

Security Assessment for

QAMarketplace

March 18, 2025



Executive Summary

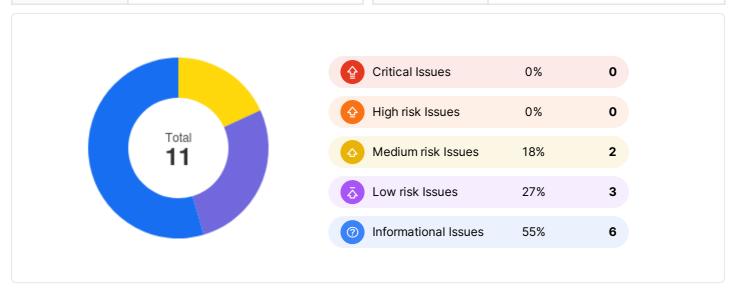
Overview		
Project Name	QAMarketplace	
Codebase URL	https://github.com/XNect/QAMarketplace	
Scan Engine	Security Analyzer	
Scan Time	2025/03/18 08:00:00	
Commit Id	d4781559d60ea3459279183fc4f5227e a6d356e9	

Critical Issues	The issue can cause large economic losses, large-scale data disorder, loss of control of authority management, failure of key functions, or indirectly affect the correct operation of other smart contracts interacting with it.	
High Risk Issues	The issue puts a large number of users' sensitive information at risk or is reasonably likely to lead to catastrophic impacts on clients' reputations or serious financial implications for clients and users.	
Medium Risk Issues △	The issue puts a subset of users' sensitive information at risk, would be detrimental to the client's reputation if exploited, or is reasonably likely to lead to moderate financial impact.	
Low Risk Issues	The risk is relatively small and could not be exploited on a recurring basis, or is a risk that the client has indicated is low-impact in view of the client's business circumstances.	
Informational Issue	The issue does not pose an immediate risk but is relevant to security best practices or Defence	

in Depth.

?

Total		
Critical Issues	0	
High risk Issues	0	
Medium risk Issues	2	
Low risk Issues	3	
Informational Issues	6	





Summary of Findings

MetaScan security assessment was performed on **March 18, 2025 08:00:00** on project **QAMarketplace** with the repository on branch **default branch**. The assessment was carried out by scanning the project's codebase using the scan engine **Security Analyzer**. There are in total **11** vulnerabilities / security risks discovered during the scanning session, among which **2** medium risk vulnerabilities, **3** low risk vulnerabilities, **6** informational issues.

ID	Description	Severity	Alleviation
MSA-001	The register() function missing validate the uidToAddress	Medium risk	Fixed
MSA-002	Should users pay for un-processed question?	Medium risk	Fixed
MSA-003	The centralized function withdraw() may result in the contract malfunctional	Low risk	Acknowledged
MSA-004	The answererEarnings for un-registered users would be greater than exptected	Low risk	Acknowledged
MSA-005	The submitQuestion() function missing check the _questionId, _askerId, and _answererId	Low risk	Acknowledged
MSA-006	Missing the sanity check	Informational	Acknowledged
MSA-007	The answererViewRewardPercentage is unused	Informational	Acknowledged
MSA-008	Duplicated events emitted	Informational	Acknowledged
MSA-009	Consider updating the fee parameter in the same function	Informational	Acknowledged
MSA-010	Centralization risk	Informational	Acknowledged
MSA-011	Missing invokeReentrancyGuard_init() for the upgradeable contract	Informational	Fixed



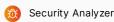
Findings



Medium risk (2)

1. The register() function missing validate the uidToAddress 🔥 Medium risk





The register () function can register users' wallet addresses and user ids with the signature generated by the server:

```
function register(
  string calldata uid,
   address user,
   uint256 expirationTime,
   bytes calldata signature
) external whenNotPaused {
   require(!registeredAddresses[user], "Address Already Used");
   // store the mapping relationship
   addressToUid[user] = uid;
   uidToAddress[uid] = user; //@here
   registeredAddresses[user] = true;
   registeredUIds[uid] = true;
```

However, the register function only check if the wallet address is registered or not, lack of checking if the user id, uid, is registered or

Thus, two users can be registered with the same uid, which would results in unexpected results.

Example:

```
//first call to register wallet address 0x1 with uid 1
addressToUid[0x1] = 1
uidToAddress[1] = 0x1
//second call to register wallet address 0x2 with uid 1
addressToUid[0x2] = 1
uidToAddress[1] = 0x2
//as a result, there is no uid maps to the address 0x1
```



contracts/QAMarketplace.sol #130-173

```
function register(
   string calldata uid,
   address user,
   uint256 expirationTime,
   bytes calldata signature
) external whenNotPaused {
   // check if the address is already registered
   require(!registeredAddresses[user], "Address Already Used");
    // check if the expierTime is greater than current timestamp
   require(
       expirationTime > block.timestamp,
        "ExpirationTime must be greater than current timestamp"
   );
    \verb|bytes32| ethSignedMessageHash| = \verb|MessageHashUtils.toEthSignedMessageHash| (
        abi.encode(uid, user, expirationTime)
   );
    address signer = ECDSA.recover(ethSignedMessageHash, signature);
    // check if the signer is the authorized server address
    require(signer == server, "Invalid Signature");
    // // check if the user is the same as the msg.sender
    // require(user == msq.sender, "Address is not valid");
    // store the mapping relationship
   addressToUid[user] = uid;
   uidToAddress[uid] = user;
   registeredAddresses[user] = true;
   registeredUIds[uid] = true;
    // claim the reward if there is any
   uint256 reward = pendingRewards[uid];
   if (reward > 0) {
       pendingRewards[uid] = 0;
        _rewardAnswerer(uid, reward);
        emit AnswererRewarded(uid, user, reward);
    emit Registered (uid, user);
```

Recommendation

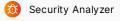
Consider validating if the user id, uid, registered or not.

Alleviation Fixed

The team fixed this finding, in the commit f6d3d8174fdf6c174ac2c688cda9916743eecf73.

2. Should users pay for un-processed question?







The viewquestion() function charges users for the specified question, the discussion point is that, is it an intended design for this function charges users for those eliminated or resolved questions?

Is it an intended design for this function charges users for those ongoing question?

Note that this function does not check question status, so any question viewed in this function will charge users fee, but some of them maybe eliminated or onging.

File(s) Affected

contracts/QAMarketplace.sol #305-331

```
function viewQuestion(
   uint256 _questionId,
    string calldata _viewerId
) external payable whenNotPaused nonReentrant {
    QASession memory q = questions[\_questionId];
    require(q.paymentAddress != address(0), "Question does not exist");
    uint256 reward = (q.reward * viewRewardPercentage) / 100;
    require(msg.value >= reward, "Value must be greater than viewReward");
    uint256 fee = (msg.value * viewFee) / 100; // 10% fee
    uint256 rewardToAsker = (msg.value * askerViewRewardPercentage) / 100; // 50% to asker
    uint256 rewardToAnswerer = msg.value - rewardToAsker - fee; // 40% to answerer
    rewardAnswerer(g.answererId, rewardToAnswerer);
    _rewardAsker(q.askerId, q.paymentAddress, rewardToAsker);
    emit OuestionViewed(
       _questionId,
        viewerId,
       q.askerId,
       g.answererId.
       rewardToAsker,
       rewardToAnswerer,
    );
```

Alleviation Fixed

The team fixed this finding by only allowing users to view processed questions, i.e. resolved questions or terminated questions, in the commit 2083cf6b8d74385dd3f99cdeece9ecf4414a1c5a.

🔼 Low risk (3)

The centralized function withdraw() may result in the contract

1. Low risk
malfunctional



The withdraw() function allows the owner withdraw all the native token to a specified address. The point is that what if there are still some user rewards pending to be distributed for askers and answerers, if the owner withdraws all the native tokens, then, the contract can not work as expected due to lack of funds to distribute reward.



contracts/QAMarketplace.sol #333-334

```
function withdraw(address to) external onlyOwner {
    _safeTransfer(to, address(this).balance);
```

Recommendation

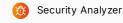
When a question is processed or viewed, there is a fee charged for the owner. Accumulating the fee into a variable, like totalFee, and only withdraw fee under the totalFee.

Alleviation Acknowledged

The team acknowledged this finding.

The answererEarnings for un-registered users would be 2. greater than exptected





The _rewardAnswerer() function records users' reward into the pendingRewards[_uid] if an user id is un-registered:

Once the user id is registered, the pending reward will be distributed to the user soon:

However, the register function calls the <u>rewardAnswerer()</u> function for an un-registered user will repeatedly increase the <u>answererEarnings</u>, which results in the <u>answererEarnings</u> for the un-registered users being greater than expected once the users registered later.



contracts/QAMarketplace.sol #130-173

```
function register(
   string calldata uid,
   address user,
   uint256 expirationTime,
   bytes calldata signature
) external whenNotPaused {
   // check if the address is already registered
   require(!registeredAddresses[user], "Address Already Used");
    // check if the expierTime is greater than current timestamp
   require(
       expirationTime > block.timestamp,
        "ExpirationTime must be greater than current timestamp"
   );
   \verb|bytes32| ethSignedMessageHash| = \verb|MessageHashUtils.toEthSignedMessageHash| (
       abi.encode(uid, user, expirationTime)
   );
   address signer = ECDSA.recover(ethSignedMessageHash, signature);
   // check if the signer is the authorized server address
    require(signer == server, "Invalid Signature");
    // // check if the user is the same as the msg.sender
   // require(user == msg.sender, "Address is not valid");
    // store the mapping relationship
   addressToUid[user] = uid;
   uidToAddress[uid] = user;
   registeredAddresses[user] = true;
   registeredUIds[uid] = true;
    // claim the reward if there is any
   uint256 reward = pendingRewards[uid];
   if (reward > 0) {
       pendingRewards[uid] = 0;
        _rewardAnswerer(uid, reward);
        emit AnswererRewarded(uid, user, reward);
   emit Registered(uid, user);
```



contracts/QAMarketplace.sol #337-346

```
function _rewardAnswerer(string memory _uid, uint256 _reward) internal {
    answererEarnings[_uid] += _reward;
    address answererAddress = uidToAddress[_uid];
    if (answererAddress != address(0)) {
        _safeTransfer(answererAddress, _reward);
    } else {
        pendingRewards[_uid] += _reward;
    }
    emit AnswererRewarded(_uid, answererAddress, _reward);
}
```

Recommendation

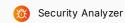
In the <u>rewardAnswerer()</u> function, consider only increasing the <u>answererEarnings</u> for the specified address when the <u>answererAddress</u> is not zero address, i.e., the user registered.

Alleviation Acknowledged

The team acknowledged this finding.

The submitQuestion() function missing check the 3.
_questionId, _askerId, and _answererId





The submitQuestion() function submits question that contains the _questionId, _askerId, and _answererId:

```
function submitQuestion(
   uint256 _questionId,
   string calldata _askerId,
   string calldata _answererId,
   string calldata _questionContent,
   uint256 _minReward,
   uint256 _expiryTimestamp,
   bytes calldata _signature
) external payable whenNotPaused {
    QASession memory q = QASession({
       id: _questionId, //@here
       askerId: _askerId,
       answererId: _answererId,
       questionContent: _questionContent,
       reward: msg.value,
       paymentAddress: msg.sender,
       resolved: false,
       terminated: false,
       creationTimestamp: block.timestamp,
       expiryTimestamp: _expiryTimestamp
    questions[_questionId] = q;
```

However, the function does not check the _questionid, _askerid, and _answererid. As a result, the non-exist user id may be used as the _askerid or the _answererid, which results in the fund loss.

The question id, _questionId, is not checked, so, the same question id may be used for the different question and results in the old question malfunctional.



contracts/QAMarketplace.sol #175-239

```
function submitQuestion(
   uint256 _questionId,
   string calldata _askerId,
   string calldata _answererId,
   string calldata _questionContent,
   uint256 _minReward,
   uint256 _expiryTimestamp,
   bytes calldata _signature
) external payable whenNotPaused {
   require(
       msg.value >= MIN_REWARD,
       "Reward must be greater than MIN_REWARD"
   );
    require(
        _expiryTimestamp > block.timestamp,
        "ExpirationTime must be greater than current timestamp"
   );
    require(
       bytes(_questionContent).length <= 2000,</pre>
        "Question must be greater than 0 and less than 2000 characters"
   ):
    // check if the signature is valid
   bytes32 ethSignedMessageHash = MessageHashUtils.toEthSignedMessageHash(
        abi.encode(
           _questionId,
            _askerId,
            _answererId,
            _questionContent,
            _minReward,
            _expiryTimestamp
    );
    address signer = ECDSA.recover(ethSignedMessageHash, _signature);
    require(signer == server, "Invalid Signature");
    // check if the reward is greater than the minAnswerReward
    require(
       msg.value >= _minReward,
        "Reward must be greater than minReward"
   );
    QASession memory q = QASession({
       id: _questionId,
       askerId: _askerId,
       answererId: _answererId,
       questionContent: _questionContent,
       reward: msg.value,
       paymentAddress: msg.sender,
       resolved: false,
       terminated: false.
       creationTimestamp: block.timestamp,
       expiryTimestamp: _expiryTimestamp
    questions[_questionId] = q;
    emit OuestionSubmitted(
```



```
_questionId,
_askerId,
_answererId,
msg.sender,
msg.value,
_expiryTimestamp
```

Recommendation

The _askerId and the _answererId should be exist and the _questionId should not be used before.

Alleviation Acknowledged

The team acknowledged this finding.

Informational (6)

1. Missing the sanity check



Informational



Security Analyzer

The initialize() function and the setServer() function set the key state variable server but missing the sanity check. It is responsible to checking the signature and is important.

File(s) Affected

contracts/QAMarketplace.sol #111-113

```
function initialize(address _server) external initializer {
    __Ownable_init(msg.sender);
   server = _server;
```

contracts/QAMarketplace.sol #375-377

```
function setServer(address _server) external onlyOwner {
   server = _server;
```

Recommendation

Consider adding the non-zero check for the server and other state variables.

Alleviation Acknowledged

The team acknowledged this finding.

2. The answererViewRewardPercentage is unused



(?) Informational



Security Analyzer

The state variable answererViewRewardPercentage is declared and assigned to be 40, in the _setDefaultParameters() function, but it is never used.

File(s) Affected

contracts/QAMarketplace.sol #126-126

```
answererViewRewardPercentage = 40;
```

Recommendation

Consider removing the unused variable answererViewRewardPercentage to save gas.



Alleviation Acknowledged

The team acknowledged this finding.

3. Duplicated events emitted





The register() function calls the _rewardAnswerer() function if the reward is greater than 0:

As the above codes shown, the event AnswererRewarded is emitted twice outer and inner the _rewardAnswerer() function.



contracts/QAMarketplace.sol #130-173

```
function register(
   string calldata uid,
   address user,
   uint256 expirationTime,
   bytes calldata signature
) external whenNotPaused {
   // check if the address is already registered
   require(!registeredAddresses[user], "Address Already Used");
    // check if the expierTime is greater than current timestamp
   require(
       expirationTime > block.timestamp,
       "ExpirationTime must be greater than current timestamp"
   ):
   bytes32 ethSignedMessageHash = MessageHashUtils.toEthSignedMessageHash(
       abi.encode(uid, user, expirationTime)
   );
   address signer = ECDSA.recover(ethSignedMessageHash, signature);
   // check if the signer is the authorized server address
    require(signer == server, "Invalid Signature");
    // // check if the user is the same as the msg.sender
   // require(user == msq.sender, "Address is not valid");
    // store the mapping relationship
   addressToUid[user] = uid;
   uidToAddress[uid] = user;
   registeredAddresses[user] = true;
   registeredUIds[uid] = true;
   // claim the reward if there is any
   uint256 reward = pendingRewards[uid];
   if (reward > 0) {
       pendingRewards[uid] = 0;
       _rewardAnswerer(uid, reward);
       emit AnswererRewarded(uid, user, reward);
   emit Registered (uid, user);
```

Recommendation

Only emitting the event from the _rewardAnswerer() function.

Alleviation Acknowledged

The team acknowledged this finding.

4. Consider updating the fee parameter in the same function







The sum of the viewFee and the askerViewRewardPercentage should not be greater than 100.

File(s) Affected

contracts/QAMarketplace.sol #278-290

```
function processExpiredQuestion(uint256 _questionId) public whenNotPaused {

QASession storage q = questions[_questionId];

require(!q.resolved, "Question is answered");

require(!q.terminated, "Question is already canceled");

require(

q.expiryTimestamp <= block.timestamp,

"Question is not expired"

);

q.terminated = true;

uint256 fee = (q.reward * refundFee) / 100; // 10% fee

uint256 refundValue = (q.reward * askerRefundPercentage) / 100; // 45% to asker

uint256 rewardToAnswerer = q.reward - fee - refundValue; // 45% to answerer
```

contracts/QAMarketplace.sol #305-317

```
function viewQuestion(
    uint256 _questionId,
    string calldata _viewerId

) external payable whenNotPaused nonReentrant {
    QASession memory q = questions[_questionId];
    require(q.paymentAddress != address(0), "Question does not exist");

uint256 reward = (q.reward * viewRewardPercentage) / 100;
    require(msg.value >= reward, "Value must be greater than viewReward");

uint256 fee = (msg.value * viewFee) / 100; // 10% fee

uint256 rewardToAsker = (msg.value * askerViewRewardPercentage) / 100; // 50% to asker

uint256 rewardToAnswerer = msg.value - rewardToAsker - fee; // 40% to answerer
```

Recommendation

Consider updating the refundFee and the askerRefundPercentage in the same centralized function and make the sum of them no greater than 100, and updating the viewFee and the askerViewRewardPercentage in the same centralized function and make the sum of them no greater than 100.

Alleviation Acknowledged

The team acknowledged this finding.

5. Centralization risk





In the <code>QAMarketplace</code> contract, the owner has the privilege of the following functions:

- setMinReward: Set the minimum reward amount for submitting a question;
- setQuestionFee: Set the fee percentage for processing a question.
- setRefundFee: Set the fee percentage for processing an expired question.
- setServer: Set the authorized server address.
- setViewFee: Set the fee percentage for viewing a question.
- setAskerRefundPercentage: Set the percentage of refund amount for the asker in case of an expired question.
- setAnswererRefundPercentage: Set the percentage of refund amount for the answerer in case of an expired question.
- setViewRewardPercentage: Set the percentage of reward amount for viewing a question.



contracts/QAMarketplace.sol #363-407

```
function setMinReward(uint256 _minReward) external onlyOwner {
   MIN_REWARD = _minReward;
function setQuestionFee(uint8 _questionFee) external onlyOwner {
    questionFee = _questionFee;
function setRefundFee(uint8 _refundFee) external onlyOwner {
   refundFee = _refundFee;
function setServer(address _server) external onlyOwner {
   server = server;
function setViewFee(uint8 _viewFee) external onlyOwner {
   viewFee = _viewFee;
function setAskerRefundPercentage(
   uint8 _askerRefundPercentage
) external onlyOwner {
    askerRefundPercentage = _askerRefundPercentage;
function setAnswererRefundPercentage(
   uint8 _answererRefundPercentage
) external onlyOwner {
   answererRefundPercentage = _answererRefundPercentage;
function setViewRewardPercentage(
   uint8 _viewRewardPercentage
) external onlyOwner {
   viewRewardPercentage = _viewRewardPercentage;
function pause() external onlyOwner {
   paused = true;
function unpause() external onlyOwner {
    paused = false;
```

Recommendation

Consider implementing a decentralized governance mechanism or a multi-signature scheme that requires consensus among multiple parties before pausing or unpausing the contract. This can help mitigate the centralization risk associated with a single owner controlling critical contract functions. Alternatively, you can provide a clear justification for the centralization aspect and ensure that users are aware of the potential risks associated with a single point of control.

Alleviation Acknowledged

The team acknowledged this finding



Missing invoke ___ReentrancyGuard_init() for the 6. upgradeable contract





The QAMarketplace contract inherits the ReentrancyGuardUpgradeable contract but its initialize() function missing invoke the __ReentrancyGuard_init() function of the ReentrancyGuardUpgradeable contract.

File(s) Affected

contracts/QAMarketplace.sol #111-116

```
function initialize(address _server) external initializer {
   __Ownable_init(msg.sender);

server = _server;

paused = false;
   __setDefaultParameters();
}
```

contracts/QAMarketplace.sol #10-13

```
10 contract QAMarketplace is
11 Initializable,
12 OwnableUpgradeable,
13 ReentrancyGuardUpgradeable
```

Recommendation

Consider invoking the __ReentrancyGuard_init() function from the QAMarketplace contract's initialize() function.

Alleviation Fixed

The team resolved this finding, in the commit f6d3d8174fdf6c174ac2c688cda9916743eecf73.



Audit Scope

File	SHA256	File Path
QAMarketplace-main/cont	9ca573d9b3144055ec09fad0bfaf46746af89532e3670	/QAMarketplace-main/contracts/QAMarketplace-mai
racts/QAMarketplace.sol	3e2dbad3f9cc4263c65	n/contracts/QAMarketplace.sol



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