

As a freshly appointed head of security...



Source: <https://d12edgf4lwbh8j.cloudfront.net/photo/image/Knighting.gif>

What would you do?



Scaling threat models... by playing cards!?

A case study

\$ whoami

- Mateusz Niezabitowski (Poland)
- 11 years as Software Developer (mostly Java & Web)
- Started moving towards Application Security 5 years ago
- Application Security Engineer @ Ocado Technology
- Mostly web technologies

In theory, there is no difference between
theory and practice.

In practice, there is...

Agenda

1. Why doing Threat Models is a good idea?
2. How did we approached Threat Modeling?
3. What lessons were learnt during the process?

So, what would you do?

So, what would you do?



Source: <https://i.giphy.com/media/d2ZjBlSqa5dWO45a/giphy.gif>

①

Why doing Threat Models is a
good idea?

Don't be a headless chicken!

Learn the answer to these 3 questions:

1. Why do you want to be “Secure”?

Beware of zealots



Source: https://pre00.deviantart.net/8eba/th/pre/f/2015/282/5/8/starcraft_ii_legacy_of_the_void_opening_cinematic_by_dimensionaldrift-d9cgntn.jpg

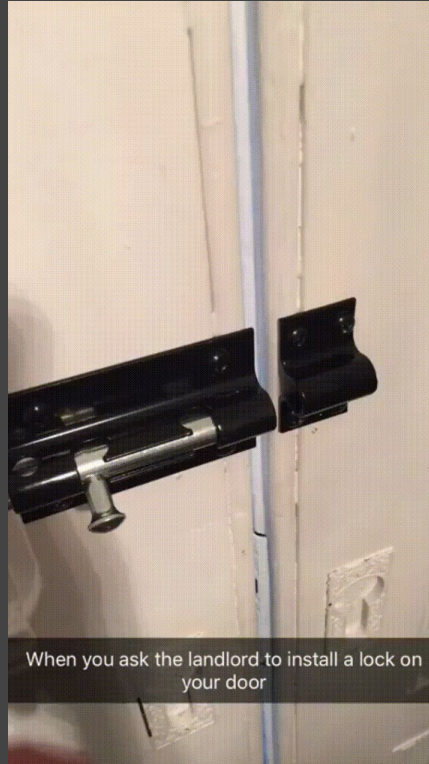
2. What does “Secure” mean in your context?

“Secure” System



Source: <https://i.gifer.com/B14g.gif>

“Secure” System



When you ask the landlord to install a lock on your door

Security doesn't have one simple
definition.

3. How do you prioritise your work?

Have you talked to Product Owners?



Source: <http://jolanamalkston.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Office-Clutter-1.jpg>

Have you talked to Developers?



Source: <http://www.cutecatgifs.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/ctn.gif>

You can't make everything secure
overnight!

②

How did we approached
Threat Modeling effort?

Fun and engaging

As simple as possible

Adds value
(and you feel it)

“Elevation of Privilege”,
“Cornucopia”
approach

Step 0: Draw

Step 1: Collect threats

Step 2: Assess threats

Step 2.1: Quantify risk

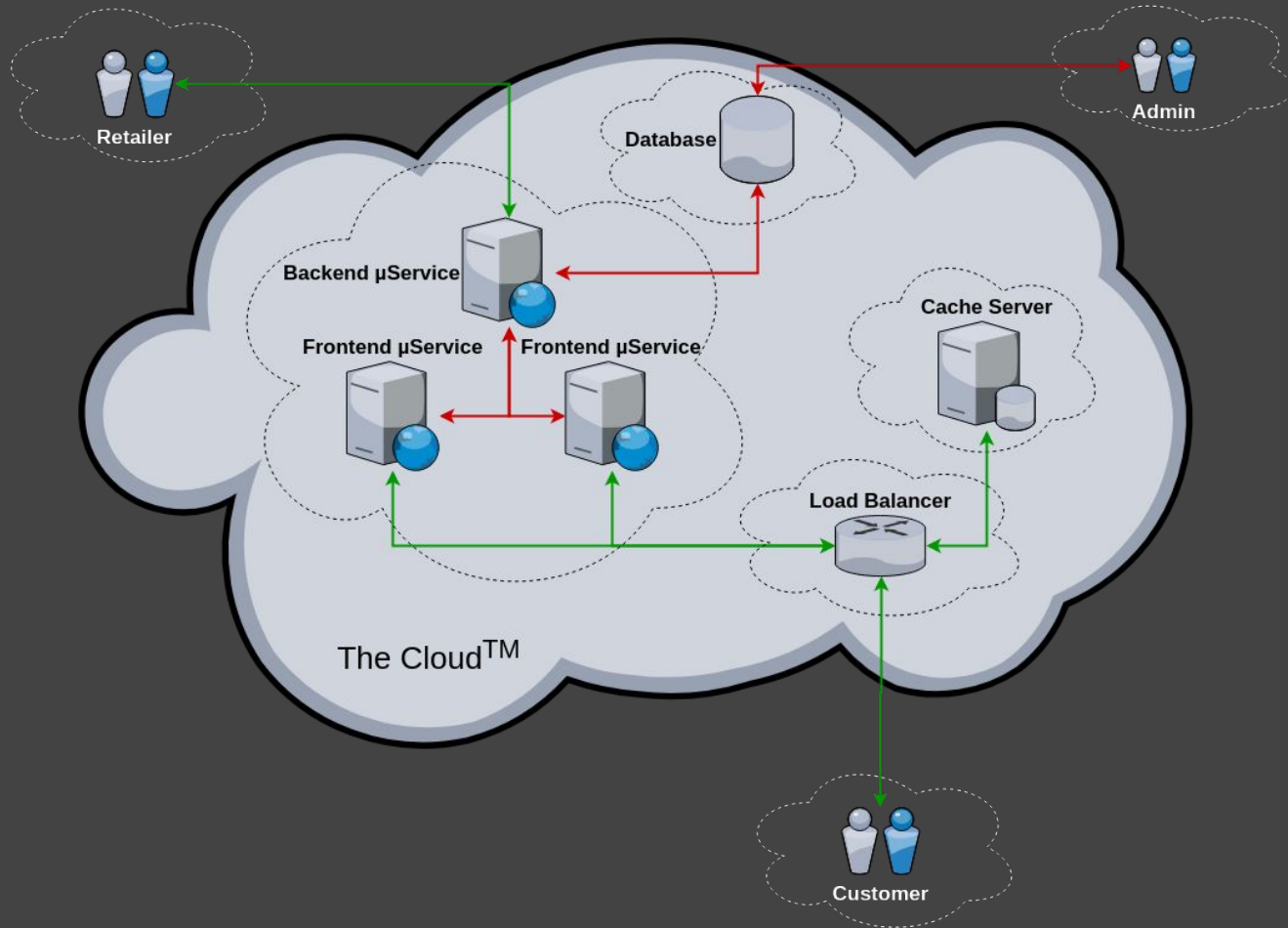
Step 2.2: Assess your situation

Step 2.3: Agree on action(s)

Step (+1): ACT!

General overview

1. Pick a card
2. Quick brainstorming - is this a threat?
3. *Calculate the risk (out of scope)*
4. Propose mitigation(s)
5. ... repeat



4

Sebastien can easily identify user names or can enumerate them

OWASP SCP

33, 53

OWASP ASVS

2.18, 2.28

OWASP AppSensor

AE1

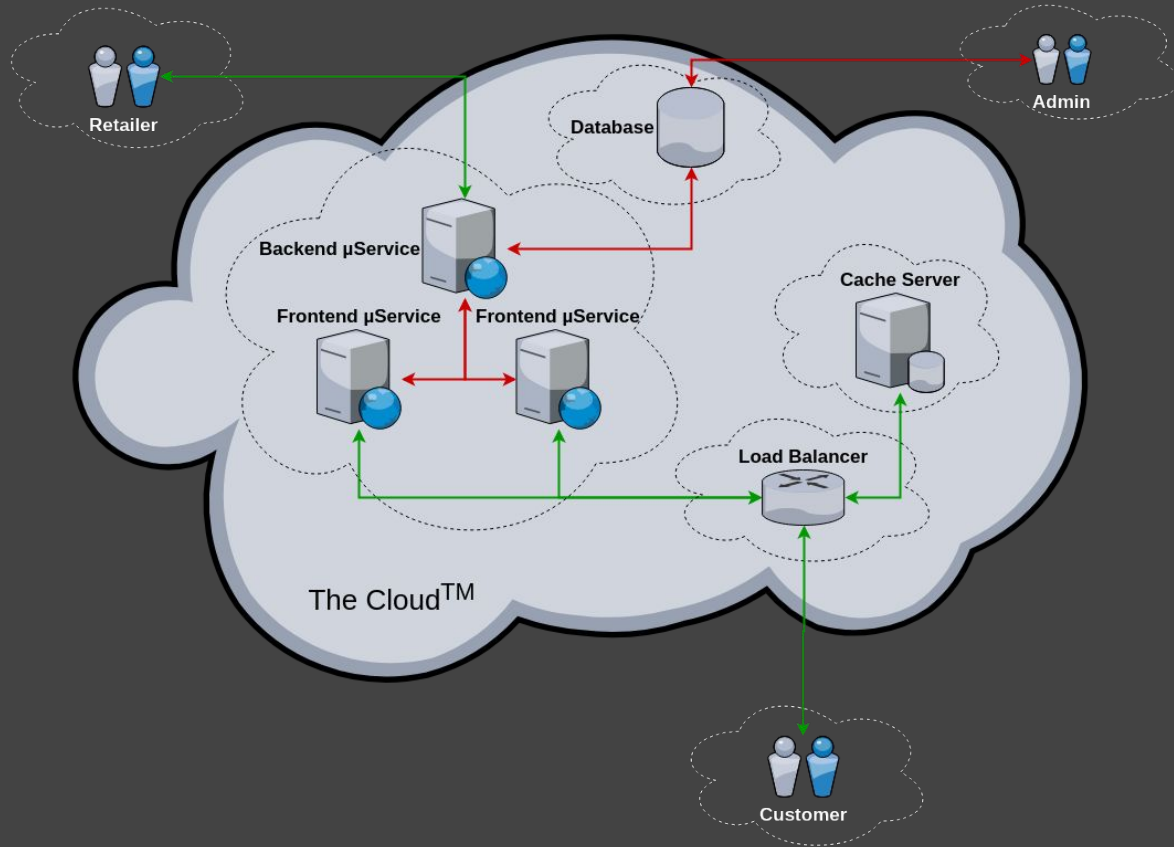
CAPEC

383

SAFECODE

28

OWASP Cornucopia Ecommerce Website Edition v1.20-EN



J

Jeff can resend an identical repeat interaction (e.g. HTTP request, signal, button press) and it is accepted, not rejected

OWASP SCP

-

OWASP ASVS

15.1, 15.2

OWASP AppSensor

IE5

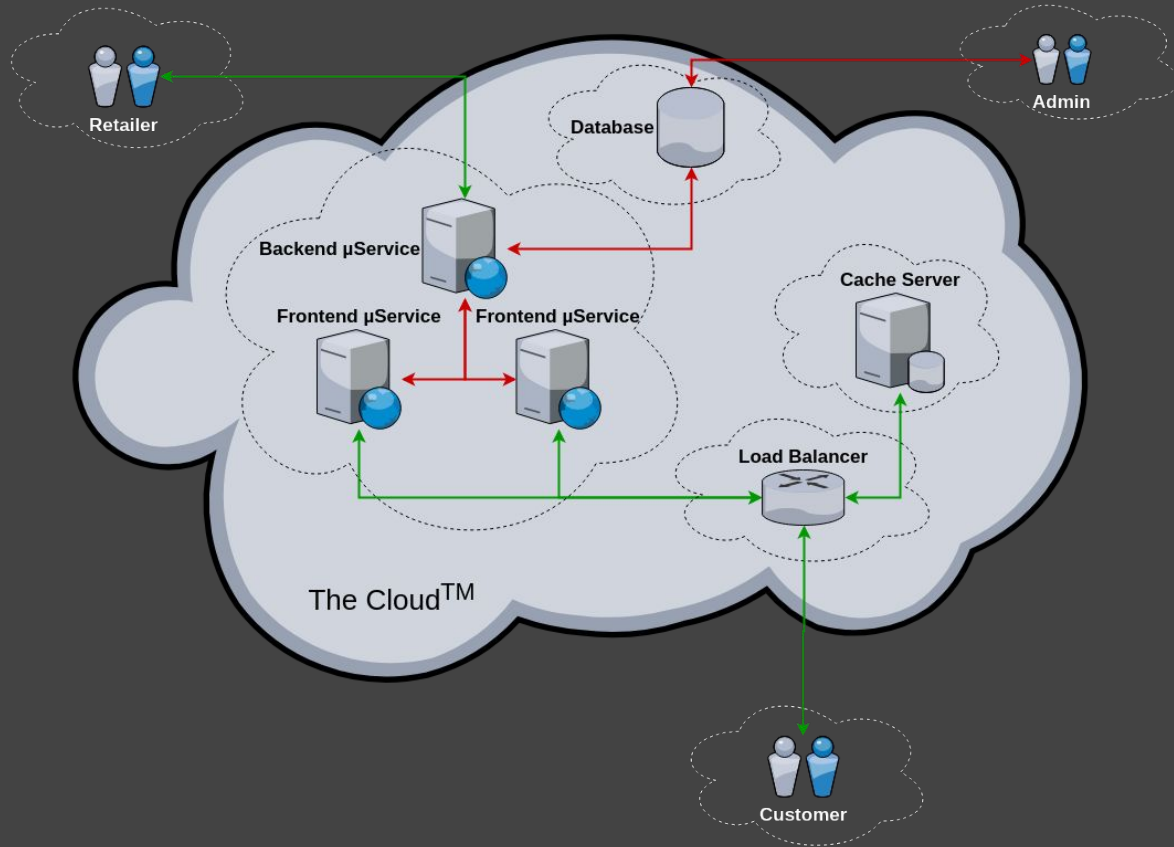
CAPEC

60

SAFECODE

12, 14

OWASP Cornucopia Ecommerce Website Edition v1.20-EN



Eoin can access stored business data (e.g. passwords, session identifiers, PII, cardholder data) because it is not securely encrypted or securely hashed

OWASP SCP

30, 31, 70, 133, 135

OWASP ASVS

2.13, 7.7, 7.8, 9.2

OWASP AppSensor

-

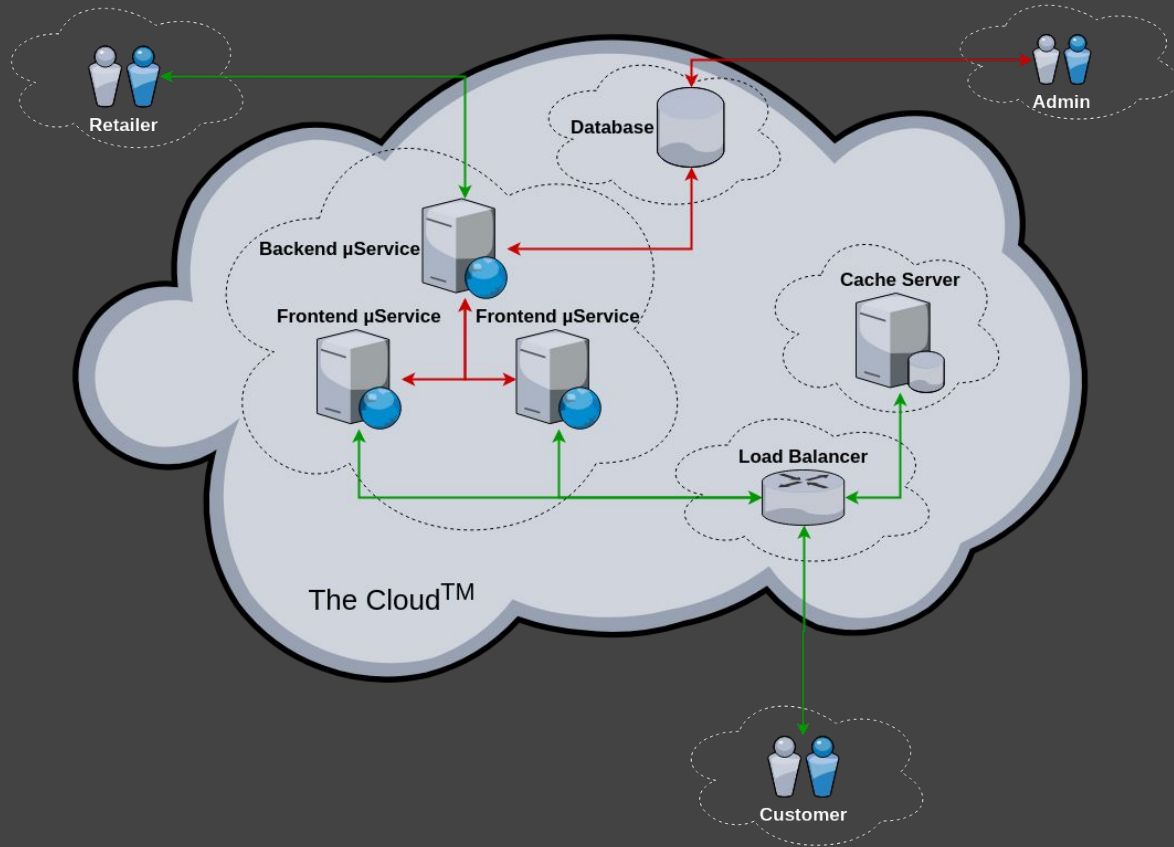
CAPEC

31, 37, 55

SAFECODE

21, 29, 31

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10

Xavier can circumvent the application's controls because code frameworks, libraries and components contain malicious code or vulnerabilities (e.g. in-house, commercial off the shelf, outsourced, open source, externally-located)

OWASP SCP

57, 151, 152, 204, 205, 213, 214

OWASP ASVS

1.11

OWASP AppSensor

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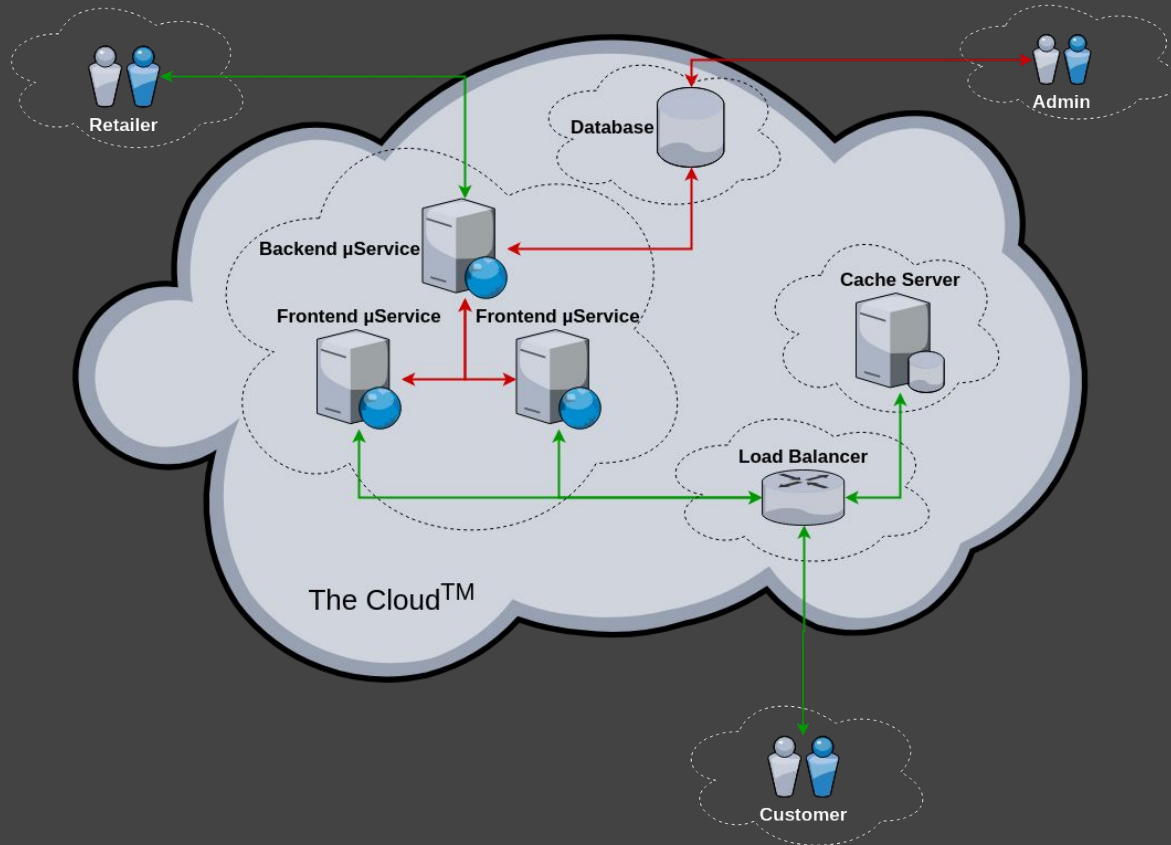
CAPEC

68, 438, 439, 442, 524, 538

SAFECODE

15

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③

What lessons were learned in
the process?

It's the best. It's great. It's true.

Documentation

Education

Visibility

Bug Hunting

Agility



Time

Effort

Immature process

10/10 would do this again



Source: <https://www.computing.co.uk/w-images/e0dfb134-a128-4123-9ee3-7f421a32c293/3/StrictlyComeDancingScores10-580x358.jpg>

Questions?

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