



# **OWASP SAMM** **version 2.0**

OWASP - New Zealand  
Friday, February 21, 2020

# John Ellingsworth



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United States Resident

Temple University (BA), Drexel University (MS)

20+ years cybersecurity & web technology experience:

Startups (1996-2000), Higher Education (1999-2009),

Corporate (2009-Present): Software Development /  
Architecture / Security / Management

OWASP: Maine Chapter lead, SAMM Project

Infragard, ASCP

# What is SAMM?

The Software Assurance Maturity Model (SAMM) is an open framework that provides an effective and measurable way for all types of organizations to analyze and improve their software security posture.

[owaspsamm.org](https://owaspsamm.org)



## **Measurable**

Defined maturity levels across business practices



## **Actionable**

Clear pathways for improving maturity levels



## **Versatile**

Technology, process, and organization agnostic



**OWASP**

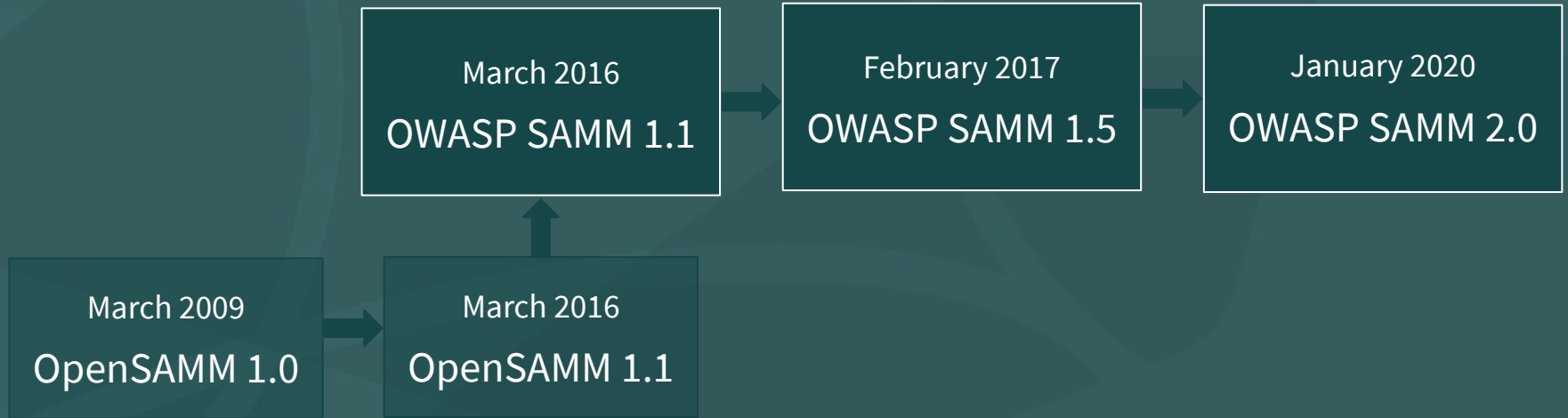
Open Web Application  
Security Project

# What is SAMM?

The resources provided by SAMM aid in

- evaluating an organization's existing software security practices
- building a balanced software security assurance program in well-defined iterations
- demonstrating concrete improvements to a security assurance program
- defining and measuring security-related activities throughout an organization

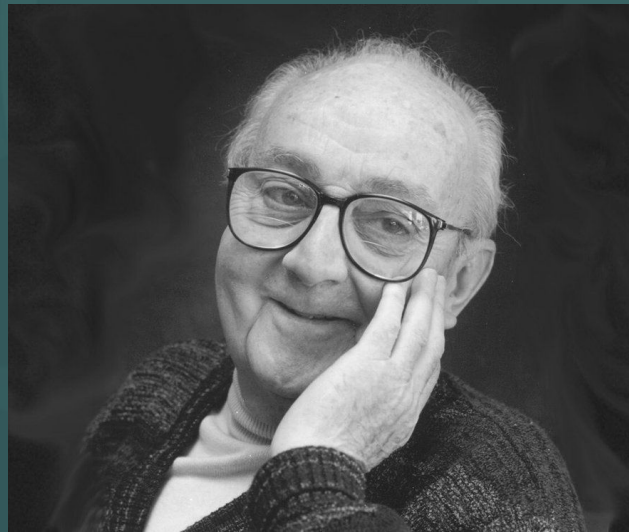
# Project history



# Why SAMM?

"The most that can be expected from any model is that it can supply a useful approximation to reality. All models are wrong; some models are useful."

George E. P. Box



# SAMM principles

An organization's behavior changes slowly over time	Changes must be <b>iterative</b> while working toward long-term goals
There is no single recipe that works for all organizations	A solution must enable <b>risk-based</b> choices tailored to the organization
Guidance related to security activities must be prescriptive	A solution must provide enough <b>details</b> for non-security-people
Overall, it must be simple, well-defined, and measurable	OWASP Software Assurance Maturity Model (SAMM)

# Maturity levels and scoring

- Transparent view over different levels
- Fine-grained improvements are visible

Maturity levels		Assessment scores	
3	Comprehensive mastery at scale	1	Most
2	Increased efficiency and effectiveness	0.5	At least half
1	Ad-hoc provision	0.2	Some
0	Practice unfulfilled	0	None

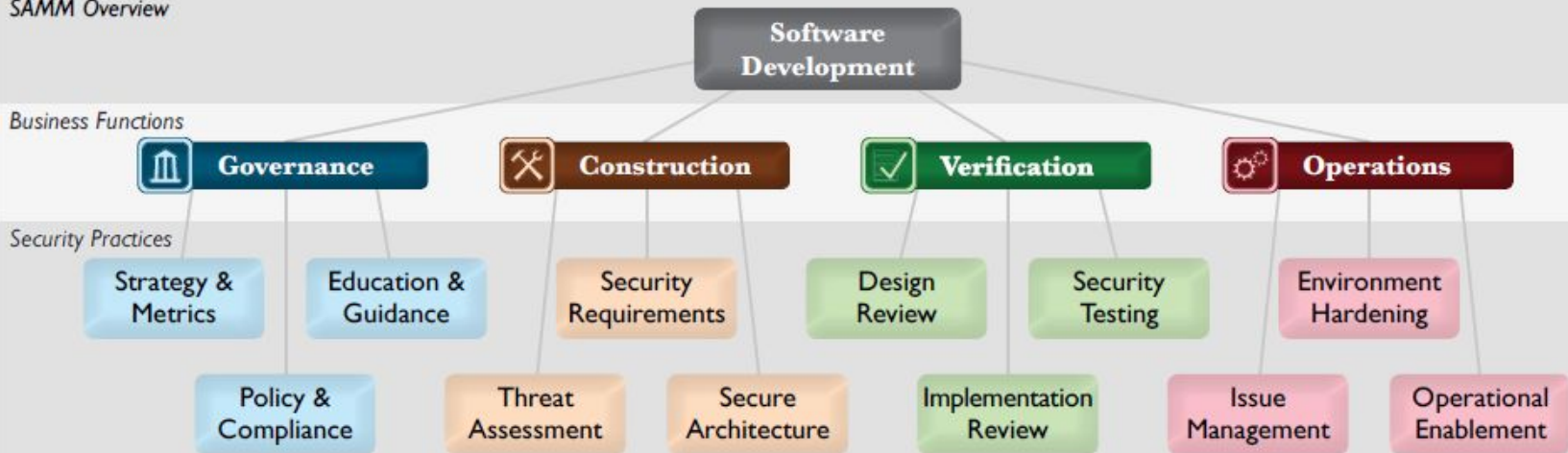


# SAMM versions 1.5 and 2.0

- Business functions (4 in SAMM 1.5, 5 in SAMM 2.0)
- 3 security practices for each business function
- The security practices cover areas relevant to software security assurance

# SAMM 1.5

## SAMM Overview

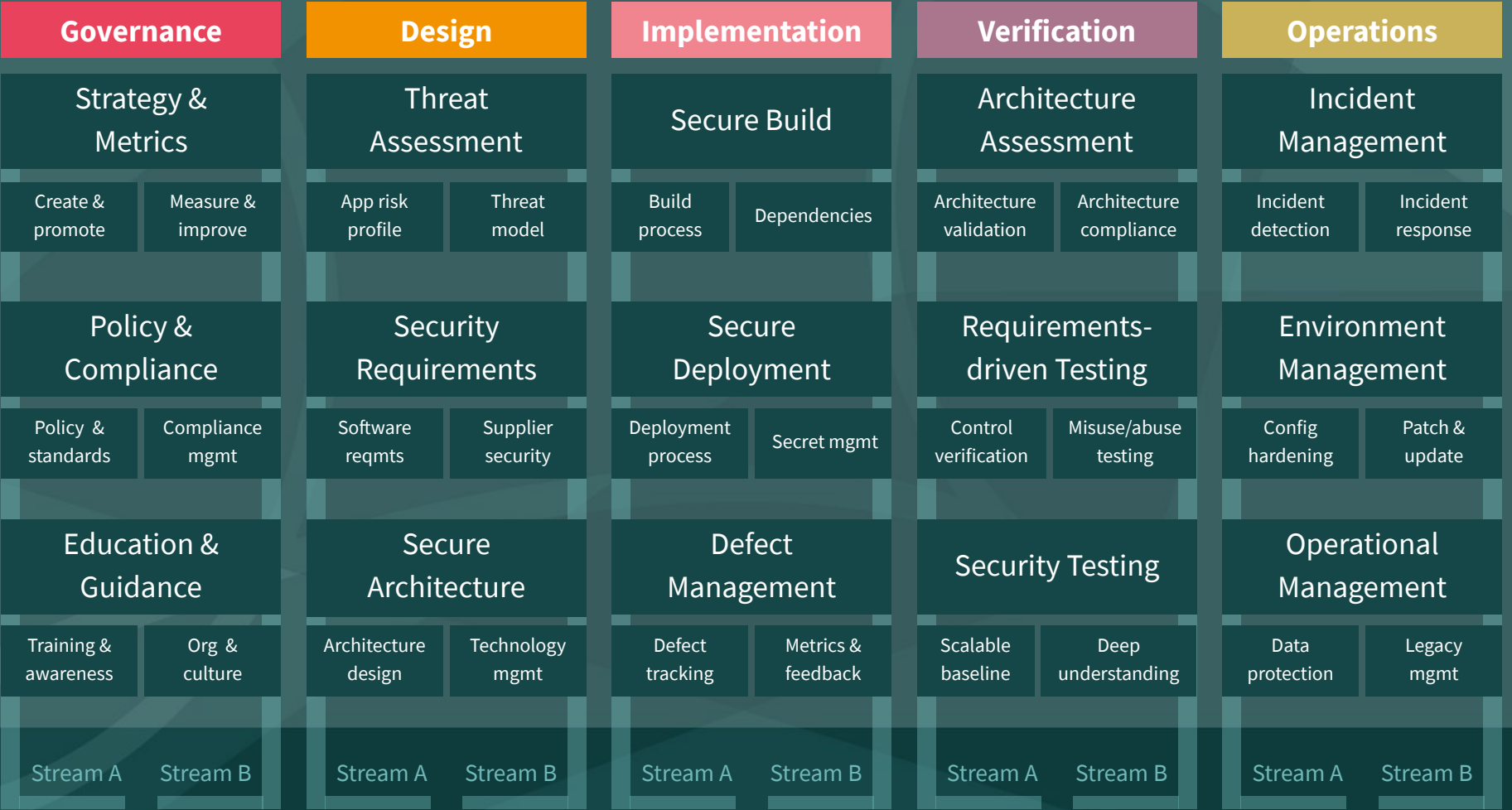


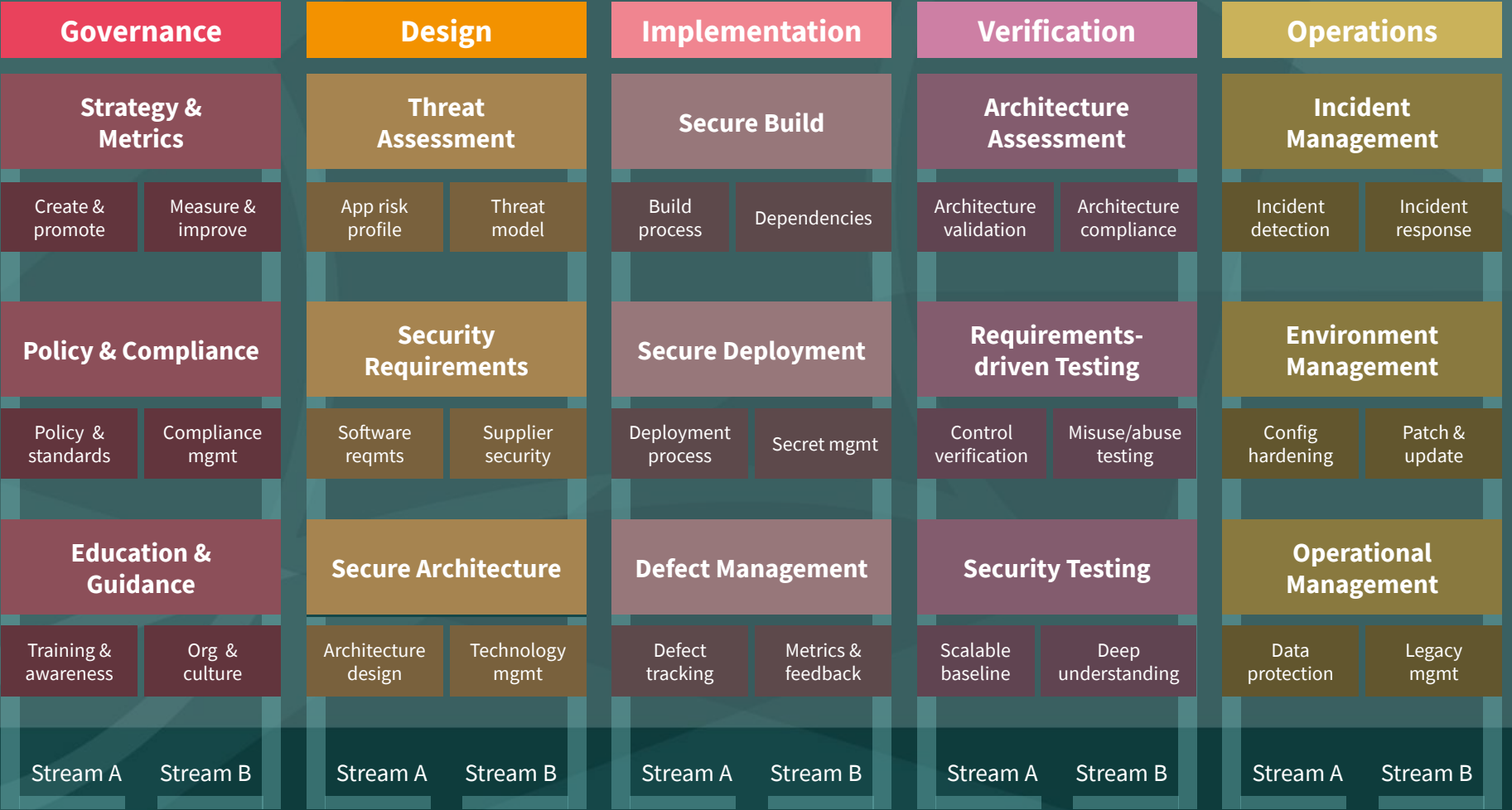
# SAMM 2.0

Governance	Design	Implementation	Verification	Operations
Strategy & Metrics	Threat Assessment	Secure Build	Architecture Assessment	Incident Management
Policy & Compliance	Security Requirements	Secure Deployment	Requirements-driven Testing	Environment Management
Education & Guidance	Secure Architecture	Defect Management	Security Testing	Operational Management

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# SAMM v2 assessment toolbox

GOVERNANCE		
Stream	Level	Strategy and metrics
Create and promote	1	Has the organization defined a set of risks to prioritize applications by?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• You have captured the risk appetite of your organization's executive leadership</li><li>• The organization's leadership have vetted and approved risks</li><li>• You have identified the main business and technical threats to your organization's assets and data</li><li>• Risks are documented and accessible to relevant stakeholders</li></ul>

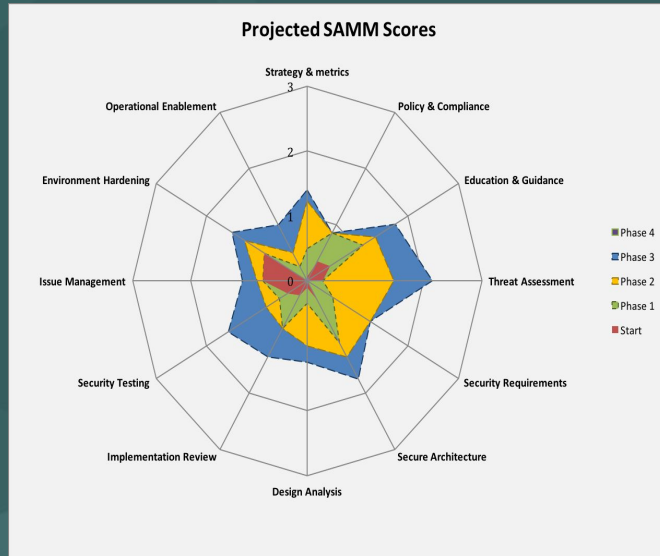
<https://github.com/OWASP/samm/tree/master/Supporting%20Resources/v2.0/toolbox>

# Critical success factors

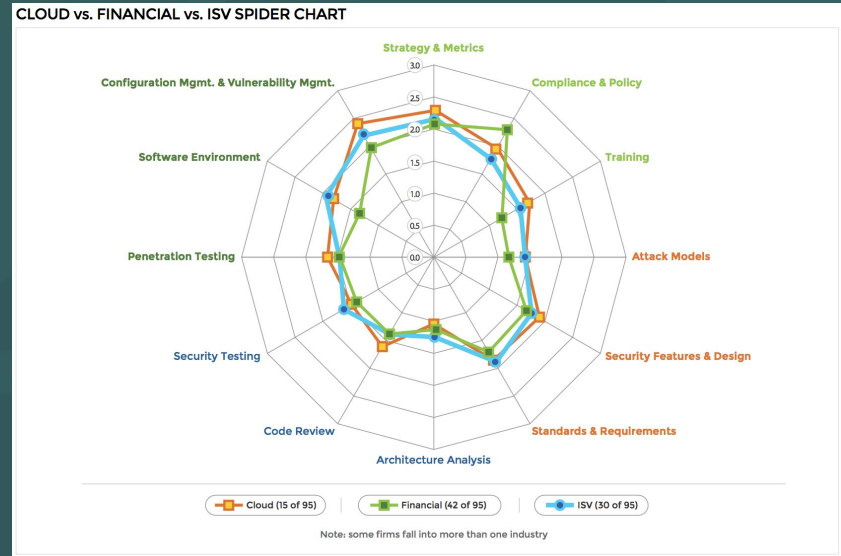
- Get buy-in from stakeholders
- Adopt a risk-based approach
- Awareness & education are the foundation
- Integrate & automate security in your development, acquisition, and deployment processes
- Measure: provide management visibility



# SAMM can (sorta) map to BSIMM



SAMM



BSIMM

Time to answer the question...

**How do I compare?**

# SAMM benchmarking



[owasp-samm.org/benchmarking](https://owasp-samm.org/benchmarking)

# What is SAMM benchmarking?

The goal of this project is to collect the most comprehensive dataset related to organizational maturity of application or software security programs.

This data should come from both self-assessing organizations and consultancies that perform third party assessments.

# Contribution infrastructure

- The plan is to leverage the OWASP Azure Cloud Infrastructure to collect, analyze, and store the data contributed.
- There will be a minimal number of administrators with access to manage the raw data.
- Dashboards and comparative analysis will be performed with data that is aggregated and/or separated from the submitting organization.

# Data contributions

## Verified data contribution

- the submitter is **known** and has agreed to be **identified** as a contributing party
- the submitter is **known** but would rather **not** be publicly **identified**
- the submitter is **known** but does **not** want it **recorded** in the dataset

## Unverified data contribution

- the submitter is **anonymous**

# Ways of contributing

## Current

- Email a CSV/Excel/Doc file with the dataset(s) to [brian.glas@owasp.org](mailto:brian.glas@owasp.org)

## Future

- Upload a CSV/Excel/Txt file to a contribution web page
- Complete the web-based form
- Upload the data from the SAMM Toolbox

# Data structure

- \*Contributor Name (org or anon)
- Contributor Contact Email
- \*Date assessment conducted (MM/YYYY)
- \*Type of Assessment (self or 3rd party)
- \*Answers to the SAMM Assessment Questions
- Geographic Region (global, North America, EU, Asia, other)
- Primary Industry (multiple, financial, industrial, software, ??)
- Approximate number of developers (1-100, 101-1000, 1001-10000, 10000+)
- Approximate number of primary AppSec (1-5, 6-10, 11-20, 20+)
- Approximate number of secondary AppSec (0-20, 21-50, 51-100, 100+)
- Primary SDL Methodology (Waterfall, Agile, DevOps, Other)

\* required fields



# Visit our website

[owaspsamm.org](https://owaspsamm.org)



# Questions, feedback, input



[#project-samm](#)



[github.com/OWASP/samm](https://github.com/OWASP/samm)

# SAMM newsletter



**mailchimp**

[eepurl.com/gl9fb9](https://eepurl.com/gl9fb9)



# SAMM sponsors



[owaspsamm.org/sponsors](https://owaspsamm.org/sponsors)

# Who is SAMM?

Bart De Win  
Project Co-Leader, Belgium

Sebastien (Seba) Deleersnyder  
Project Co-Leader, Belgium

Brian Glass – United States

Daniel Kefer – Germany

Yan Kravchenko – United States

Chris Cooper – United Kingdom

John DiLeo – New Zealand

Nessim Kisserli – Belgium

Patricia Duarte – Uruguay

John Kennedy – Sweden

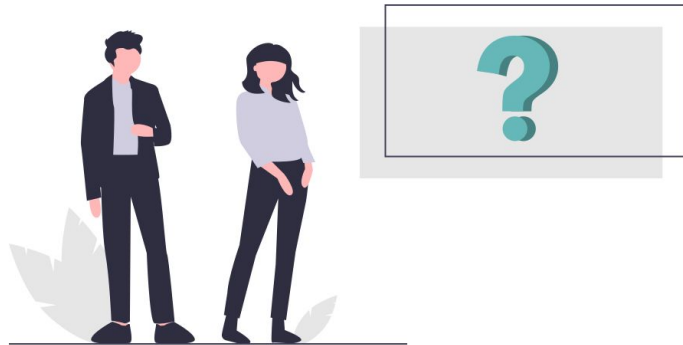
Hardik Parekh – United States

John Ellingsworth – United States

Sebastián Arriada – Argentina

Brett Crawley – United Kingdom

# Questions? Feedback?





# Thank you!

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