

# SMART CONTRACT AUDIT REPORT

for

Venus Isolated Pool

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# 1 Introduction

Given the opportunity to review the design document and related smart contract source code of the Isolated Pool support in the Venus protocol, we outline in the report our systematic approach to evaluate potential security issues in the smart contract implementation, expose possible semantic inconsistencies between smart contract code and design document, and provide additional suggestions or recommendations for improvement. Our results show that the given version of smart contracts can be further improved due to the presence of several issues related to either security or performance. This document outlines our audit results.

#### 1.1 About Venus Isolated Pool

The current Venus collateral pool is a common pool, which means all the assets are vulnerable to bankruptcies in a single asset. This is good for the capital efficiency of the included tokens, but requires a very conservative risk profile of chosen assets. More risky assets do not have the opportunity for lending because the net risk of the included assets cannot exceed the most conservative lender in the target market. The Venus Isolated Pool separates the collaterals into independent lending environments and lenders and traders can choose to participate based on their personal risk preferences. With lending pools of varying risk, Venus expands beyond the typical risk-conservative Financial Primitive customer base, and changes its brand narrative into one that can participate in the latest innovative protocol tokens. The basic information of the audited protocol is as follows:

Table 1.1: Basic Information of The Venus Isolated Pool

Item	Description
Name	Venus
Website	https://venus.io/
Туре	EVM Smart Contract
Platform	Solidity
Audit Method	Whitebox
Latest Audit Report	January 12, 2023

In the following, we show the Git repositories of reviewed files and the commit hash values used in this audit.

- https://github.com/VenusProtocol/isolated-pools.git (41d131a)
- https://github.com/VenusProtocol/oracle.git (883e385)

And here are the commit IDs after fixes for the issues found in the audit have been checked in:

- https://github.com/VenusProtocol/isolated-pools.git (d644aba)
- https://github.com/VenusProtocol/oracle.git (883e385)

#### 1.2 About PeckShield

PeckShield Inc. [10] is a leading blockchain security company with the goal of elevating the security, privacy, and usability of current blockchain ecosystems by offering top-notch, industry-leading services and products (including the service of smart contract auditing). We are reachable at Telegram (https://t.me/peckshield), Twitter (http://twitter.com/peckshield), or Email (contact@peckshield.com).

High Critical High Medium

High Medium

Low

Medium Low

High Medium

Low

High Medium

Low

Likelihood

Table 1.2: Vulnerability Severity Classification

## 1.3 Methodology

To standardize the evaluation, we define the following terminology based on OWASP Risk Rating Methodology [9]:

• <u>Likelihood</u> represents how likely a particular vulnerability is to be uncovered and exploited in the wild;

- Impact measures the technical loss and business damage of a successful attack;
- Severity demonstrates the overall criticality of the risk.

Likelihood and impact are categorized into three ratings: *H*, *M* and *L*, i.e., *high*, *medium* and *low* respectively. Severity is determined by likelihood and impact and can be classified into four categories accordingly, i.e., *Critical*, *High*, *Medium*, *Low* shown in Table 1.2.

To evaluate the risk, we go through a list of check items and each would be labeled with a severity category. For one check item, if our tool or analysis does not identify any issue, the contract is considered safe regarding the check item. For any discovered issue, we might further deploy contracts on our private testnet and run tests to confirm the findings. If necessary, we would additionally build a PoC to demonstrate the possibility of exploitation. The concrete list of check items is shown in Table 1.3.

In particular, we perform the audit according to the following procedure:

- Basic Coding Bugs: We first statically analyze given smart contracts with our proprietary static code analyzer for known coding bugs, and then manually verify (reject or confirm) all the issues found by our tool.
- <u>Semantic Consistency Checks</u>: We then manually check the logic of implemented smart contracts and compare with the description in the white paper.
- Advanced DeFi Scrutiny: We further review business logics, examine system operations, and place DeFi-related aspects under scrutiny to uncover possible pitfalls and/or bugs.
- Additional Recommendations: We also provide additional suggestions regarding the coding and development of smart contracts from the perspective of proven programming practices.

To better describe each issue we identified, we categorize the findings with Common Weakness Enumeration (CWE-699) [8], which is a community-developed list of software weakness types to better delineate and organize weaknesses around concepts frequently encountered in software development. Though some categories used in CWE-699 may not be relevant in smart contracts, we use the CWE categories in Table 1.4 to classify our findings.

#### 1.4 Disclaimer

Note that this security audit is not designed to replace functional tests required before any software release, and does not give any warranties on finding all possible security issues of the given smart contract(s) or blockchain software, i.e., the evaluation result does not guarantee the nonexistence of any further findings of security issues. As one audit-based assessment cannot be considered

Table 1.3: The Full List of Check Items

Category	Check Item
	Constructor Mismatch
	Ownership Takeover
	Redundant Fallback Function
	Overflows & Underflows
	Reentrancy
	Money-Giving Bug
	Blackhole
	Unauthorized Self-Destruct
Basic Coding Bugs	Revert DoS
Dasic Coung Dugs	Unchecked External Call
	Gasless Send
	Send Instead Of Transfer
	Costly Loop
	(Unsafe) Use Of Untrusted Libraries
	(Unsafe) Use Of Predictable Variables
	Transaction Ordering Dependence
	Deprecated Uses
Semantic Consistency Checks	Semantic Consistency Checks
	Business Logics Review
	Functionality Checks
	Authentication Management
	Access Control & Authorization
	Oracle Security
Advanced DeFi Scrutiny	Digital Asset Escrow
Advanced Berr Scrating	Kill-Switch Mechanism
	Operation Trails & Event Generation
	ERC20 Idiosyncrasies Handling
	Frontend-Contract Integration
	Deployment Consistency
	Holistic Risk Management
	Avoiding Use of Variadic Byte Array
Additional Recommendations	Using Fixed Compiler Version
	Making Visibility Level Explicit
	Making Type Inference Explicit
	Adhering To Function Declaration Strictly
	Following Other Best Practices

Table 1.4: Common Weakness Enumeration (CWE) Classifications Used in This Audit

Category	Summary
Configuration	Weaknesses in this category are typically introduced during
	the configuration of the software.
Data Processing Issues	Weaknesses in this category are typically found in functional-
	ity that processes data.
Numeric Errors	Weaknesses in this category are related to improper calcula-
	tion or conversion of numbers.
Security Features	Weaknesses in this category are concerned with topics like
	authentication, access control, confidentiality, cryptography,
	and privilege management. (Software security is not security
	software.)
Time and State	Weaknesses in this category are related to the improper man-
	agement of time and state in an environment that supports
	simultaneous or near-simultaneous computation by multiple
Forman Canadiai ana	systems, processes, or threads.
Error Conditions,	Weaknesses in this category include weaknesses that occur if
Return Values, Status Codes	a function does not generate the correct return/status code, or if the application does not handle all possible return/status
Status Codes	codes that could be generated by a function.
Resource Management	Weaknesses in this category are related to improper manage-
Resource Management	ment of system resources.
Behavioral Issues	Weaknesses in this category are related to unexpected behav-
Deliavioral issues	iors from code that an application uses.
Business Logics	Weaknesses in this category identify some of the underlying
Dusiness Togics	problems that commonly allow attackers to manipulate the
	business logic of an application. Errors in business logic can
	be devastating to an entire application.
Initialization and Cleanup	Weaknesses in this category occur in behaviors that are used
	for initialization and breakdown.
Arguments and Parameters	Weaknesses in this category are related to improper use of
	arguments or parameters within function calls.
Expression Issues	Weaknesses in this category are related to incorrectly written
	expressions within code.
Coding Practices	Weaknesses in this category are related to coding practices
	that are deemed unsafe and increase the chances that an ex-
	ploitable vulnerability will be present in the application. They
	may not directly introduce a vulnerability, but indicate the
	product has not been carefully developed or maintained.

comprehensive, we always recommend proceeding with several independent audits and a public bug bounty program to ensure the security of smart contract(s). Last but not least, this security audit should not be used as investment advice.



# 2 Findings

#### 2.1 Summary

Here is a summary of our findings after analyzing the design and implementation of the Venus Isolated Pool protocol. During the first phase of our audit, we study the smart contract source code and run our in-house static code analyzer through the codebase. The purpose here is to statically identify known coding bugs, and then manually verify (reject or confirm) issues reported by our tool. We further manually review business logics, examine system operations, and place DeFi-related aspects under scrutiny to uncover possible pitfalls and/or bugs.

Severity	# of Findings
Critical	0
High	2
Medium	3
Low	3
Informational	2
Total	10

We have so far identified a list of potential issues: some of them involve subtle corner cases that might not be previously thought of, while others refer to unusual interactions among multiple contracts. For each uncovered issue, we have therefore developed test cases for reasoning, reproduction, and/or verification. After further analysis and internal discussion, we determined a few issues of varying severities that need to be brought up and paid more attention to, which are categorized in the above table. More information can be found in the next subsection, and the detailed discussions of each of them are in Section 3.

### 2.2 Key Findings

Overall, these smart contracts are well-designed and engineered, though the implementation can be improved by resolving the identified issues (shown in Table 2.1), including 2 high-severity vulnerabilities, 3 medium-severity vulnerabilities, 3 low-severity vulnerabilities, and 2 informational suggestions.

ID Title Severity Category **Status PVE-001** Incorrect Function Argument Passed in Medium **Business Logic** Fixed VToken:: liquidateBorrowFresh() **PVE-002** Low Possible Front-Running For Time and State Fixed tended Payment In repayBorrowBehalf() **PVE-003** High Incorrect Liquidation Target in Business Logic Fixed Comptroller::liquidateAccount() **PVE-004** Low Missed Sanity Checks Coding Practices Fixed in Comptroller::liquidateAccount() PVE-005 Accommodation Non-ERC20-Informational **Business Logic** Fixed Compliant Tokens **PVE-006** Low Improved Implementation Logic in Business Logic Fixed Shortfall::closeAuction() **PVE-007** Medium Revisited Implementation Logic in Fixed **Business Logic** ChainlinkOracle **PVE-008** Informational Inconsistency Between Document and Coding Practices Fixed Implementation **PVE-009** Incorrect Bad Debt Recovered Amount High **Business Logic** Fixed in Shortfall::closeAuction() **PVE-010** Medium Incorrect startBidBps Initialization in Business Logic Fixed Shortfall::startAuction()

Table 2.1: Key Venus Isolated Pool Audit Findings

Besides recommending specific countermeasures to mitigate these issues, we also emphasize that it is always important to develop necessary risk-control mechanisms and make contingency plans, which may need to be exercised before the mainnet deployment. The risk-control mechanisms need to kick in at the very moment when the contracts are being deployed in mainnet. Please refer to Section 3 for details.

# 3 Detailed Results

# 3.1 Incorrect Function Argument Passed in VToken:: liquidateBorrowFresh()

• ID: PVE-001

Severity: MediumLikelihood: High

• Impact: Low

• Target: VToken

Category: Business Logic [6]CWE subcategory: CWE-841 [4]

#### Description

In Venus Isolated Pool, a borrower can be liquidated if this borrower's collateral is under-collateralized or is less than a predefined threshold. The VToken contract provides a helper \_liquidateBorrowFresh() routine to assist the liquidation to a given borrower. While reviewing its logic, we notice the current implementation is not correct.

In the following, we show the related code snippet of the \_liquidateBorrowFresh() routine. Specifically, while reviewing the comptroller.preLiquidateHook() logic, we notice the liquidator is wrongly passed as input for the vTokenBorrowed argument of the preLiquidateHook() function (line 893). The correct input for the vTokenBorrowed argument should be the address of the VToken contract, i.e., address(this).

```
884
         function liquidateBorrowFresh (
885
             address liquidator,
886
             address borrower,
887
             uint256 repayAmount,
888
             VTokenInterface vTokenCollateral,
889
             bool skipLiquidityCheck
890
         ) internal {
891
             /* Fail if liquidate not allowed */
892
             comptroller.preLiquidateHook(
893
                 liquidator,
894
                 address (vTokenCollateral),
895
                 liquidator,
```

```
896
                  borrower,
897
                  repayAmount,
                  {\sf skipLiquidityCheck}
898
899
             );
900
901
              /* Verify market's block number equals current block number */
902
              if (accrualBlockNumber != getBlockNumber()) {
903
                  revert LiquidateFreshnessCheck();
904
             }
905
906
907
```

Listing 3.1: VToken::\_liquidateBorrowFresh()

Recommendation Set address(this) as the vTokenBorrowed input argument of the preLiquidateHook () function.

Status This issue has been fixed in the following commit: 75d02da.

# 3.2 Possible Front-Running For Unintended Payment In repayBorrowBehalf()

• ID: PVE-002

• Severity: Low

• Likelihood: Medium

• Impact: Low

• Target: VToken

• Category: Time and State [7]

• CWE subcategory: CWE-663 [3]

#### Description

The Venus Isolated Pool is in essence an over-collateralized lending pool that has the lending functionality and supports a number of normal lending functionalities for supplying and borrowing users, i.e., mint()/redeem() and borrow()/repayBorrow(). In the following, we examine one specific functionality, i.e., repayBorrow().

To elaborate, we show below the core routine <code>\_repayBorrowFresh()</code> that actually implements the main logic behind the <code>repayBorrow()</code> routine. This routine allows for repaying partial or full current borrowing balance. It is interesting to note that the <code>Venus</code> protocol supports the payment on behalf of another borrowing user (<code>via repayBorrowBehalf()</code>). And the <code>\_repayBorrowFresh()</code> routine supports the corner case when the given amount is larger than the current borrowing balance. In this corner case, the protocol assumes the intention for a full repayment.

```
function _repayBorrowFresh(
```

```
771
            address payer,
772
            address borrower,
773
            uint256 repayAmount
774
        ) internal returns (uint256) {
775
             /* Fail if repayBorrow not allowed */
776
            comptroller.preRepayHook(address(this), payer, borrower, repayAmount);
778
            /* Verify market's block number equals current block number */
779
            if (accrualBlockNumber != _getBlockNumber()) {
780
                revert RepayBorrowFreshnessCheck();
781
            }
783
            /st We fetch the amount the borrower owes, with accumulated interest st/
784
            uint256 accountBorrowsPrev = _borrowBalanceStored(borrower);
786
            /* If repayAmount == -1, repayAmount = accountBorrows */
787
            uint256 repayAmountFinal = repayAmount == type(uint256).max ? accountBorrowsPrev
                 : repayAmount;
789
            790
            // EFFECTS & INTERACTIONS
791
            // (No safe failures beyond this point)
793
704
             * We call _doTransferIn for the payer and the repayAmount
795
             * Note: The vToken must handle variations between ERC-20 and ETH underlying.
796
             st On success, the vToken holds an additional repayAmount of cash.
797
             * _doTransferIn reverts if anything goes wrong, since we can't be sure if side
                  effects occurred.
798
                it returns the amount actually transferred, in case of a fee.
799
             */
800
            uint256 actualRepayAmount = _doTransferIn(payer, repayAmountFinal);
802
803
             st We calculate the new borrower and total borrow balances, failing on underflow
804
             * accountBorrowsNew = accountBorrows - actualRepayAmount
805
             * totalBorrowsNew = totalBorrows - actualRepayAmount
806
807
            uint256 accountBorrowsNew = accountBorrowsPrev - actualRepayAmount;
808
            uint256 totalBorrowsNew = totalBorrows - actualRepayAmount;
810
            /* We write the previously calculated values into storage */
811
            accountBorrows[borrower].principal = accountBorrowsNew;
812
            accountBorrows[borrower].interestIndex = borrowIndex;
813
            totalBorrows = totalBorrowsNew;
815
            /* We emit a RepayBorrow event */
816
            emit RepayBorrow(payer, borrower, actualRepayAmount, accountBorrowsNew,
                totalBorrowsNew);
818
            return actualRepayAmount;
```

819

Listing 3.2: VToken::\_repayBorrowFresh()

This is a reasonable assumption, but our analysis shows this assumption may be taken advantage of to launch a front-running borrow() operation, resulting in a higher borrowing balance for repayment. To avoid this situation, it is suggested to disallow the repayment amount of type(uint256).max to imply the full repayment. In fact, it is always suggested to use the exact payment amount in the repayBorrowBehalf() Case.

Recommendation Revisit the generous assumption of using repayment amount of type (uint256 ).max as the indication of full repayment.

Status This issue has been fixed in the following commit: 6bcda4f.

#### 3.3 Incorrect Liquidation Target in Comptroller::liquidateAccount()

• ID: PVE-003

Severity: High

Likelihood: High

• Impact: Medium

• Target: Comptroller

Category: Business Logic [6]

CWE subcategory: CWE-841 [4]

#### Description

As mentioned in Section 3.1, in Venus Isolated Pool, a borrower can be liquidated if this borrower's collateral is under-collateralized or is less than a predefined threshold. The Comptroller contract provides an external liquidateAccount() function for liquidators to liquidate borrowers whose collateral are less than the predefined threshold. Our analysis with the liquidateAccount() function shows its current implementation is not correct.

To elaborate, we show below the code snippet of the liquidateAccount() routine. This routine implements a rather straightforward logic in firstly validating the collateral of a borrower is less than the predefined threshold and the liquidation is profitable, then the liquidator repays all the borrows belonging to this borrower and seizes all the collaterals from this borrower. However, it comes to our attention that the liquidation target market is not correctly used (line 700). Specifically, the forceLiquidateBorrow() function of the order.vTokenBorrowed should be invoked, instead of the current invoking of order.vTokenCollateral.forceLiquidateBorrow().

```
677
        function liquidateAccount(address borrower, LiquidationOrder[] calldata orders)
            external {
```

```
678
                                           // We will accrue interest and update the oracle prices later during the
                                                        liquidation
679
680
                                           Account Liquidity Snapshot \  \  \, \underline{ \  \  } \  \, \underline{ \  \  \  \, } \  \, \underline{ \  \  \  \, } \  \, \underline{ \  \  \  \, } \  \, \underline{ \  \  \  \, } \  \, \underline{ \  \  \  \  \, } \  \, \underline{ \  \  \  \,
                                                         , getLiquidationThreshold);
681
682
                                            if (snapshot.totalCollateral > minLiquidatableCollateral) {
683
                                                        // You should use the regular vToken.liquidateBorrow(...) call
684
                                                         revert CollateralExceedsThreshold(minLiquidatableCollateral, snapshot.
                                                                       totalCollateral);
                                           }
685
 686
687
                                           uint256 collateralToSeize = mul ScalarTruncate(
688
                                                         Exp({ mantissa: liquidationIncentiveMantissa }),
689
                                                         snapshot . borrows
690
                                           );
 691
                                            if (collateralToSeize >= snapshot.totalCollateral) {
692
                                                        \ensuremath{//} There is not enough collateral to seize. Use healBorrow to repay some
                                                                      part of the borrow
693
                                                        // and record bad debt.
                                                         revert InsufficientCollateral(collateralToSeize, snapshot.totalCollateral);
694
695
                                           }
 696
697
                                           uint256 ordersCount = orders.length;
698
                                           for (uint256 i; i < ordersCount; ++i) {</pre>
699
                                                         LiquidationOrder calldata order = orders[i];
700
                                                         order.vTokenCollateral.forceLiquidateBorrow(
701
                                                                       msg.sender,
702
                                                                       borrower,
703
                                                                       order.repayAmount,
704
                                                                       order.vTokenCollateral,
705
                                                                       true
706
                                                        );
 707
                                           }
708
                                           VToken[] \hspace{0.2cm} \textbf{memory} \hspace{0.2cm} markets \hspace{0.1cm} = \hspace{0.1cm} accountAssets[\hspace{0.1cm} borrower\hspace{0.1cm}];
709
710
                                           uint256 marketsCount = markets.length;
711
                                           for (uint256 i; i < marketsCount; ++i) {
712
                                                         (, uint256 borrowBalance, ) = safeGetAccountSnapshot(markets[i], borrower);
 713
                                                         require(borrowBalance == 0, "Nonzero borrow balance after liquidation");
714
                                           }
715
```

Listing 3.3: Comptroller:: liquidateAccount()

Recommendation Invoke the forceLiquidateBorrow() function from the correct market.

Status This issue has been fixed in the following commit: 4e9070f.

## 3.4 Missed Sanity Checks in Comptroller::liquidateAccount()

• ID: PVE-004

• Severity: Low

Likelihood: Low

• Impact: Low

• Target: Multiple contracts

• Category: Coding Practices [5]

• CWE subcategory: CWE-1126 [2]

#### Description

As mentioned earlier, the liquidateAccount() function of the Comptroller contract allows for liquidators to liquidate borrowers whose collateral are less than the predefined threshold. While reviewing its logic, we notice the current implementation fails to check the given argument in orders.

To elaborate, we show below the code snippet of the liquidateAccount() function. Since the input argument orders is determined by the function caller and thus the forceLiquidateBorrow() function invoked from the order.vTokenCollateral contract may be trustless. One possible scenario is that a malicious actor can reenter the liquidateAccount() function if the input argument order.vTokenCollateral is not a real Venus Isolated Pool market address (line 700).

```
677
         function liquidateAccount(address borrower, LiquidationOrder[] calldata orders)
             external {
678
             // We will accrue interest and update the oracle prices later during the
                 liquidation
679
680
             AccountLiquiditySnapshot memory snapshot = getCurrentLiquiditySnapshot(borrower
                 , getLiquidationThreshold);
681
682
             if (snapshot.totalCollateral > minLiquidatableCollateral) {
683
                 // You should use the regular vToken.liquidateBorrow(...) call
                 {\bf revert} \quad {\sf CollateralExceedsThreshold} \ ( \ {\sf minLiquidatableCollateral} \ , \ \ {\sf snapshot} \ .
684
                      totalCollateral);
685
             }
686
             uint256 collateralToSeize = mul ScalarTruncate(
687
688
                 Exp({ mantissa: liquidationIncentiveMantissa }),
689
                 snapshot . borrows
690
             );
691
             if (collateralToSeize >= snapshot.totalCollateral) {
692
                 // There is not enough collateral to seize. Use healBorrow to repay some
                      part of the borrow
693
                 // and record bad debt.
                  revert InsufficientCollateral(collateralToSeize, snapshot.totalCollateral);
694
695
             }
696
697
             uint256 ordersCount = orders.length;
698
             for (uint256 i; i < ordersCount; ++i) {
699
                  LiquidationOrder calldata order = orders[i];
```

```
700
                  order.vTokenCollateral.forceLiquidateBorrow(
701
                      msg sender.
702
                      borrower,
703
                      order.repayAmount,
704
                      order.vTokenCollateral,
705
706
                 );
707
             }
708
709
             VToken[] memory markets = accountAssets[borrower];
710
             uint256 marketsCount = markets.length;
711
             for (uint256 i; i < marketsCount; ++i) {</pre>
                  (\ ,\ uint256\ borrowBalance\ ,\ )=\ \_safeGetAccountSnapshot(markets[i]\ ,\ borrower);
712
713
                  require(borrowBalance == 0, "Nonzero borrow balance after liquidation");
714
             }
715
```

Listing 3.4: Comptroller:: liquidateAccount()

Note similar issue also exists in the ReserveHelpers::updateAssetsState() routine and in the PoolRegistry::addMarket() routine.

**Recommendation** Add necessary sanity checks for the above mentioned functions.

**Status** This issue has been confirmed. This issue has been fixed in the following commit: 55a1eac.

### 3.5 Accommodation of Non-ERC20-Compliant Tokens

• ID: PVE-005

Severity: Informational

Likelihood: N/A

Impact: N/A

• Target: Shortfall

• Category: Business Logic [6]

• CWE subcategory: CWE-841 [4]

#### Description

Though there is a standardized ERC-20 specification, many token contracts may not strictly follow the specification or have additional functionalities beyond the specification. In the following, we examine the transfer() routine and related idiosyncrasies from current widely-used token contracts.

In particular, we use the popular token, i.e., ZRX, as our example. We show the related code snippet below. On its entry of transfer(), there is a check, i.e., if (balances[msg.sender] >= \_value && balances[\_to] + \_value >= balances[\_to]). If the check fails, it returns false. However, the transaction still proceeds successfully without being reverted. This is not compliant with the ERC20 standard and may cause issues if not handled properly. Specifically, the ERC20 standard specifies the

following: "Transfers \_ value amount of tokens to address \_ to, and MUST fire the Transfer event. The function SHOULD throw if the message caller's account balance does not have enough tokens to spend."

```
64
       function transfer (address to, uint value) returns (bool) {
65
          //Default assumes totalSupply can't be over max (2^256 - 1).
66
          67
              balances [msg.sender] -= _value;
68
              balances [ to] += value;
69
              Transfer (msg. sender, to, value);
70
              return true;
71
          } else { return false; }
72
      }
74
       function transferFrom(address from, address to, uint value) returns (bool) {
75
           if (balances[_from] >= _value && allowed[_from][msg.sender] >= _value &&
              balances[_to] + _value >= balances[_to]) {
76
              balances [_to] += _value;
77
              balances [ _from ] -= _value;
78
              allowed [_from][msg.sender] -= _value;
79
              Transfer ( from, to, value);
80
              return true;
81
          } else { return false; }
```

Listing 3.5: ZRX.sol

Because of that, a normal call to transfer() is suggested to use the safe version, i.e., safeTransfer (), In essence, it is a wrapper around ERC20 operations that may either throw on failure or return false without reverts. Moreover, the safe version also supports tokens that return no value (and instead revert or throw on failure). Note that non-reverting calls are assumed to be successful. Similarly, there is a safe version of transferFrom() as well, i.e., safeTransferFrom().

In current implementation, if we examine the Shortfall::closeAuction() routine that is designed to close an on-going auction. To accommodate the specific idiosyncrasy, there is a need to user safeTransfer(), instead of transfer() (line 220).

```
182
        function closeAuction(address comptroller) external nonReentrant {
183
             Auction storage auction = auctions[comptroller];
184
185
             require(auction.startBlock != 0 && auction.status == AuctionStatus.STARTED, "no
                on-going auction");
186
187
                block.number > auction.highestBidBlock + nextBidderBlockLimit && auction.
                     highestBidder != address(0),
188
                 "waiting for next bidder. cannot close auction"
189
            );
190
191
             uint256 marketsCount = auction.markets.length;
192
             uint256[] memory marketsDebt = new uint256[](marketsCount);
193
```

```
194
             auction.status = AuctionStatus.ENDED;
195
196
             for (uint256 i; i < marketsCount; ++i) {</pre>
197
                 VToken vToken = VToken(address(auction.markets[i]));
198
                 IERC20Upgradeable erc20 = IERC20Upgradeable(address(vToken.underlying()));
199
200
                 if (auction.auctionType == AuctionType.LARGE_POOL_DEBT) {
201
                     uint256 bidAmount = ((auction.marketDebt[auction.markets[i]] * auction.
                         highestBidBps) / MAX_BPS);
202
                     erc20.safeTransfer(address(auction.markets[i]), bidAmount);
203
                     marketsDebt[i] = bidAmount;
204
                 } else {
205
                     erc20.safeTransfer(address(auction.markets[i]), auction.marketDebt[
                         auction.markets[i]]);
206
                     marketsDebt[i] = auction.marketDebt[auction.markets[i]];
207
                 }
208
209
                 auction.markets[i].badDebtRecovered(auction.marketDebt[auction.markets[i]]);
210
             }
211
212
             uint256 riskFundBidAmount = auction.seizedRiskFund;
213
214
             if (auction.auctionType == AuctionType.LARGE_POOL_DEBT) {
215
                 riskFund.transferReserveForAuction(comptroller, riskFundBidAmount);
216
                 BUSD.safeTransfer(auction.highestBidder, riskFundBidAmount);
217
             } else {
218
                 riskFundBidAmount = (auction.seizedRiskFund * auction.highestBidBps) /
                     MAX_BPS;
219
                 riskFund.transferReserveForAuction(comptroller, riskFundBidAmount);
220
                 BUSD.transfer(auction.highestBidder, riskFundBidAmount);
221
            }
222
223
             emit AuctionClosed(
224
                 comptroller,
225
                 auction.highestBidder,
226
                 auction.highestBidBps,
227
                 riskFundBidAmount,
228
                 auction.markets,
229
                 marketsDebt
230
             );
231
```

Listing 3.6: Shortfall::closeAuction()

**Recommendation** Accommodate the above-mentioned idiosyncrasy about ERC20-related transfer().

**Status** This issue has been fixed in the following commit: f4129a4.

## 3.6 Improved Implementation Logic in Shortfall::closeAuction()

• ID: PVE-006

Severity: LowLikelihood: Low

• Impact: Low

• Target: Shortfall

• Category: Business Logic [6]

• CWE subcategory: CWE-841 [4]

#### Description

In Venus Isolated Pool, the bad debt can be recovered via auction. A user can repay the bad debt by bidding and receive the risk fund as return. Once a new bid has been placed, this on-going auction can be closed if there is no bidder who offers a higher price in the next 10 blocks. While examining the closeAuction() routine of the Shortfall contract, we notice the current implementation logic can be improved.

To elaborate, we show below the related code snippet. It comes to our attention that the BUSD asset a user will get after repaying the bad debt comes from the RiskFund contract (lines 214-221). In RiskFund, the pool assets will be swapped to convertibleBaseAsset via PancakeswapV2 and transferred to the Shortfall contract for auction. The storage variable convertibleBaseAsset of the RiskFund contract can be changed by the privileged owner account while the storage variable BUSD of the RiskFund contract is unchangeable once initialized. Thus the execution of the closeAuction() routine will revert if BUSD != convertibleBaseAsset.

```
182
        function closeAuction(address comptroller) external nonReentrant {
183
             Auction storage auction = auctions[comptroller];
184
185
             require(auction.startBlock != 0 && auction.status == AuctionStatus.STARTED, "no
                 on-going auction");
186
             require(
187
                 block.number > auction.highestBidBlock + nextBidderBlockLimit && auction.
                     highestBidder != address(0),
188
                 "waiting for next bidder. cannot close auction"
189
            );
190
191
             uint256 marketsCount = auction.markets.length;
192
             uint256[] memory marketsDebt = new uint256[](marketsCount);
193
194
             auction.status = AuctionStatus.ENDED;
195
196
             for (uint256 i; i < marketsCount; ++i) {</pre>
197
                 VToken vToken = VToken(address(auction.markets[i]));
198
                 IERC20Upgradeable erc20 = IERC20Upgradeable(address(vToken.underlying()));
199
200
                 if (auction.auctionType == AuctionType.LARGE_POOL_DEBT) {
```

```
201
                     uint256 bidAmount = ((auction.marketDebt[auction.markets[i]] * auction.
                         highestBidBps) / MAX_BPS);
202
                     erc20.safeTransfer(address(auction.markets[i]), bidAmount);
203
                     marketsDebt[i] = bidAmount;
204
205
                     erc20.safeTransfer(address(auction.markets[i]), auction.marketDebt[
                         auction.markets[i]]);
206
                     marketsDebt[i] = auction.marketDebt[auction.markets[i]];
207
                 }
208
209
                 auction.markets[i].badDebtRecovered(auction.marketDebt[auction.markets[i]]);
210
            }
211
212
             uint256 riskFundBidAmount = auction.seizedRiskFund;
213
214
             if (auction.auctionType == AuctionType.LARGE_POOL_DEBT) {
215
                 riskFund.transferReserveForAuction(comptroller, riskFundBidAmount);
216
                 BUSD.safeTransfer(auction.highestBidder, riskFundBidAmount);
217
            } else {
218
                 riskFundBidAmount = (auction.seizedRiskFund * auction.highestBidBps) /
                     MAX_BPS;
219
                 riskFund.transferReserveForAuction(comptroller, riskFundBidAmount);
220
                 BUSD.transfer(auction.highestBidder, riskFundBidAmount);
221
            }
222
223
             emit AuctionClosed(
224
                 comptroller,
225
                 auction.highestBidder,
226
                 auction.highestBidBps,
227
                 riskFundBidAmount,
228
                 auction.markets,
229
                 marketsDebt
230
            );
231
```

Listing 3.7: Shortfall::closeAuction()

**Recommendation** Implement a privileged function to allow the owner account to change the storage variable BUSD of the RiskFund contract.

Status This issue has been fixed in the following commit: c178a69.

### 3.7 Revisited Implementation Logic in ChainlinkOracle

• ID: PVE-007

• Severity: Medium

Likelihood: High

• Impact: Medium

• Target: Multiple contracts

• Category: Business Logic [6]

• CWE subcategory: CWE-841 [4]

#### Description

The ChainlinkOracle contract provides a public getUnderlyingPrice() function to get the Chainlink price of underlying asset of the input vToken. While reviewing its logic, we notice the current implementation needs to be revisited.

In the following, we show the related code snippet of the <code>getUnderlyingPrice()</code> routine. When the input <code>vToken</code> is <code>vBNB</code>, the internal <code>\_getChainlinkPrice()</code> function will be called directly to obtain the price. However, the <code>vBNB</code> token doesn't have the <code>underlying</code> method. Thus the invoking of the <code>\_getChainlinkPrice()</code> function will revert (line 99).

```
56
        function getUnderlyingPrice(address vToken) public view override returns (uint256) {
57
            string memory symbol = VBep20Interface(vToken).symbol();
58
            // VBNB token doesn't have 'underlying' method, so it has to skip '
                _getUnderlyingPriceInternal
59
            // method and directly goes into '_getChainlinkPrice'
            if ( compareStrings(symbol, "vBNB")) {
60
                return _getChainlinkPrice(vToken);
61
62
                // VAI price is constantly 1 at the moment, but not guarantee in the future
63
            } else if (_compareStrings(symbol, "VAI")) {
64
                return VAI VALUE;
65
                // {\tt @TODO}: This is some history code, keep it here in case of messing up
66
            } else {
67
                return getUnderlyingPriceInternal(VBep20Interface(vToken));
68
69
```

Listing 3.8: ChainlinkOracle :: getUnderlyingPrice()

```
96
         function getChainlinkPrice(
97
             address vToken
98
         ) internal view notNullAddress(tokenConfigs[VBep20Interface(vToken).underlying()].
             asset) returns (uint256) {
99
             address asset = VBep20Interface(vToken).underlying();
100
101
             TokenConfig storage tokenConfig = tokenConfigs[asset];
102
             Aggregator V2V3 Interface\ feed\ =\ Aggregator V2V3 Interface (token Config. feed);
103
104
             // note: maxStalePeriod cannot be 0
105
             uint256 maxStalePeriod = tokenConfig.maxStalePeriod;
```

```
106
107
             // Chainlink USD-denominated feeds store answers at 8 decimals, mostly
             uint256 decimalDelta = uint256(18) - feed.decimals();
108
109
110
             (, int256 answer, , uint256 updatedAt, ) = feed.latestRoundData();
111
             require(answer > 0, "chainlink price must be positive");
112
113
             require(block.timestamp > updatedAt, "updatedAt exceeds block time");
114
             uint256 deltaTime = block.timestamp - updatedAt;
             require(deltaTime <= maxStalePeriod, "chainlink price expired");</pre>
115
116
117
             return uint256(answer) * (10 ** decimalDelta);
118
```

Listing 3.9: ChainlinkOracle :: getChainlinkPrice()

Note similar issue also exists in the getUnderlyingPrice() routine of the BinanceOracle/PythOracle /TwapOracle contracts.

Recommendation Revisit the implementation of the above-mentioned routines.

**Status** This issue has been fixed.

### 3.8 Inconsistency Between Document and Implementation

• ID: PVE-008

• Severity: Informational

Likelihood: N/A

• Impact: N/A

• Target: ResilientOracle

Category: Coding Practices [5]

• CWE subcategory: CWE-1041 [1]

#### Description

There is a misleading comment description in the ResilientOracle contract, which brings unnecessary confusion to understand and maintain the contract implementation. Specifically, the comment is in the description of the setTokenConfig() routine. Specifically, it has been documented that an asset's token configs must have not be added before when setting token configs for this asset.

However, the current implementation shows that the privileged owner account can reset the token configs for an asset even if this asset's configs have been added before.

```
127
             TokenConfig memory tokenConfig
128
         ) public onlyOwner notNullAddress(tokenConfig.asset) notNullAddress(tokenConfig.
             oracles[uint256(OracleRole.MAIN)]) {
129
             tokenConfigs[tokenConfig.asset] = tokenConfig;
130
             emit TokenConfigAdded(
131
                 tokenConfig.asset,
132
                 tokenConfig.oracles[uint256(OracleRole.MAIN)],
133
                 tokenConfig.oracles[uint256(OracleRole.PIVOT)],
134
                 tokenConfig.oracles[uint256(OracleRole.FALLBACK)]
135
             );
136
```

Listing 3.10: ResilientOracle::setTokenConfig()

Recommendation Ensure the consistency between documentation and implementation.

**Status** This issue has been fixed.

# 3.9 Incorrect Bad Debt Recovered Amount in Shortfall::closeAuction()

• ID: PVE-009

• Severity: High

• Likelihood: High

• Impact: Medium

• Target: Shortfall

• Category: Business Logic [6]

• CWE subcategory: CWE-841 [4]

#### Description

As mentioned in Section 3.6, in Venus Isolated Pool, the bad debt can be recovered via auction. A user can repay the bad debt by bidding and receive the risk fund as return. Once a new bid has been placed, this on-going auction can be closed if there is no bidder with a higher price in the next 10 blocks. While examining the closeAuction() routine of the Shortfall contract, we notice the recovered bad debt amount is not correct if the auction type is LARGE\_POOL\_DEBT.

To elaborate, we show below the code snippet of the closeAuction() routine. It comes to our attention that if the auction type is LARGE\_POOL\_DEBT, the bidder needs to transfer ((auction.marketDebt [auction.markets[i]] \* auction.highestBidBps)/ MAX\_BPS) amount of underlying asset to the auction market (line 202). Thus the recovered bad debt should also be ((auction.marketDebt[auction.markets [i]] \* auction.highestBidBps)/ MAX\_BPS), instead of current auction.marketDebt[auction.markets[i]] (line 209).

```
function closeAuction(address comptroller) external nonReentrant {

Auction storage auction = auctions[comptroller];
```

```
184
185
             require(auction.startBlock != 0 && auction.status == AuctionStatus.STARTED, "no
                 on-going auction");
186
             require(
187
                 block.number > auction.highestBidBlock + nextBidderBlockLimit && auction.
                     highestBidder != address(0),
188
                 "waiting for next bidder. cannot close auction"
189
             );
190
191
             uint256 marketsCount = auction.markets.length;
192
             uint256[] memory marketsDebt = new uint256[](marketsCount);
193
194
             auction.status = AuctionStatus.ENDED;
195
196
             for (uint256 i; i < marketsCount; ++i) {</pre>
197
                 VToken vToken = VToken(address(auction.markets[i]));
198
                 IERC20Upgradeable erc20 = IERC20Upgradeable(address(vToken.underlying()));
199
200
                 if (auction.auctionType == AuctionType.LARGE_POOL_DEBT) {
201
                     uint256 bidAmount = ((auction.marketDebt[auction.markets[i]] * auction.
                         highestBidBps) / MAX_BPS);
202
                     erc20.safeTransfer(address(auction.markets[i]), bidAmount);
203
                     marketsDebt[i] = bidAmount;
204
                 } else {
205
                     erc20.safeTransfer(address(auction.markets[i]), auction.marketDebt[
                         auction.markets[i]]);
206
                     marketsDebt[i] = auction.marketDebt[auction.markets[i]];
207
                 }
208
209
                 auction.markets[i].badDebtRecovered(auction.marketDebt[auction.markets[i]]);
210
             }
211
212
             uint256 riskFundBidAmount = auction.seizedRiskFund;
213
214
             if (auction.auctionType == AuctionType.LARGE_POOL_DEBT) {
215
                 riskFund.transferReserveForAuction(comptroller, riskFundBidAmount);
216
                 BUSD.safeTransfer(auction.highestBidder, riskFundBidAmount);
217
             } else {
218
                 riskFundBidAmount = (auction.seizedRiskFund * auction.highestBidBps) /
                     MAX_BPS;
219
                 \verb|riskFund.transferReserveForAuction(comptroller, riskFundBidAmount);|\\
220
                 BUSD.transfer(auction.highestBidder, riskFundBidAmount);
221
             }
222
223
             emit AuctionClosed(
224
                 comptroller,
225
                 auction.highestBidder,
226
                 auction.highestBidBps,
227
                 riskFundBidAmount,
228
                 auction.markets,
229
                 marketsDebt
230
```

```
231 }
```

Listing 3.11: Shortfall::closeAuction()

Recommendation Use the local variable marketsDebt[i] as the input argument of the badDebtRecovered () function (line 209).

Status This issue has been fixed in the following commit: d102243.

# 3.10 Incorrect startBidBps Initialization in Shortfall::startAuction()

• ID: PVE-010

Severity: MediumLikelihood: High

Impact: Low

• Target: Shortfall

• Category: Business Logic [6]

• CWE subcategory: CWE-841 [4]

#### Description

In Venus Isolated Pool, the privileged owner account can start an auction for a specified comptroller's bad debts. If the startAuction() function is invoked by the owner, the auction related parameters of the specified comptroller will be initialized. While examining this startAuction() routine of the Shortfall contract, we notice one auction-related parameter is not correctly assigned.

To elaborate, we show below the related code snippet. Specifically, if the auction type is LARGE\_POOL\_DEBT, the value assinged to the state variable auction.startBidBps should be (MAX\_BPS \* MAX\_BPS \* remainingRiskFundBalance)/ poolBadDebt / (MAX\_BPS + incentiveBps), instead of current ((MAX\_BPS - incentiveBps)\* remainingRiskFundBalance)/ poolBadDebt (line 329).

```
285
         function startAuction(address comptroller) public onlyOwner {
286
             Auction storage auction = auctions[comptroller];
287
             require(
288
                 (auction.startBlock == 0 && auction.status == AuctionStatus.NOT_STARTED)
289
                     auction.status == AuctionStatus.ENDED,
290
                 "auction is on-going"
291
             );
292
293
             uint256 marketsCount = auction.markets.length;
294
             for (uint256 i; i < marketsCount; ++i) {</pre>
                 VToken vToken = auction.markets[i];
295
296
                 auction.marketDebt[vToken] = 0;
297
                 auction.highestBidBps = 0;
298
                 auction.highestBidBlock = 0;
299
```

```
300
301
             delete auction.markets;
302
303
             VToken[] memory vTokens = _getAllMarkets(comptroller);
304
             marketsCount = vTokens.length;
305
             PriceOracle priceOracle = _getPriceOracle(comptroller);
306
             uint256 poolBadDebt;
307
308
             uint256[] memory marketsDebt = new uint256[](marketsCount);
309
             auction.markets = new VToken[](marketsCount);
310
311
             for (uint256 i; i < marketsCount; ++i) {</pre>
312
                 uint256 marketBadDebt = vTokens[i].badDebt();
313
314
                 priceOracle.updatePrice(address(vTokens[i]));
315
                 uint256 usdValue = (priceOracle.getUnderlyingPrice(address(vTokens[i])) *
                     marketBadDebt) / 1e18;
316
317
                 poolBadDebt = poolBadDebt + usdValue;
318
                 auction.markets[i] = vTokens[i];
                 auction.marketDebt[vTokens[i]] = marketBadDebt;
319
320
                 marketsDebt[i] = marketBadDebt;
321
             }
322
323
             require(poolBadDebt >= minimumPoolBadDebt, "pool bad debt is too low");
324
325
             uint256 riskFundBalance = riskFund.getPoolReserve(comptroller);
326
             uint256 remainingRiskFundBalance = riskFundBalance;
327
             uint256 incentivizedRiskFundBalance = poolBadDebt + ((poolBadDebt * incentiveBps
                 ) / MAX_BPS);
328
             if (incentivizedRiskFundBalance >= riskFundBalance) {
329
                 auction.startBidBps = ((MAX_BPS - incentiveBps) * remainingRiskFundBalance)
                     / poolBadDebt;
330
                 remainingRiskFundBalance = 0;
331
                 auction.auctionType = AuctionType.LARGE_POOL_DEBT;
332
             } else {
333
                 uint256 maxSeizeableRiskFundBalance = incentivizedRiskFundBalance;
334
335
                 remainingRiskFundBalance = remainingRiskFundBalance -
                     maxSeizeableRiskFundBalance;
336
                 auction.auctionType = AuctionType.LARGE_RISK_FUND;
337
                 auction.startBidBps = MAX_BPS;
338
             }
339
340
             auction.seizedRiskFund = riskFundBalance - remainingRiskFundBalance;
341
             auction.startBlock = block.number;
342
             auction.status = AuctionStatus.STARTED;
343
             auction.highestBidder = address(0);
344
345
             emit AuctionStarted(
346
                 comptroller,
347
                 auction.startBlock,
```

Listing 3.12: Shortfall::startAuction()

**Recommendation** Assign the correct value to the state variable auction.startBidBps when the auction type is LARGE\_POOL\_DEBT.

**Status** This issue has been fixed in the following commit: f88230d.



# 4 Conclusion

In this audit, we have analyzed the Venus Isolated Pool design and implementation. The Venus Isolated Pool separates the collaterals into independent lending environments and lenders and traders can choose to participate based on their personal risk preferences. The current code base is well structured and neatly organized. Those identified issues are promptly confirmed and addressed.

Meanwhile, we need to emphasize that Solidity-based smart contracts as a whole are still in an early, but exciting stage of development. To improve this report, we greatly appreciate any constructive feedbacks or suggestions, on our methodology, audit findings, or potential gaps in scope/coverage.



# References

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- [4] MITRE. CWE-841: Improper Enforcement of Behavioral Workflow. https://cwe.mitre.org/data/definitions/841.html.
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