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Having a secure coding standard and not leaving security for the end is an important lesson to learn for any programmer, and I like my lessons learned like I like my security implemented...early on. Determining the do’s and don’t’s of the coding used for a project will add uniformity as well as security, because if there is any deviation from the script (nice pun) it could be a great place to start investigating if there is an eventual breach in security. Performing testing and breaching ethically is much preferred to having a hacking entity get into a system, which is why it shouldn’t be left to the end.

It can be hard to determine how much should be done early on however, there is no such thing as too much security until you start crunching the numbers, the dollar will ultimately define when and how to implement security. One more reason to adopt a standard early on. That is why an evaluation of the risks and the projected costs must be levied against any cost constraints, I don’t think any one company that suffered a hacking was okay with losing however many millions of dollars/thousand of customers. But they were definitely okay with saving money on security measures and making money by launching earlier than competitors.

I would highly recommend a system like the DMV/NHSA, where drivers have to have a license, registration, and sometimes insurance on hand to operate safely. That standard would work wonders for situations where companies want to duck out on safety measures, automotive IoT for instance lacks a lot of the security measures that other smart or interconnected devices bear. Making sure that security policies are implemented across the board and would have some common requirements would be hugely beneficial to many companies and more importantly to the larger population of consumers.

In all honesty I would prefer if zero trust was the norm, having that extra layer of security added to the generation of security policies would have the most impact. I feel that it would provide a better sense of how important security is and the lengths security specialists go to to protect information. I feel that there is a stigma around security, that it impairs an user’s accessibility and freedom, but I think the current vibe is leading to entitlement and eventually scorn when users and their information is put in jeopardy.