government, the DHS Science & Technology Directorate (S&T) has established the Mobile Security Research and Development (R&D) program. Presently, this program is composed of the Mobile Device Security (MDS) and the Mobile Application Security (MAS) projects. DHS also has identified a need for a new R&D project focused on security and resilience of mobile network infrastructure. S&T currently is developing requirements for this new program area.

GUIDING VISION FOR MOBILE SECURITY R&D

Accelerate the adoption of secure mobile technologies by the Department, the Federal government, and the global community.

Background

The government's increasing reliance on mobile technology has made it an attractive and lucrative target for cyberattacks. The enhanced capabilities mobile technologies provide, the ubiquity and diversity of mobile applications and devices, and the typical use of the devices outside agencies' traditional network boundaries requires a security approach that differs substantially from the protections developed for desktop workstations.

The following statistics tell the scope and scale of the mobile industry:

- 5 billion subscribers globally^[1], 395.9 million subscribers in the U.S.^[2], and 1.5 million subscribers within the federal government.
- Wireless revenues: \$1.06 trillion globally^[1], \$235.6 billion in the U.S.^[2] and almost \$1 million in federal mobile and wireless services contracts.
- 77 percent of U.S. adults own and use smartphones^[3] and almost 40 percent of DHS employees have government-issued mobile devices.^[4]
- The official mobile app stores (Google Play^[5], Apple App Store^[6], Amazon Appstore^[7]) collectively offer nearly 7 million unique mobile apps.
- More than 1.5 million app publishers/developers provide apps to official app stores.^[8]

Two converging factors help to create the urgent need for secure enterprise solutions. First, mobile solution use is rapidly increasing across the Federal government. Second, mobile threats are increasingly common and more sophisticated, which puts data stored or processed on these devices at risk and exposes backend systems and networks to attacks via mobile malware.

As documented in the DHS Study on Mobile Device Security^[9], threats exist across all elements of the mobile ecosystem—from mobile devices, applications and data to the underlying infrastructure of carrier networks, mobile operating system providers, mobile device vendors, and enterprise systems and infrastructure. As shown in Figure 1, a mature mobile ecosystem comprises many elements. In addition to the mobile device, it includes the environment that connects the device to other devices, mobile applications, mobile application marketplaces and information systems. Each area presents security challenges and opportunities for additional study and mobile security R&D.

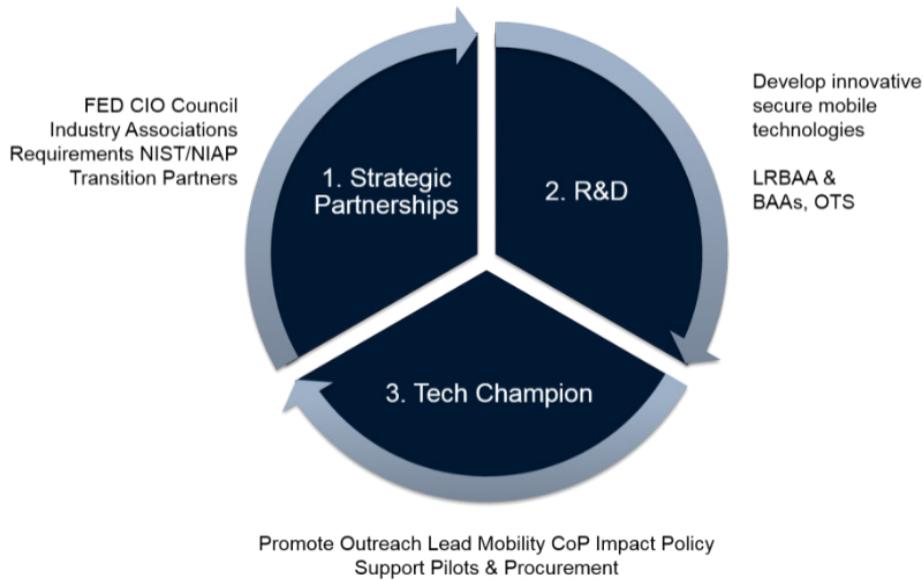
06

**Mobile R&D
Program Strategy**



Objectives

To respond to the evolving threats and security challenges with mobile technologies, S&T has established an approach for the Mobile Security R&D program to identify and meet customer-driven needs. Generally, the approach starts with requirements validated through S&T based on customer prioritization. Validated requirements are further refined to generate targeted R&D efforts. After a competitive acquisition process, innovative technologies to meet the requirements are researched, developed and made available to customers for pilots and refinement. In parallel, the Mobile Security R&D program maintains landscape awareness of technical trends as well as policy and procurement issues to ensure integration needs are understood and mechanisms are in place after the R&D phase ends that enables customers to acquire the new technologies and policies are in place to support operational use. The Mobile Security R&D program follows a three-pronged approach to achieve its R&D vision:



1. Partner with the DHS Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA), other DHS components and federal stakeholders to identify operational requirements and capability gaps
2. Develop secure, innovative mobile solutions to support DHS CISA, then other Federal government missions as coordinated through the Federal Mobility Group (FMG)
3. Champion the solutions to support transition into operational use



Strategic Alignment

With the Mobile Security R&D program residing in S&T's Physical and Cyber Security (PCS) Cyber portfolio, the primary customer alignment begins with DHS CISA, however, support will continue for requirements developed in coordination with stakeholders across the Federal government. Within DHS in particular, the Mobile Security R&D program has sought to acquire technologies and capabilities identified by the DHS Integrated Product Team (IPT), Secure Cyberspace–Mobile Security Sub-IPT. Broader alignment to DHS S&T priorities is as follows:

- Study on Mobile Device Security, April 2017^[9]
- S&T Strategic Plan 2015-2019^[10], Visionary Goal, Objectives 1 and 2:
Objective 1: Deliver Force Solutions:
 - Identify and Prioritize Operational Requirements and Capability Gaps
 - Make Strategic Investments in High-Impact, Priority Areas
 - Partner with the Homeland Security Enterprise (HSE)Objective 2: Energize the Homeland Security Industrial Base (HSIB):
 - Optimize Markets by Pooling Demand and Developing Standards
 - Engage the HSIB through a Deliberate, Continuous and Transparent Approach
 - Improve Programs Designed to Increase Collaboration with Innovative Companies
- DHS Information Technology Strategic Plan 2015-2018^[11]:
Goal 2: Innovative Technology, Objective 2.4: Enable end-to-end delivery of mobile solutions that enhance enterprise-wide mobile computing capabilities for successful mission outcomes.
Goal 4. Cybersecurity, Objective 4.2: Enable secure communications to effectively support the mission of DHS and its partners.
- National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee (NSTAC) Report to the President on Emerging Technologies Strategic Vision-DRAFT^[12]:
Security of the Fifth Generation (5G) infrastructure should receive great priority and the shift to 5G represents another opportunity to get cybersecurity right.

Initiatives to Address Program Objectives

OBJECTIVE 1. Partner with Components and Federal Stakeholders to Identify Operational Requirements and Capability Gaps

The Mobile Security R&D Program leverages the efforts of existing federal and DHS mobility working groups to gather and prioritize remediation of mobile security capability gaps that prevent implementation of mobile technologies at the federal level and across the HSE. These groups include the following federal and DHS working groups:

- DHS Integrated Product Team (IPT), Secure Cyberspace–Mobile Security Sub-IPT
- Federal Chief Information Officers (CIO) Council's Information Security and Identity Management Committee (ISIMC) Mobile Technology Tiger Team (MTTT)
- Mobile Services Category Team (MSCT)
- DHS Joint Requirements Council (JRC)

OBJECTIVE 2: Develop Secure Mobile Solutions to Support the DHS Mission

The Mobile Security R&D program funds a number of solution development initiatives with private industry and academia to address gaps in mobile security technology and policy as identified through its

08

**Mobile R&D
Program Strategy**

partnerships with other DHS components and federal agencies (under Objective 1). These R&D efforts are applied across the mobile ecosystem depicted in Figure 1 and build on existing technologies. R&D solution development is acquired through myriad flexible acquisition mechanisms, including targeted Broad Agency Announcements (BAAs), the S&T Long-Range BAA, Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) funding, and Other Agencies Technology Solutions (OATS) SBIRs. The current Mobile Security R&D project efforts are organized into the following R&D project areas, which are described in detail below:

- MDS
- MAS

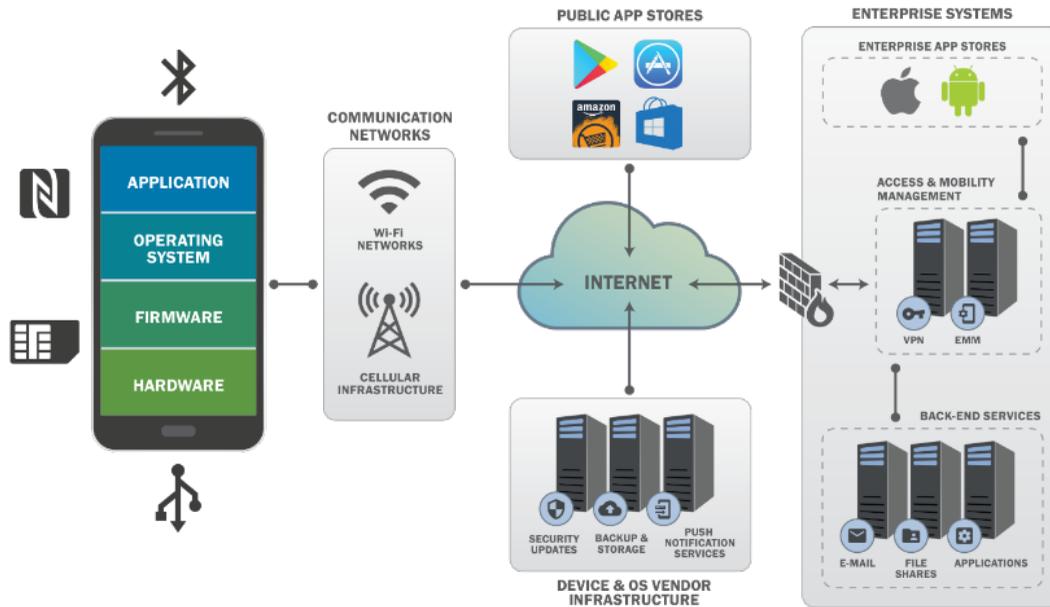


Figure 1 – The Mobile Ecosystem

Mobile Device Security (MDS) Project

The MDS R&D project focuses on securing mobile devices that can be used by adversaries to physically track device owners, to access sensitive information, to negatively impact government services, and for other nefarious objectives. The MDS R&D project focuses on three high-priority gap topics: mobile device management, trust implementation for mobile executables, and firmware security. MDS funds initiatives in the following R&D areas to address these gaps:

Mobile Software Roots of Trust. This area seeks to develop tamper-evident modules—or “roots of trust”—that can be continuously measured and verified to produce a chain of cryptographically strong evidence about the state of the device. This approach verifies devices are in a protected state at power-on and continues to bootstrap trust to verify software (e.g., operating system, apps, security management software, etc.) before and during execution. This root of trust can be queried and measured to attest to the state of the device to provide greater assurance to security mechanisms such as software verification, application and data isolation, and data protection, which are at the heart of security enforcement technologies such as mobile device management.



Firmware Security.

There are many risks to the mobile ecosystem that originate in the supply chain. Firmware design and the firmware update process are known avenues of security risks. For example, there have been documented cases where commercially available smartphones contain preloaded software that collects sensitive user data and sends it overseas^[13]. To address these risks, S&T has embarked on two projects that explore supply-chain security risks of embedded functionality that accesses user information without obtaining user consent or circumvent security controls.

Virtual Mobile Infrastructure Extensions. Depending on security and regulatory requirements, infrastructure virtualization may provide security controls necessary to enable critical operations via mobile devices. To facilitate customer operations where virtualization provides an essential separation of data from mobile devices, S&T is funding virtual mobile infrastructure technology development.

Mobile Device Security Projects. The MDS project industry and academia R&D initiatives and performers are:

- SAFARI: Scalable Analysis of Firmware for AndRoid and IOS, Kryptowire LLC
- Firmware Automated Analysis at Scale with Testing (FAAST), Red Balloon Security, Inc.
- Virtual Mobile Infrastructure, Intelligent Waves, LLC

Mobile App Security Project

The Mobile App Security Project is developing innovative approaches that extend beyond deployment of an app to provide continuous assurance of mobile app security throughout an app’s lifecycle. The MAS project has two primary R&D foci. One focus is continuous monitoring, vetting and security assurance of mobile apps to safeguard against vulnerabilities and future threats. The second focus is establishing a security framework and integrated development environments that will result in mobile app development platforms that enable developers to transparently ensure security and functionality throughout the mobile application lifecycle. The MAS thrusts are expanded upon below.

Continuous Validation and Threat Protection for Mobile Apps. The MAS project is funding efforts to monitor device and app execution against the security criteria established by the Federal Mobile Application Security Vetting Working Group and currently maintained by the National Information Assurance Partnership (NIAP)^[6]. MAS is also developing capabilities specific to the mobile device operating environment that will respond to current known threats and vulnerabilities including the identification of malware and vulnerable code. This R&D entails developing the capability to anticipate and—if needed—respond to future threats and vulnerabilities while continuously monitoring a mobile device’s security posture. These capabilities go beyond identifying malicious software to pinpoint undesirable behavior that violates user-defined risk criteria. By providing a standard evaluation score and analysis report that provides actionable information for decision-makers to remediate problems, this effort also promotes information sharing across components and federal agencies, potentially reducing cost and avoiding duplication of analysis efforts.

Integrated Security Throughout the Mobile Application Lifecycle. The MAS project is funding R&D efforts to augment mobile app development tools with functionality that—transparently to the developer—incorporates secure mechanisms as mobile apps are developed. To make a more immediate impact, efforts in this area are building on existing mature mobile app development platforms to include requirements that will ease government use.



Mobile Application Security Projects. The MAS project has industry and academia initiatives that cross both R&D thrust areas:

- Mobile App Security Orchestration Platform/Certification Tool, Apcerto Inc.
- A Framework for Assessing, Analyzing, and Archiving Mobile Applications, Kryptowire LLC
- Continuous Validation and Protection for Mobile Devices, Lookout
- Hardware-Anchored Continuous Validation and Threat Protection of Mobile Applications, Qualcomm Technologies
- Assured Mobile Application Lifecycle using Red Hat Mobile, Kryptowire LLC/Red Hat, Inc.
- Android Security Toolkit, Progeny Systems/Microsoft/Xamarin

OBJECTIVE 3. Champion Program-Developed Technology to Support Transition into Operational Use.

Transitioning program-developed technology into operational use is a priority for and an integral part of the Mobile Security R&D program. S&T engages stakeholders early to inform the research and identify customers that are willing to be involved. During and after research execution, the program conducts outreach to educate and raise awareness of the innovative technologies it is developing. Outreach activities include hosting technology showcases, engaging directly with federal CIOs, expediting solution matchmaking and facilitating pilot projects to accelerate adoption of technologies.

Secure and Resilient Mobile Network Infrastructure (SRMNI)

As described in the DHS Study on Mobile Device Security^[10], threats to the mobile network infrastructure are real and will require R&D as well as evolving policies and strategies to manage risks to the security of the mobile ecosystem. To support the DHS mission, CISA and S&T have coordinated the release of a BAA to develop new standards to improve the security and resilience of critical mobile communications networks. The BAA focuses on the following:

Current and Legacy Protocol Security. This initiative would seek approaches and implementations to protect U.S. government personnel and citizens from being tracked or their calls or text messages from being snooped or hijacked due to inherent vulnerabilities in Signaling System Seven (SS7) and Diameter, which are rogue cellular tower threats, or vulnerabilities in Cloud-Radio Access Network (RAN) virtualized infrastructure.

5G Security. This project area will seek innovative approaches that leverage 5G virtual functions/network slicing to define methods and approaches to achieve:

- Flexible 5G security architecture tailored for a government environment
- Government-controlled security policy
- End-to-end security for the mobile device to the core
- Approaches to implement interoperable secure unclassified voice across Federal government departments and agencies

Mobile Network Traffic Visibility for the Enterprise. This R&D area will focus on development of new or enhanced approaches to increase visibility into mobile network traffic and to improve protection for mobile devices and enterprise backend systems by independently monitoring traffic from mobile devices. Developed approaches must be scalable to meet the increasing demands and needs of the mobile workforce.

Program Manager Contact Information:

For more information about the overall Mobile Security R&D Program or its project areas, contact the program manager at:

Vincent Sritapan

Program Manager
Office of Mission & Capability Support
Science & Technology Directorate
Department of Homeland Security
Email: Vincent.Sritapan@hq.dhs.gov

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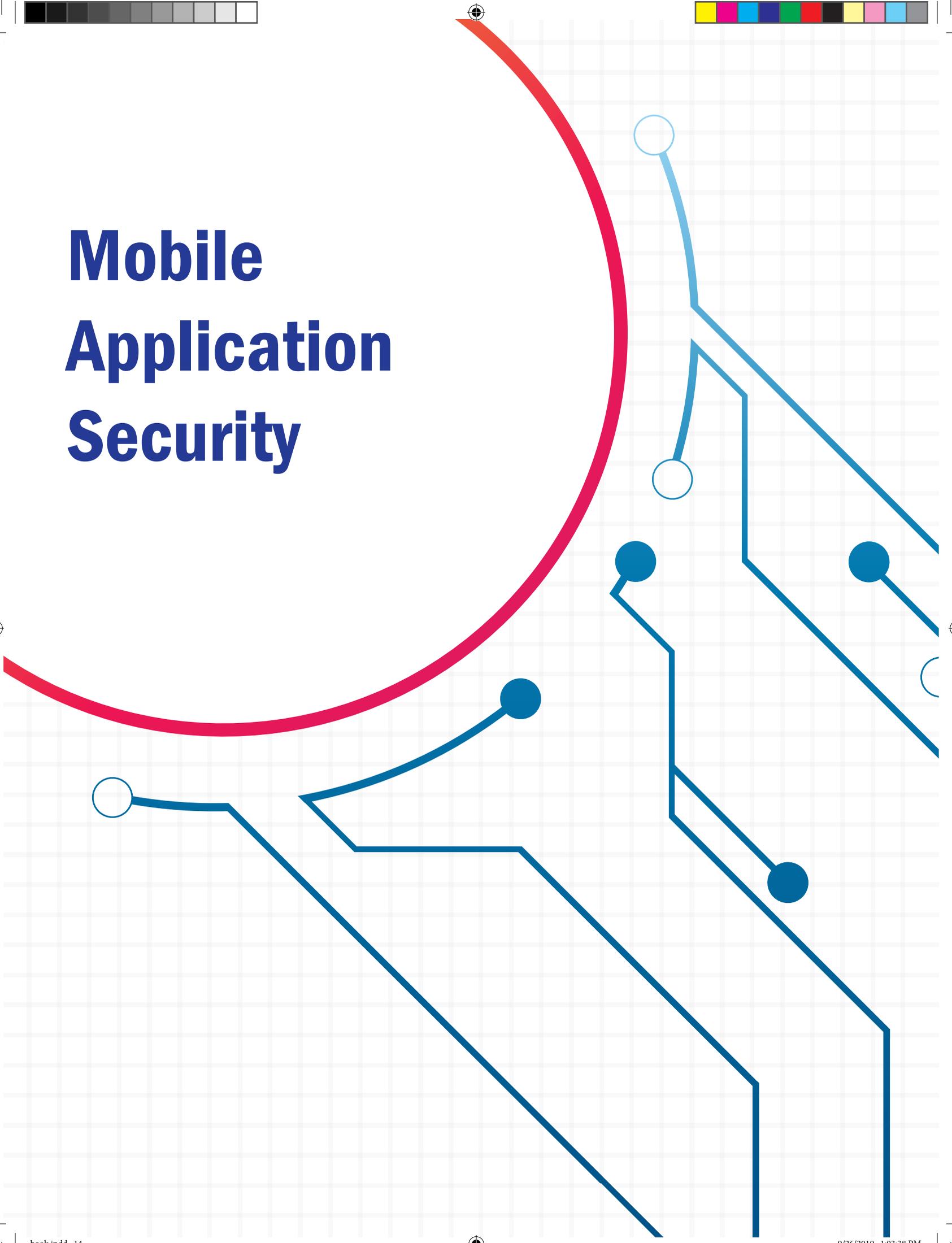


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Mobile Application Security



Tom Suder, tsuder@apcerto.com

Overview

This platform is a framework for orchestrating the entire mobile application (app) security process. The research team is developing solutions for normalizing and rating mobile apps based on predefined standards.

Customer Need

We live in an era of ubiquitous connectivity, real-time information sharing and unrestricted mobility. These capabilities affect our personal lives as well as businesses and government agencies. There will be an estimated six billion connected smartphones worldwide in 2020 (https://www.cnn.com/2017/01/17/6-billion-smartphones-will-be-in-circulation-in-2020-ihc-report.html), all running apps that enable users to communicate with networks and databases. As a result, mobile apps have become the most prominent avenue for attacks, hijacks and information leaks. To address these issues, security gaps in the mobile app lifecycle must be closed, the automation levels in testing and analysis must be increased, and the reliability of vetting results must be improved through standardization of base-level security requirements and evidence-based analysis.

Approach

This solution is built around a machine-learning, Bayesian risk-detection algorithm originally developed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Lincoln Laboratory. This automated infrastructure easily can accept various threat models constructed by different market segments. The embedded algorithms perform a selective creation of logical groupings of attack vectors to assign an aggregated risk score. This approach enables normalization of app-vetting results to different standards such as the National Information Assurance Partnership (NIAP), Open Web Application Security Project, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, and Sarbanes–Oxley Act.

Benefits

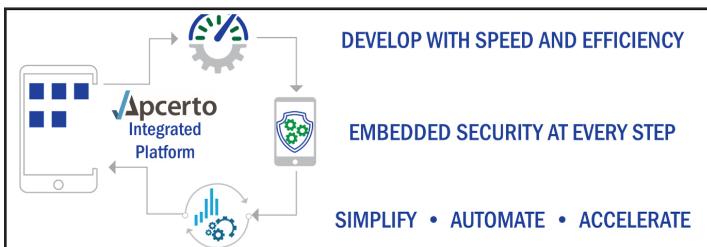
The solution delivers the benefits of a holistic mobile app security platform. It assesses, normalizes and provides a security rating with supporting advice and recommendations for mobile apps. The project testing is based on predefined standards and customized tests that are designed around an app’s architecture, use-cases and the threat landscape.

Competitive Advantage

The holistic security platform provides a DevSecOps framework for orchestrating the entire mobile ap security process. This solution—compared to alternatives in the marketplace—is more cost-efficient, less time consuming, simplified by automation and verified to meet baseline mobile app security standards.

Next Steps

Implementing a DevSecOps methodology, the performer will use its core mobile security technology to integrate with a structured collection of related software assets, operational models and methodologies to complete a holistic mobile app security and development platform. The performer also will ingest outputs from other security tool vendors and translate their evaluation results using a normalized scoring system. The project roadmap also includes expanding the technology use-case from mobile to digital applications, wearables and other Internet of Things devices and objects.



The Apcerto Mobile App Security and Development Orchestration Platform



Tom Karygiannis, tom@kryptowire.com

Overview

There is a significant security gap in the mobile application (app) development lifecycle in which the developer can introduce insecure code or code that could allow behavior that could violate management policies. These instances could represent vectors of attack or issues that will fail security testing, requiring rework and delays. Red Hat, Inc. and Kryptowire LLC will integrate code-scanning technology into the mobile app development lifecycle, develop new capabilities and enhance the Red Hat Mobile Application Platform (RHMAP), while leveraging the mobile app information assurance software testing by Kryptowire for iOS and Android platforms.

Customer Need

Resolving insecurities or policy violations in code after an app has been built requires considerable time and cost and can introduce delays in its release. Addressing these issues requires the introduction of secure-code scanning earlier in the development lifecycle.

Approach

The performers will build an integrated platform that enforces end-to-end security for mobile solutions and reduces the cost of maintaining mobile security policies—during the development process and while the apps are in use. The solution will automatically enforce checks to ensure all code and third-party libraries comply with U.S. mobile security standards before releasing it for deployment. Scanning will happen on the source code as the app is being developed, allowing secure integrations to RedHat OpenShift mobile backend services. Support for native development and integration to the most popular integrated development environments (IDEs) ensures that all mobile developers can use the tools.

Benefits

This unique capability will deliver continuous security assurance in mobile app development and result in automated governance of apps that comply with stringent government standards, thus minimizing the likelihood of human error when releasing apps. It will support mobile app development and updates in compliance with the highest federal government mobile security requirements, to include National Information Assurance Partnership and National Institute of Standards and Technology standards.

Competitive Advantage

This will be the first integrated commercial offering that enforces an end-to-end security model in the mobile app lifecycle. It will reduce the cost of maintaining mobile security policies during the app development process and while apps are in use. It will increase the velocity of secure mobile app development and updates.

Next Steps

The performers will provide source code scanning tools that integrate with the most popular mobile development IDEs. They will also provide necessary application programming interfaces and documentation for using RedHat OpenShift mobile backend services in native Android and iOS apps.



Daemon Morell, daemon.morrell@lookout.com

Overview

In this project, Lookout is advancing new mobile endpoint security capabilities that alert device users, mobile enterprise administrators and security personnel to security threats and provide the ability to remediate vulnerabilities.

Customer Need

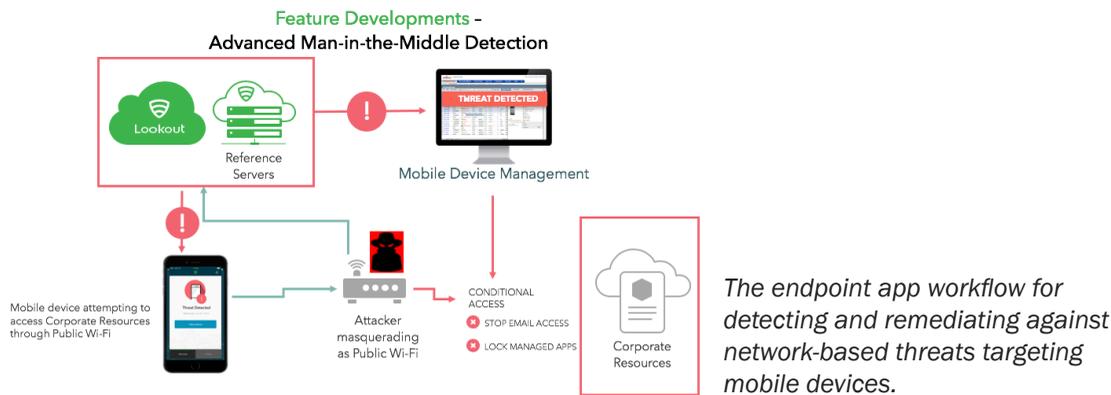
Given the proliferation of mobile device and application (app) use and the expanding mobile infrastructure, identifying and responding to threats to the mobile ecosystem is essential. To secure mobile endpoints, mobile enterprise management solutions must protect data on mobile devices and data in motion. Network-based attacks can exfiltrate corporate sensitive data despite enterprise managers and application developers following security best practices. For example, employees travel and use Wi-Fi hotspots that may be prone to network attacks at coffee shops, airports and other public places. These endpoint security capabilities will provide confidence to the end-user that their communications are not being intercepted or modified.

Approach

The performer is developing new app-threat, -risk and -vulnerability detection and protection capabilities and enhancing existing capabilities in its cloud-based Mobile Endpoint Security platform to protect mobile devices. These enhancements will strengthen the ability of government and enterprise to securely enable the use of mobile technologies for mission-critical activities. The work will enhance visibility into:

- Malicious and risky applications;
- Phishing attacks;
- Detection of side-loaded applications and non-app store signers;
- Network-based threats;
- Mobile device and application vulnerability detection/management
- Continuous Conditional Access.

The enhanced solution will be available for iOS and Android devices. An example of protection for network-based threats is shown in the following graphic.



Benefits

The benefits are to focus on threats that put mobile devices at risk. The Man-in-the-Middle approach minimizes false-positive alerts and by using safer networks, enables users to be more productive, with less risk to the misappropriation of sensitive information. Administrators also will have visibility into the capabilities and functions of all apps within their environment. This capability will allow them to identify apps that may pose significant risk based on the permissions they have on a device, the types of data they collect and where data may be exfiltrated.

Next Steps

The performer is developing a localized remediation solution that will control a network connection if a threat is detected on a mobile device—whether app, operating system or network-based. This solution can deny access to corporate resources, lock apps that are leaking data or block all network traffic (i.e., place the device in “airplane mode”) until the threat is resolved. This solution will be valuable when a Mobile Device Management system is unavailable.



Jonathan Felmei, jonathan.felmei@progeny.net

Overview

The Department of Homeland Security’s No-Code/Low-Code Mobile Security Framework integrates the flexibility of Xamarin cross-platform capability and Progeny’s custom security libraries to bring its users security-centered software development templates. Our No-Code/Low-Code Mobile Security Framework combines the ease of quickly creating frontend user interface elements, backend integrations and data models with consistent and straightforward implementation of embedded security controls and configurations with each mobile application (app). Whether Apple, Android, Microsoft, on-premises, public or private clouds, each app meets the National Information Assurance Partnership (NIAP) Mobile Application Protection Profile.

Customer Need

Threats to mobile devices exist across all elements of the mobile environment and require a security approach that differs from the protections developed for personal computers. Organizations must be able to rapidly deliver secure applications with increased confidence. The framework integrates mobile information security governance and risk management into each app’s foundation. Additionally, organizations need flexibility to manage their mobile platforms. Preferences frequently change as requirements or budgets shift. The framework allows apps to be written once and deployed across each mobile environment. The cross-platform environment provides flexibility, while preventing the app and organization from being locked into a particular platform, potentially causing implications as technology lifecycles advance.

Approach

This project establishes enterprise-wide mobile security practices through mobile app development governance standards, best practices, tooling, and code templates at the platform level that provide re-usable, pre-developed app workflow templates with little to no code needed by a developer.

Benefits

The no-code/low-code templates integrated with Visual Studio provide an easily adaptable framework for experienced software engineers, full stack developers, students and newcomers alike. The embedded security controls decrease development and remediation costs with security built into each app’s design and architecture.

Competitive Advantage

The capability to write cross-platform, native apps from a single codebase makes the features provided by the platform-specific application programming interfaces (APIs) accessible within the Xamarin development tools. With mobile security, both device security and application security need to be considered. Progeny has investigated and implemented device and mobile app security and identified requirements and best practices, while developing a methodology using Samsung KNOX to deliver security hardened, DISA Security Technical Implementation Guide (STIG) compliant, Samsung Android devices.

Next Steps

Progeny is expanding the Secure Template Alpha 1.0 release to deliver a full no-code/low-code development platform built on top of Visual Studio that will use item templates, item wizards and an application wizard. The development platform will enable developers to construct and configure the various components of a Xamarin mobile application through a graphical user interface (GUI) without having to write any code. The initial release of the no-code/low-code platform is expected the first quarter of FY2020.



Kabir Kasargod, kabirk@qti.qualcomm.com

Overview

Today's mobile security solutions attempt to address continuous validation and protection for mobile applications (apps) and devices by focusing on developing capabilities that operate within the High Level Operating Systems (HLOS). These efforts include technologies for multi-factor authentication and malware detection. While these approaches have merit, they are limited in addressing zero-day threats. Attackers often undermine or disable HLOS-based security by modifying the kernel and installing rootkits, thereby compromising government and industry security. This project demonstrates the use of a hardware-anchored Mission Critical Grade Security Layer (MCGSL) to address zero-day attacks on commercial mobile devices by leveraging the Qualcomm® Snapdragon™ Mobile Platform and extending capabilities to a mobile app security testing platform.

Customer Need

Intelligent adversaries can craft attacks deeper down the mobile device stack to attack the root of the device to disable HLOS and app defenses. Government and enterprise IT groups need security solutions that provide enhanced visibility into advanced mobile threats and increased trust that the user of the mobile device is the genuine user. Combatting this level of threat requires a security solution that operates at a deeper execution level.

Approach

The MCGSL framework will provide application programming interfaces (APIs) to the mobile app platform, allowing continuous validation and monitoring of third-party apps, run-time integrity checking of the device and continuous authentication of the user leveraging multiple biometric and contextual factors. These solutions operate at a deeper execution level, resulting in improved resilience to rootkit evasion and disablement.



Benefits

This three-pronged approach: 1) offers coverage against a wide range of threats, 2) reduces false-positives of security incidents and 3) has the potential to uncover previously unseen threats. Organizations quickly can isolate compromised devices, eliminate malicious apps with real-time updates to on-device threat models and strengthen the user-authentication process. Additionally, because this is operating at the hardware level, power is optimized to allow for continuous monitoring

Competitive Advantage

The MCGSL is intended to enable existing or new third-party applications and services to further enhance their validation and protection capabilities.

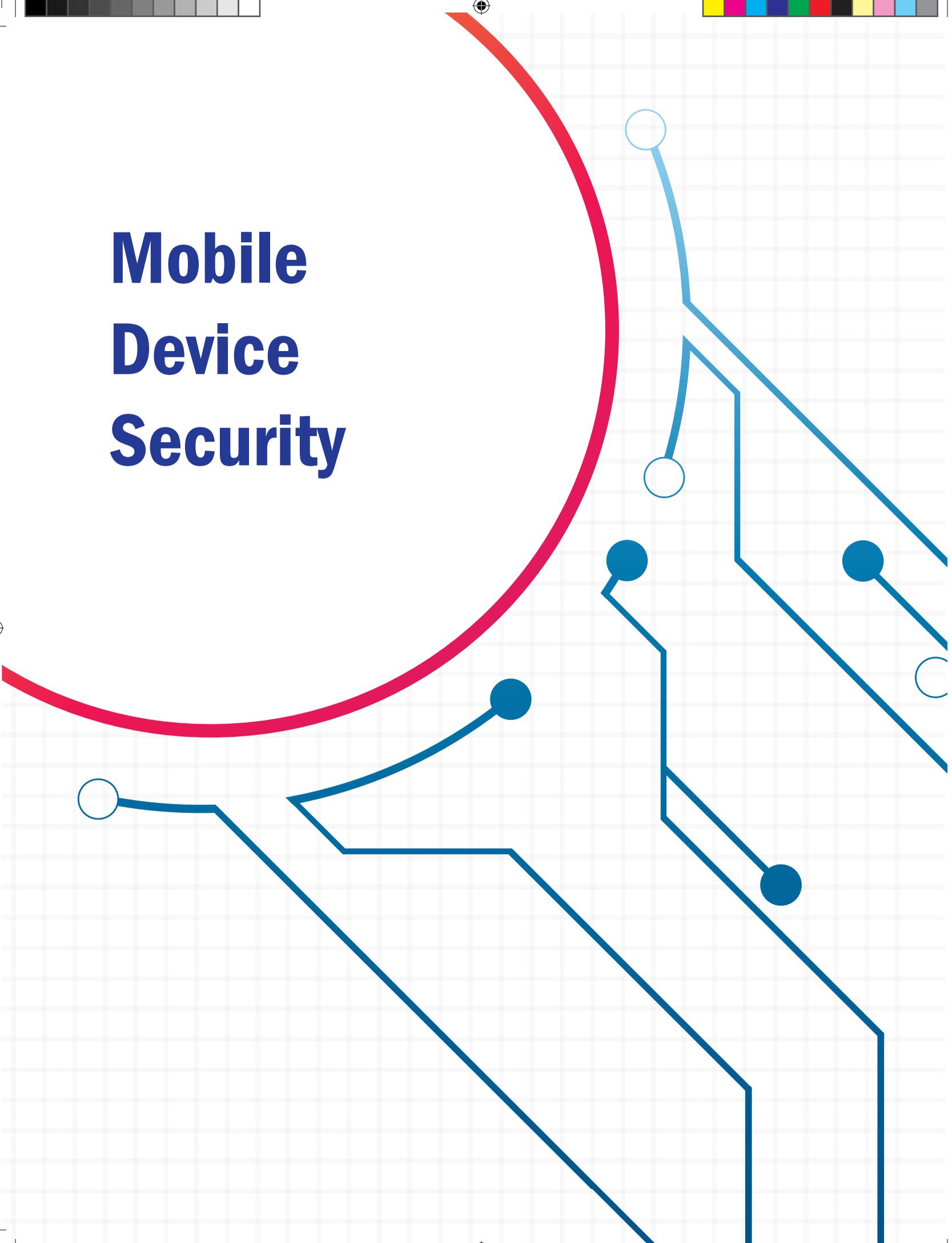
Next Steps

This project is currently in its second year and is being demonstrated at multiple events, which so far have included Mobile World Congress, RSA and DHS S&T events. We plan to continue to showcase the technology to identify mission critical needs where this capability can be helpful and see how it fits into operational environments across government agencies.





Mobile Device Security



Matthew Stern, matthew.stern@intelligentwaves.com

Overview

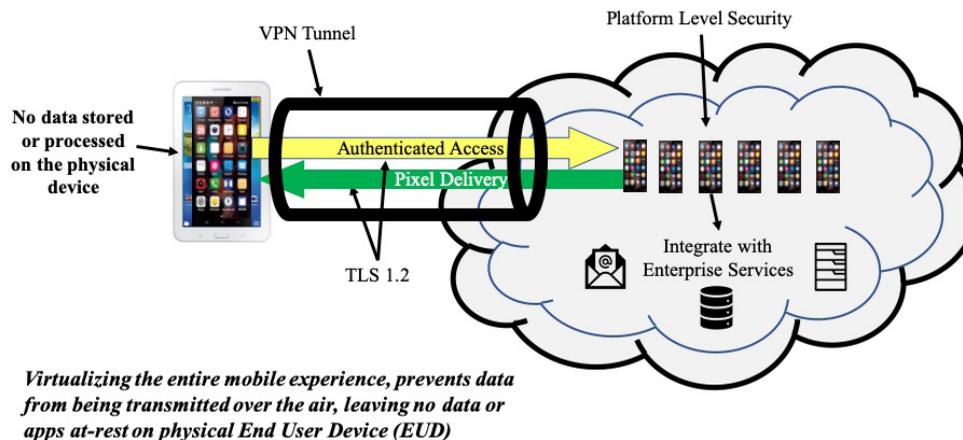
Mobile devices have revolutionized business processes, allowing workers to be more productive, stay more connected and react to incidents in near real-time. Unfortunately, mobile devices also bring tremendous risk to organizations as sensitive data and applications (apps) are at risk on devices that can easily be lost, stolen or hacked. The technology developed in this project enables organizations to virtualize mobile devices so sensitive apps and data can be made available to mobile devices virtually, while maintaining appropriate security controls for the data on back-end servers.

Customer Need

Many regulated industries and various parts of state, local and federal governments have strict policies to protect digital assets. With users increasingly relying on mobile devices for work, these industries and governments have been pressed to come up with answers. While traditional enterprise mobility solutions have focused on managing the apps, data and mobile device itself, attackers have continued to find ways to compromise mobile devices. There is a strong need—especially in regulated industries and government—for enabling users with mobile access without putting sensitive assets at risk.

Approach

The technology's unique approach is to avoid deploying sensitive assets to the mobile device entirely. Instead, with a virtual mobile smartphone that runs in a secure datacenter, users can rely on a simple thin client mobile app to connect and stream data to the screen of the secure virtual smartphone. With this virtual mobile infrastructure, organizations can enable mobile access while keeping all sensitive data and apps safe in a secure datacenter.



The Hypori Virtual Mobile Infrastructure Components

Benefits

This approach enables:

- A zero data-at-rest approach to mobile access, where no sensitive information is ever stored on the mobile endpoint
- Complete oversight and management of all virtual mobile devices, enabling much simpler app and data deployment, threat remediation and more
- Increased privacy for the end-user

Competitive Advantage

Traditional approaches to secure mobility focus heavily on the mobile device. Unfortunately, there are many ways for attackers to compromise mobile endpoints, which already are highly susceptible to being lost or stolen. Other virtual mobile infrastructure vendors have chosen to architect their mobile virtualization solutions with one large terminal server, where multiple users can access their own set of mobile apps and data. The competitive advantage of this new approach is in its product architecture, which ensures that there is no data on the physical mobile device and where, in multiple user situations, each user has a dedicated virtual device to protect his or her data separately.

Next Steps

The next step is to deploy the technology at production scale across government agencies.

Angelos Stavrou, angelos@kryptowire.com

Overview

Kryptowire has begun research and development (R&D) on an automated system for the detection of prepositioned cyber-threats in mobile applications (apps), internet of things (IoT) devices, embedded systems and critical infrastructure technologies. The project is called Scalable Analysis of Android & iOS Firmware or SAFARI.

Customer Need

Consumers, enterprises and government agencies must be able to independently and automatically detect prepositioned cyber-threats in mobile and IoT devices to prevent the loss of confidential information and protect against cyber and physical attacks. As new software and firmware is continuously introduced into the marketplace and automatically updated over the air (OTA), poor programming, intentional backdoors and security vulnerabilities have been inserted into consumer, enterprise and critical infrastructure mobile and IoT devices. Researchers have discovered data exfiltration and undisclosed backdoors that can enable adversaries to collect data and surveil individuals and IoT devices.

Approach

This R&D project will develop a comprehensive framework that enables analysts to automatically determine possible threat vectors stemming from prepositioned threats. This framework will cover the collection of personally identifiable information, software backdoors, inconsistent validation checks, ineffective security checks and debug modes for mobile operating systems. The threat vectors will be codified into the prototype that will automatically apply concolic and forced-path execution analyses to determine the existence of a threat. The effort will scale to thousands of firmware images and cover as many vendors and firmware versions as possible.

Benefits

This approach is suitable for whole-firmware testing and standalone apps. The scalable, forced-path execution examines behavior without requiring a device, and flagged apps and firmware are processed on an instrumented device for further analysis.

Competitive Advantage

Monitoring the mobile and IoT marketplace using arduous and non-repeatable manual reverse engineering, vulnerability assessment and penetration techniques is simply not scalable or even feasible in many devices due to the complexity and size of their code. Moreover, device firmware images can be on the order of 2GB, software is updated rapidly OTA, adversaries continue to improve their techniques by employing obfuscation and anti-reversing defenses, and devices use root detection and integrity checks. The proposed approach will automate the analysis and discovery of prepositioned threats.

Next Steps

The next steps are improving the prototype system with implementation of taint analysis, behavioral signature detection and analysis of unprotected interfaces on the Android platform. Additionally, the prototype will be expanded to include support for static and dynamic analysis of iOS firmware.



Chieu Nguyen, chieu.nguyen@metronome-software.com

Overview

While mobile devices are the predominant consumer product for accessing the internet, internet of things (IoT) devices and sensors are flooding the landscape of essential electronics at home, work and public spaces. They are exposed to the same cyber-threats and are prime targets for adversaries attempting to disrupt sensitive operations or steal proprietary, personal or financial data. Metronome, along with its technology partners, is developing SENsor Secure Enterprise Infrastructure (SENSEI), which provides existing systems complete security overlay for mobile, IoT devices and their applications (apps).

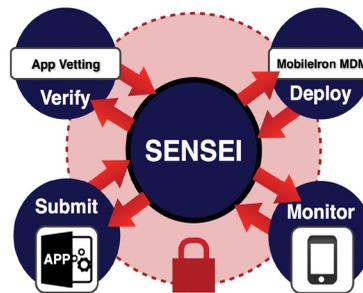
Customer Need

The government’s workforce—including members of the military and first responders—is quickly becoming cyber-enabled with cutting-edge mobile technology and sensors aiding their daily operations. If left unprotected, these devices are at risk to attacks by malicious actors. Malware has multiple attack vectors such as installing a faulty app containing zero-day exploits. This approach introduces a weak point in typically secure communications and operations, leading to compromised systems and even other apps.

Approach

Using mobile-device attestation and profiling technology combined with an app vetting and enterprise Mobile Device Management (MDM) software, SENSEI provides an existing system with capabilities and a lifecycle for device monitoring, detecting vulnerable apps prior to installation and taking corrective action should a compromise occur. End-user apps are first uploaded to SENSEI and dynamically scanned for exploitable vulnerabilities. Vetted apps are further security-wrapped by the MDM before deployment; all devices and their wrapped apps are actively monitored and managed. Furthermore, mobile devices can be configured to perform scheduled device health testing, yielding usage metrics gathered by SENSEI for evaluation.

Mobile apps are submitted to SENSEI, which are dynamically scanned for vulnerabilities. Once they pass, the apps are dynamically wrapped prior to deployment. Installed, wrapped apps and their devices are remotely monitored and managed by SENSEI, allowing existing system administrators to quickly take preventative and corrective action when a compromise occurs.



SENSEI Secure Lifecycle Diagram (Submission, App Vetting, MDM, Monitoring)

Benefits

Using SENSEI integrated with an MDM to protect cloud-based infrastructures from backend to mobile endpoints (e.g., smartphones, IoT, hubs and sensors) gives existing systems the assurance that their operators have equipment resilient against malware. With this added security, the danger of system components going dark, data being compromised and lost communications is greatly reduced. Additionally, SENSEI provides a policy-based infrastructure that enables the government to enforce interaction and data management policies between cooperating organizations at many levels.

Competitive Advantage

SENSEI leverages enterprise-level MDM technology that is FEDRamp-ready, currently being evaluated for use by the Defense Information Systems Agency and already being used by large companies worldwide. With this approach, SENSEI provides a certified, well-supported product experience for government end-users and system administrators.

Next Steps

The performer will conduct pilot testing with the DHS S&T Next-Generation First Responders Apex program to integrate select parts of its mobile software systems with SENSEI and evaluate the impact it has on system security and overall performance.



Nathaniel Boggs, nathaniel@redballoonsecurity.com

Overview

Device firmware is typically treated as a black box by organizations having little to no visibility into the code running on their devices. This code often contains a variety of security weaknesses such as N-day known vulnerabilities in shared library code, weak or hard-coded passwords, disabling of default operating security features or even malicious implants added at some point in the supply chain. Firmware Automated Analysis at Scale with Testing (FAAST) will leverage FRAK, Red Balloon Security's proprietary firmware manipulation framework that automates the unpacking and analysis of firmware. FAAST will create new FRAK analyzer modules capable of identifying a variety of security weaknesses to provide detailed reports for organizations to inform their device selection and help vendors to improve.

Customer Need

Customers have limited visibility into the firmware running on their devices. Modern supply chains have numerous suppliers for a single device, any of which could add security weaknesses to the firmware. Without visibility into the firmware, customers have little to no idea of the true security posture of their devices.

Approach

FAAST will have a modular design with a variety of FRAK unpackers and analyzers. FRAK unpacks firmware sufficiently to be analyzed by using either existing unpackers for known device firmware formats or with new FRAK unpackers created for a device family. FAAST contains both device family-specific analyzers and generic analyzers. These FRAK analyzers will search for a variety of security weaknesses such as N-day vulnerabilities, hard-coded passwords, weak certificates, supply-chain malware and network service backdoors. FAAST then will verify the presence of vulnerabilities via an automated testbed to eliminate false-positives.

Benefits

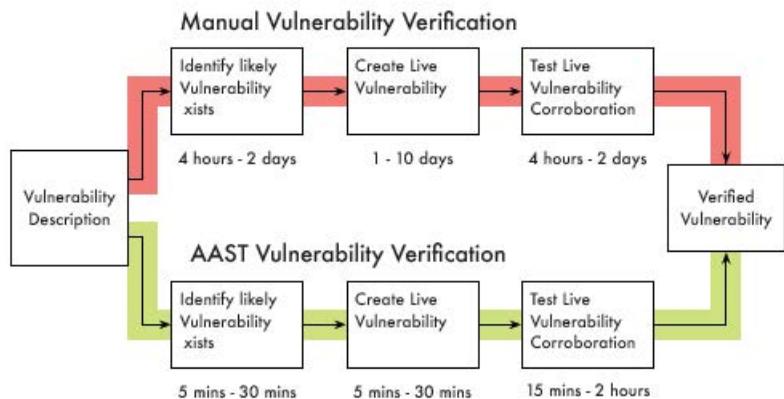
FAAST will provide organizations the tools needed to gain visibility into the firmware that their devices run. This visibility will specifically be used to discover vulnerable/suspicious code or data in the firmware. The reports from FAAST will provide direct information usable for evaluating the security posture of existing devices and helping vendors address the identified security weaknesses.

Competitive Advantage

Red Balloon Security will leverage its expertise in firmware manipulation and FRAK. FRAK will allow FAAST to scale quickly both in terms of analyzing more device families and creating new analyzers to find more types of security weaknesses.

Next Steps

The performer will scale FAAST into a comprehensive firmware analysis tool capable of generating detailed reports of the security posture of any firmware image leveraging the existing FRAK modular multi-node cluster design.



FAAST automates and removes or reduces from days to hours the human analyst time required for finding and verifying vulnerabilities in device firmware. This allows organizations to determine what vulnerabilities and security weaknesses their devices have at scale.





Mobile Security Guidance





Table of Mobile Security Guidance

There is a large and growing number of informational and guidance resources and best practices available to mobile enterprise managers to help them learn about and implement the latest security safeguards and attain the highest current state of security for their mobile ecosystem. But where can a busy mobile enterprise manager learn about all these informative resources in one place?

The following is a Table of Mobile Security Guidance compiled by the Department of Homeland Security, Science and Technology (S&T) Mobile Security Program. It's a one-stop, comprehensive reference tool you can use to conduct research of the latest developments in mobile security, identify potential upgrade matches, learn more about the new solutions and launch in-depth vetting of each applicable security solution.

If you learn of a new mobile security informational or guidance resource or best practice, please share it with us at SandT.PCS@hq.dhs.gov so we can add it to the guidance document.





Document	Author	Synopsis	Audience
Study on Mobile Device Security	DHS, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and Interagency Working Group	This report to Congress describes threats and vulnerabilities across the mobile ecosystem, identifies mitigations to defend against the threats as well as gaps in defenses, and provides recommendations to close the gaps. The recommendations include standards, best practices, need for policy changes, gaps in DHS authorities, and the need for continued and new R&D to address the threats.	CIOs, Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs), system owners, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals, government users, and consumers.
Navigating the Future of Mobile Services Report to American Technology Council & Federal CIO Council	Mobile Services Category Team (MSCT), Advanced Technology Academic Research Center (ATARC)	A compilation of 12 mobile documents spanning a diverse set of topics, including mobile application vetting, enterprise mobility management, mobile identity management, mobile device-as-a-service, mobile threat protection, mobile backend-as-a-service, and mobile strategy development. Developed as a collaborative effort between government and private industry representing 75 agencies, bureaus and companies.	CIOs, CISOs, system owners, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals
Mobility Program Guidance			
Mobile Computing Decision Framework (MCDF)	Mobile Technology Tiger Team (MTTT)	The MCDF provides a holistic decision-making process that assists organizations in determining which mobile solution, if any, will support their missions.	CIOs, CISOs, system owners, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals





Document	Author	Synopsis	Audience
Federal Mobile Computing Security Baseline	DHS, Department of Defense (DoD), NIST	The Federal Mobile Computing Security Baseline contains the moderate baseline for the most common federal mobility use case: federal employees operating agency-controlled mobile devices to access moderate impact systems on a Federal network. It includes the core controls for mobile device management (MDM) and mobile application management, as well as notional controls for identity and access management and data management.	CIOs, CISOs, system owners, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals
Mobile Security Reference Architecture (MSRA)	DHS, DoD, NIST	The MSRA is a flexible architecture designed to be adapted to fit the needs of any department or agency. Readers of the MSRA document should understand the role of each component in an architecture and the associated controls and management functions. This knowledge will enable a department or agency IT architect to design a “best fit” solution for their enterprise and provide a solid set of security principles and controls to secure that solution.	CIOs, CISOs, system owners, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals
NIST Interagency Report (NISTIR) 8144: Assessing Threats to Mobile Devices & Infrastructure Draft	NIST	This document outlines a catalogue of threats to mobile devices and associated mobile infrastructure to support development and implementation of mobile security capabilities, best practices, and security solutions to better protect enterprise IT.	CIOs, CISOs, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals





Document	Author	Synopsis	Audience
Security Guidance for Critical Areas of Mobile Computing—Mobile Working Group	Cloud Security Alliance	This document discusses the top threats to mobile security and organizational maturity in mobile computing and provides best practice recommendations in the areas of bring your own device, Mobile Authentication, App Store Security, and Mobile Device Management (MDM).	CIOs, CISOs, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals
HiMSS—Mobile Security Toolkit	Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HiMSS)	This toolkit provides health care organizations resources to control and secure their mobile computing and storage devices as a part of their overall mobile security program.	CIOs, CISOs, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals
Privacy Policy for DHS Mobile Applications, Instruction 047-01-003	DHS	This policy provides baseline privacy requirements for DHS mobile applications. Additional privacy protections may be necessary depending on the purpose and capabilities of each individual mobile application.	Privacy Officers, CIOs, CISOs, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals
Mobile Enterprise Best Practices Guidance			
NIST Special Publication (SP) 1800-4 Practice Guide: Mobile Device Security	NIST National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (NCCoE)	This document proposes a reference design on how to architect enterprise-class protection for mobile devices accessing corporate resources. The example solutions presented can be used by any organization implementing an Enterprise Mobility Management (EMM) solution on premise or in the cloud.	Executives, cybersecurity managers, cybersecurity professionals, engineers, administrators
NIST SP 800-124r1: Guidelines for Managing the Security of Mobile Devices in the Enterprise	NIST	This publication helps organizations centrally manage the security of mobile devices. It provides recommendations for selecting, implementing, and using centralized management technologies, and explains the security concerns inherent in mobile device use and provides recommendations for securing mobile devices throughout their lifecycles.	Executives, cybersecurity managers, cybersecurity professionals, engineers, administrators
Commercial	National	Describes a system-level framework	CIOs, CISOs, system





Document	Author	Synopsis	Audience
Commercial Solutions for Classified Mobile Access Capability Package	National Security Agency (NSA)	Describes a system-level framework for implementing mobile data-in-transit solutions using layered commercial products to protect classified information.	CIOs, CISOs, system owners, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals
Mobile Device Best Practices Guidance			
NIST SP 800-164 (Draft): Guidelines on Hardware-Rooted Security in Mobile Devices	NIST	This document provides a common baseline of security technologies that can be leveraged across multiple device types to provide device integrity, isolation, and protected storage through the use of hardware-based roots of trust.	OS vendors, device manufacturers, security software vendors, carriers, application software developers, cybersecurity professionals
NIST SP 800-88 Rev. 1: Guidelines for Media Sanitization	NIST	This document provides media sanitization guidelines for mobile devices based on type and intended disposition.	System owners, property managers, legal, privacy, IT professionals, cybersecurity professionals, device users
NISTIR 7981 (Draft) Mobile, PIV (Personal Identity Verification), and Authentication	NIST	This document analyzes various current and near-term options for remote electronic authentication from mobile devices that leverage both the investment in the PIV and PIV-I infrastructures and the unique security capabilities of mobile devices.	IT professionals, cybersecurity professionals, system architects
NIST SP 800-121 Rev1 Guide to Bluetooth Security	NIST	This publication provides information on the security capabilities of Bluetooth technologies and offers recommendations to organizations employing Bluetooth technologies for securing them effectively.	CIOs, CISOs, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, auditors, cybersecurity professionals, researchers, analysts
Mobile Device Security a Comparison of Platforms	Gartner	This assessment aids security professionals by comparing and analyzing the security controls of the most popular mobile device operating systems.	CIOs, CISOs, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals





Document	Author	Synopsis	Audience
Mobile Applications Best Practices Guidance			
NIST SP 800-163: Vetting the Security of Mobile Applications	NIST	This document defines the app vetting process. App vetting comprises two main activities: app testing and app approval/rejection. The app testing activity involves testing an app for software vulnerabilities using services, tools, and humans to derive vulnerability reports and risk assessments. The app approval/rejection activity involves the evaluation of these reports and risk assessments along with additional criteria to determine the app's conformance with organizational security requirements and ultimately the approval or rejection of the app for deployment on the organization's mobile devices.	CIOs, CISOs, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals, mobile application developers, mobile application testers
Adoption of Commercial Mobile Applications within the Federal Government	Digital Services Advisory Group, CIO Council	This document surveys the adoption of mobile applications in federal agencies and seeks to assist them in developing an approach for integrating commercial applications into their operations. Section V includes an analysis that outlines common agency activities during the commercial mobile application lifecycle. These activities are plotted in relation to the level of organizational control versus user support their unique missions.	CIOs, CISOs, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals, mobile application developers, mobile application testers
NIST SP 1800-1 Practice Guide: Securing Electronic Health Records on Mobile Devices	NIST NCCoE	NCCoE collaborated with leading health care industry groups and technology vendors to develop an example solution to show health care organizations how they can secure electronic health records on mobile devices.	CIOs, CISOs, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals



Document	Author	Synopsis	Audience
NISTIR 8136: An Overview of Mobile Application Vetting Services for Public Safety	NIST	This document is a high-level investigation of app vetting services with the goal of enumerating the traits they exhibit that may be useful to public safety.	CIOs, CISOs, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals, app developers, app testers
Mobile Application Single Sign-On for Public Safety and First Responders	NIST NCCoE	The vast diversity of public safety personnel, missions, and operational environments magnifies the need for a nimble authentication solution for public safety. This project will explore various multifactor authenticators currently in use or potentially offered in the future by the public safety community as their next-generation networks are brought online. The effort will not only build an interoperable solution that can accept various authenticators to speed access to online systems while maintaining an appropriate amount of security, but the project also will focus on delivering single sign-on (SSO) capabilities to both native and web-/browser-based apps.	CIOs, CISOs, System owners, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals, app developers
Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP) - Mobile Security Project	OWASP	The OWASP Mobile Security Project is a centralized resource intended to give developers and security teams the resources necessary to build and maintain secure mobile applications. Through the project, the goal is to classify mobile security risks and provide developmental controls to reduce their impact or likelihood of exploitation.	CIOs, CISOs, system owners, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals, app developers, app testers





Document	Author	Synopsis	Audience
Cloud Security Alliance (CSA) Mobile Application Security Testing Initiative	Cloud Security Alliance	The initiative seeks to create a more secure cloud computing ecosystem that focuses on addressing endpoint security issues on mobile applications. It establishes secure engineering approaches to application architecture, design, testing and vetting.	CIOs, CISOs, system owners, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals, app developers, app testers
Cellular Networks Guidance			
NIST SP 800-187 Guide to LTE (Long Term Evolution) Security	NIST	This document serves as a guide to the fundamentals of how LTE networks operate and explores the LTE security architecture. It also provides an analysis of the threats posed to LTE networks and supporting mitigations.	Telecommunications engineers, system administrators, cybersecurity professionals, security researchers
Signaling System 7 (SS7) Interconnect Security Monitoring Guidelines (Global System for Mobile Association (GSMA) FS.11)	GSMA	This document serves as a guide for MNOs on current mitigations for SS7/Diameter threats specifically related to interconnection fraud.	Telecommunications engineers, system administrators, cybersecurity professionals, security researchers
Mobile Application Standards			
National Information Assurance Partnership (NIAP) Protection Profile for Application Software	NIAP	This assurance standard specifies information security functionality requirements for application software, including mobile applications. This standard specifies requirements to ensure that applications correctly implement security functionality and conform to norms of application behavior.	CIOs, CISOs, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals





Document	Author	Synopsis	Audience
Requirements for Vetting Mobile Apps from the Protection Profile for Application Software	NIAP	This document presents functional and assurance requirements found in the Protection Profile for Application Software which are appropriate for vetting mobile application software outside formal Common Criteria evaluations.	CIOs, CISOs, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals
Mobile Device Technology Stack and Device Physical Access Standards			
NIAP Protection Profile for Mobile Device Fundamentals	NIAP	This assurance standard specifies information security requirements for mobile devices for use in an enterprise. A mobile device in the context of this assurance standard is a device that is composed of a hardware platform and its system software. The mobile device provides essential services such as cryptographic services, data-at-rest protection, and key storage services to support the secure operation of applications on the device. Additional security features such as security policy enforcement, application mandatory access control, anti-exploitation features, user authentication, and software integrity protection are implemented to address threats.	CIOs, CISOs, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals
Global Platform Specification for Trusted Execution Environment/ Global Platform Specification for Secure Element Management	GlobalPlatform	GlobalPlatform identifies, develops and publishes technical specifications and market configurations that facilitate the secure and interoperable deployment and management of multiple-embedded applications on secure chip technology. Its proven technology is regarded as the international industry standard for building a trusted end-to-end solution that serves multiple users and supports several business models.	Product vendors, original equipment manufacturers (OEM), testers





Document	Author	Synopsis	Audience
Trusted Computing Group Specifications for Trusted Platform Module	Trusted Computing Group	Trusted Platform Module (TPM) is an international standard for a secure crypto-processor, which is a dedicated microprocessor designed to secure hardware by integrating cryptographic keys into devices.	OEM, mobile network operators, mobile service providers
Mobile Enterprise Standards			
NIAP Protection Profile for Mobile Device Management	NIAP	MDM products allow enterprises to apply security policies to mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets. The purpose of these policies is to establish a security posture adequate to permit mobile devices to process enterprise data and connect to enterprise network resources. This protection profile specifies baseline requirements for MDM systems.	CIOs, CISOs, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals
NIAP Protection Profile - Extended Package for Mobile Device Management Agents	NIAP	This extended package describes baseline security requirements for MDM agents. An MDM agent is the mobile device-resident component of an MDM product.	CIOs, CISOs, senior managers, system engineers, system architects, cybersecurity professionals

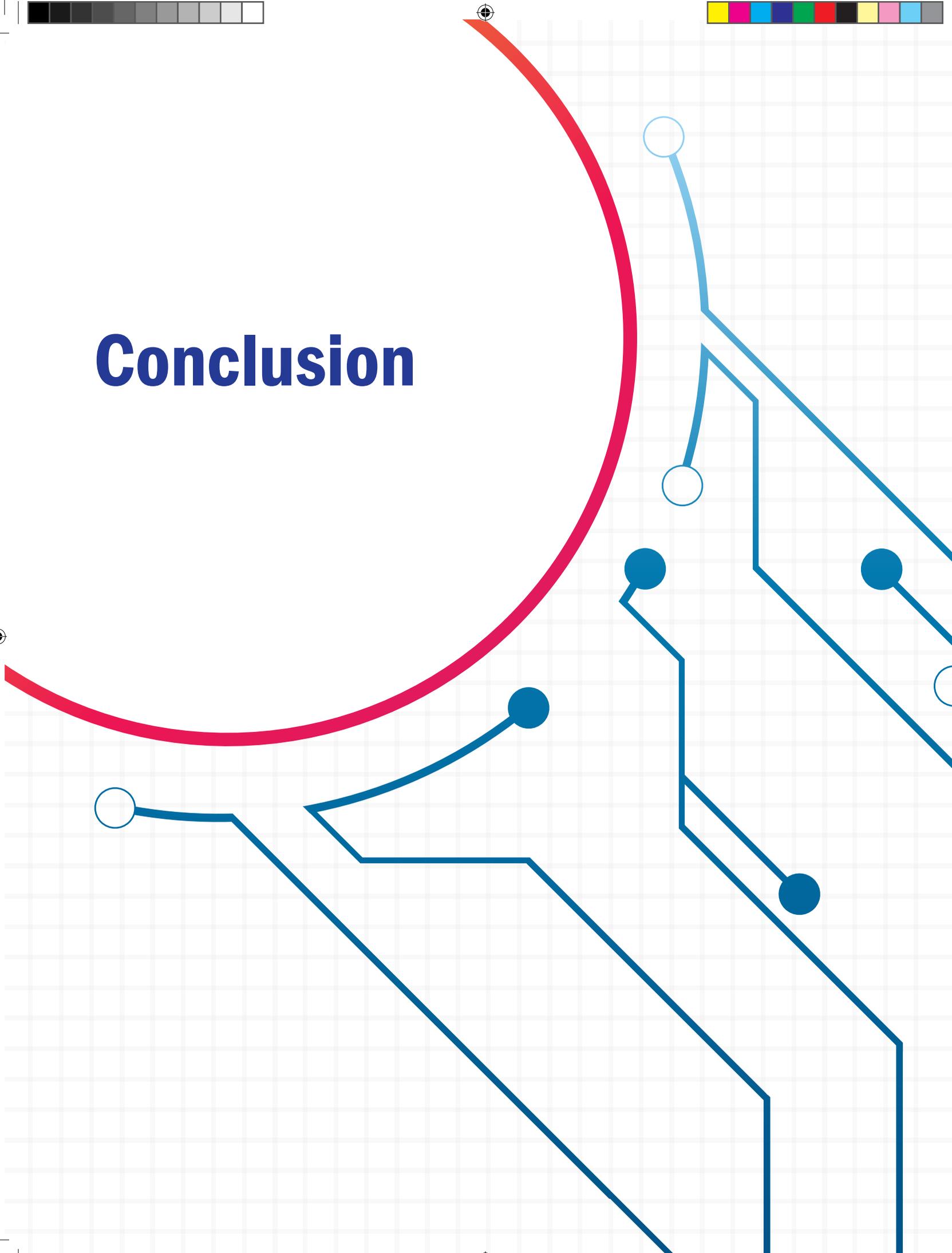
List of Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
ATARC	Advanced Technology Academic Research Center
CIO	Chief Information Officer
CISO	Chief Information Security Officer
CSA	Cloud Security Alliance
DoD	Department of Defense
GSMA	Global System for Mobile Association
HiMSS	Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society
IT	Information Technology
LTE	Long Term Evolution
MCDF	Mobile Computing Decision Framework
MDM	Mobile Device Management
MSCT	Mobile Services Category Team
MSRA	Mobile Security Reference Architecture
MTTT	Mobile Technology Tiger Team
NCCoE	National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence
NIAP	National Information Assurance Partnership
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
NISTIR	NIST Interagency Report
NSA	National Security Agency
OEM	Original Equipment Manufacturer
OWASP	Open Web Application Security Project
PIV	Personal Identity Verification
SP	Special Publication
SS7	Signaling System 7
TPM	Trusted Platform Module





Conclusion



Conclusion

Mobile technologies evolve rapidly to meet increasing consumer demand and maintain competitive edge. The high adoption rate of mobile devices, apps and services by consumers and government has made the technologies a new target for attackers, who take advantage of this rapid pace of change to identify vulnerabilities or introduce malware into the ecosystem. S&T's Mobile Security Research and Development (R&D) Program was established to address the technical, operational and policy challenges that inhibit the government's adoption of secure mobile technologies. Since its inception, the program has had significant impact across the federal government and has successfully demonstrated and transitioned new technologies and capabilities for government use. These successes include:

- Delivery of the Study on Mobile Device Security report to Congress in May 2017. In addition to bringing to Congress's attention to the threats and vulnerabilities of mobile technologies, the report's recommendations already are impacting government policy and programs.
- Kryptowire's mobile application ("app") vetting technology has transitioned from R&D to commercialization.
- Bluetooth access control is part of Hypori's Virtual Mobile Infrastructure product by Intelligent Waves, LLC.
- Inclusion of 12 mobile-specific metrics in the Fiscal Year 2018 Federal Information Security Modernization Act metrics.
- Collaboration with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to update relevant special publications (SP) to reflect changes in technologies, technical capabilities and policy (e.g., NIST SP 800-124 revision 1: Guidelines for Managing the Security of Mobile Devices in the Enterprise, and NIST SP 800-163: Vetting the Security of Mobile Applications).
- DHS and its partners jointly published a white paper, "Securing Mobile Applications for First Responders," following a successful mobile app vetting pilot project with the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials.

The program's initial investment in mobile security R&D— automated app security vetting technology that examines mobile apps against government standards— has been successfully piloted and transitioned to the marketplace. The goal for this project was to accelerate adoption of secure mobile apps into missions with increased efficiency and reduced cost through development and fielding of a consistent, repeatable, standards-based approach to vetting mobile apps. Presently, the Kryptowire app vetting technology is available for purchase by departments and agencies on General Service Administration (GSA) IT Schedule 70.

The success of the Mobile Application Security project's app vetting technology would not have been possible without the active participation of dedicated federal customers and stakeholders, who provided requirements and guidance for all Mobile Security R&D program projects and then piloted and adopted the technology in their environments. DHS S&T extends its appreciation and thanks to these customers and look forward to their continued engagement in mobile security R&D projects, including the following U.S. government departments and agencies:

- DHS Headquarters
- DHS Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)
- DHS Federal Emergency Management Agency
- DHS Transportation Security Administration

- DHS Customs and Border Protection
- Defense Information Systems Agency
- Department of Defense
- Department of Justice
- Federal CIO Council
- GSA
- Library of Congress
- National Information Assurance Partnership
- NIST
- U.S. Army

Through customer partnerships, cross-agency collaborations and coordination with federal mobile working groups, and the contributions of the industry and academic research communities, the program has met its goals for new or enhanced approaches for mobile device security and standards-based security vetting of mobile apps. Continuing mobile security R&D investments will help spur development and enhancement of technologies and approaches for mobile security and influence further development of government and industry standards and policy.

S&T's current R&D projects are improving the security of mobile apps to meet the goals of integrated security throughout the apps' lifecycle, enhanced information-sharing on attributes of app security (malware and vulnerabilities), and continuous monitoring of apps and their behavior to detect security vulnerabilities and anomalies and enable remediation actions. Successful accomplishment of ongoing mobile device security projects will provide alternative methods to secure government data through virtualization and improve understanding of firmware security—impacting government supply-chain risk-management policies and practices.

Future activities, coordinated jointly with DHS CISA, will expand R&D to improve the security of the mobile network infrastructure that is fundamental to communications and delivery of information and services. To support mobile network security, DHS S&T has released the Secure and Resilient Mobile Network Infrastructure (SRMNI) BAA call. Via this call, DHS is seeking the development of technologies to improve the security and resilience of the mobile network infrastructure, including 2G, 3G, LTE/4G, and emerging 5G technologies. Additionally, the SRMNI BAA call seeks innovative approaches to improve government visibility of network traffic from mobile devices to identify potential malware, attacks or attempts to exfiltrate data from or through a device.

DHS S&T encourages investors, researchers and potential partners from DHS, other government departments and agencies, industry and academia to reach out to learn more, explore the current Mobile Security R&D Program and discover how they might benefit from or participate in the program's R&D efforts. For additional inquiries or to learn more please contact:

Vincent Sritapan

Program Manager
Office of Mission & Capability Support
Science & Technology Directorate
Department of Homeland Security
Email: Vincent.Sritapan@hq.dhs.gov





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