

Full Stack Engineering Challenge: Brand Protection Monitor (PoC)

This assignment is designed to evaluate your technical, architectural, and communication skills in a time-boxed, real-world scenario. You are tasked with creating a Proof-of-Concept (PoC) web application that actively monitors a public Certificate Transparency (CT) log to detect potential brand phishing or domain abuse.

The suggested time budget for this task is **8 hours**, but there is no strict time limit. Please submit your code along with a description of any planned features that remain incomplete.

1. Core Objectives

Create a full-stack application that achieves the following:

- Monitor:** Connect to a specific CT Log and retrieve recent certificate entries.
- Process:** Check the certificate domains (Common Name and Subject Alternative Names) against a user-defined list of keywords.
- Display:** Provide a web interface to manage keywords, view processing status, and highlight matching certificates.
- (Bonus points) Export:** Allow users to export the results (matched certificates) to a CSV file.

2. Required Technology Stack

The solution **must** be implemented using the following stack. Adherence to this stack is a key evaluation criterion.

Component	Technology	Primary Role
Backend API/Service	Golang (Go)	CT Log Consumer, Keyword Processor, REST API Server.
Database	PostgreSQL	Persistent storage for keywords, matched certificates, and monitor state.
Frontend UI	React	Interactive dashboard for configuration and display.
Styling	Tailwind CSS	Utility-first styling for responsive and modern UI.
Type Safety	TypeScript	Required for the React frontend and preferred for enhanced development.
Communication	REST APIs	Defines the interface between the Go backend and the React frontend.

3. Implementation Details & Constraints

3.1. CT Log Source & Consumption

- **CT Log URL:** <https://oak.ct.letsencrypt.org/2026h2>
- **Performance Note (PoC Scope):** You are **not** required to process the entire volume of the CT log in real-time. The Go backend should retrieve a fixed, recent batch of certificates (e.g., the last **100 entries**) periodically (e.g., every minute) to demonstrate the core monitoring loop. There is no need to store all the certificates, just those that trigger on a keyword.
- **HINT:** Use the get-entries function defined in **RFC 6962** (Certificate Transparency) to retrieve a batch of certificates, leveraging the information from the latest Signed Tree Head (STH).

3.2. Feature Requirements

Feature	Description
Keyword Management	The frontend must allow a user to add/remove/view the list of keywords being monitored. These keywords must be persisted in PostgreSQL .
Certificate Matching	The Go service must parse the certificate data and identify if the Common Name (CN) or any Subject Alternative Name (SAN) contains a monitored keyword.
Monitoring Dashboard	Display the list of matched certificates (domain, issuer, date, matched keyword). Matched entries must be prominently highlighted (e.g., color-coded).
Status Feedback	The UI must clearly show the user that the monitor is active and processing. Display metrics such as the total number of certificates processed in the last cycle.
Export Functionality	Implement a backend endpoint and a frontend button to download all currently stored matched certificates into a CSV file .

3.3. Project Rules & Submission

- **Code Usage:** You **must** use AI where possible and are encouraged to use the internet and 3rd party code/libraries. We do expect the creator to understand and be able to explain the functionality and have verified any AI generated code.
- **Deliverables:**
 1. A **Zip file** containing all source code (including any 3rd party dependencies used).
 2. A detailed **README.md** file with the following sections:
 - **Setup/Running Instructions:** How to install dependencies and run the backend/frontend components (including database setup).

- **Implemented Features:** A clear list of which features were completed.
- **Design Decisions/Ambiguities:** Describe any architectural choices, interpretations of ambiguous requirements, or trade-offs made.
- **Limitations & Known Bugs:** Document any outstanding issues or features that were not completed due to time constraints, along with an outline of your intended solution.

4. Evaluation Criteria

Your submission will be evaluated on the following:

- **Functionality:** Does the program work and deliver all required features, especially the core monitoring, matching, highlighting, and (bonus) CSV export?
- **Code Quality:** Idiomatic use of Go and TypeScript, clean, readable code, and effective use of comments.
- **Architecture:** Clear separation of concerns, effective use of REST APIs, and a sensible PostgreSQL schema design.
- **Communication:** Clarity and completeness of the **README.md** file.