
AWS
re:Invent
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CON209

Scanning containers for vulnerabilities

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AWS

My journey to this presentation

I joined EKS in Container Networking Team.

We learned about the needs of our customers.

Developed a system that will scan our container images for vulnerabilities and will help us stay on top.

Customers

In order to meet their growing demands for velocity, scale, and availability, customers have migrated their workloads to containers.

As mission-critical workloads are containerized and are deployed to production, customers are now worried about containers with common vulnerabilities and exposures.

Customers want to protect themselves from attacks. They have business mandates and security requirements to run container workloads without vulnerabilities.

AWS

Security is of paramount importance to AWS.

AWS has built multiple systems and processes to ensure that we stay on top of security issues and constantly works to detect and rectify issues before they impact customers.

In this talk, we will look at tools and services available to customers to scan their containerized workloads.

We will look at Amazon EKS team’s experience in handling container vulnerability issues.

Containers

A container is like a lightweight virtual machine sharing kernel with the host.

Containers are created using a combination of kernel features such as Bind Mounts, Overlayfs, control groups, and namespaces.

An application container is started using a **container image**, which bundles the application together with its dependencies and just enough of a Linux root filesystem to run it.

Open Container Initiative

THE LINUX FOUNDATION PROJECTS

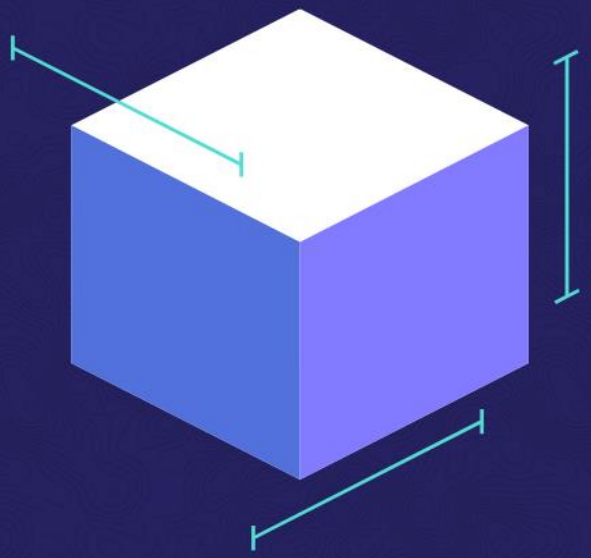
OPEN CONTAINER INITIATIVE

Open Container Initiative

The **Open Container Initiative** is an open governance structure for the express purpose of creating open industry standards around container formats and runtimes.

Established in June 2015 by Docker and other leaders in the container industry, the OCI currently contains three specifications: the Runtime Specification (runtime-spec), the Image Specification (image-spec) and the Distribution Specification (distribution-spec). The Runtime Specification outlines how to run a "filesystem bundle" that is unpacked on disk. At a high-level an OCI implementation would download an OCI Image then unpack that image into an OCI Runtime filesystem bundle. At this point the OCI Runtime Bundle would be run by an OCI Runtime.

Learn more ↪



Container images

Container images are executable software bundles that run standalone and that make very well-defined assumptions about their runtime environment.

Developers typically create a container image of the application and push it to a registry.

The container runtime is the software that is responsible for running containers.

Vulnerable Zones

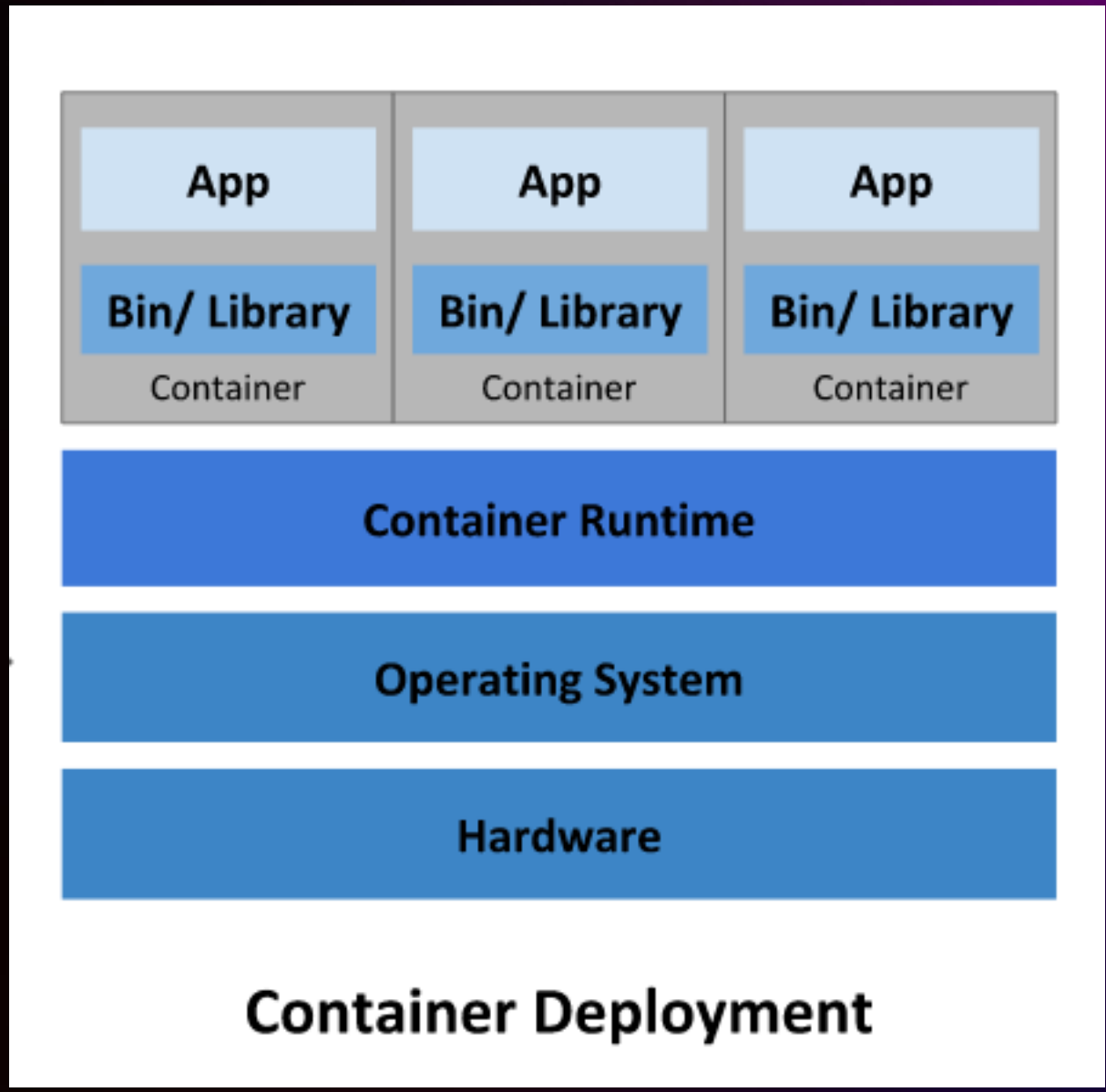
Container image layer

Application within the container

Container runtime

Linux Kernel in the host

Host machine software



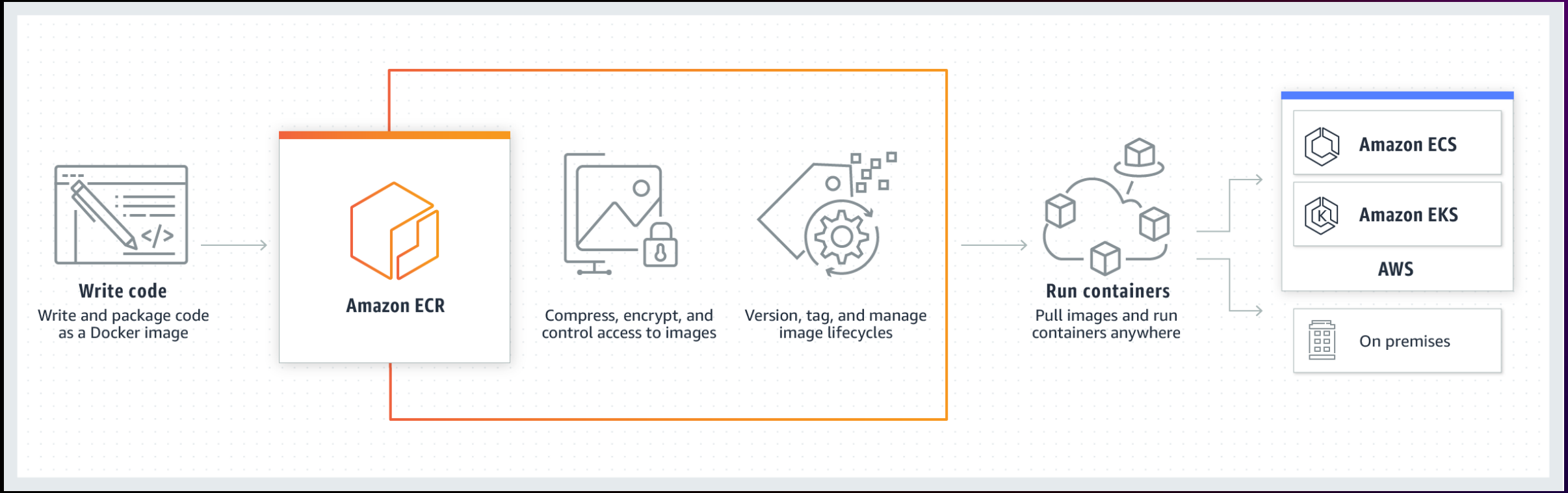
Detecting vulnerabilities

Domain of container scanning tools

Open specification leads to multiple solutions that customers can use

- Aqua Security
- Prisma Scan from Twistlock
- Clair
- Snyk
- Many more …

Amazon Elastic Container Registry



Amazon ECR Scan

Amazon ECR supports scanning for containers in its private registries

Enhanced scanning—Amazon ECR integrates with Amazon Inspector to provide automated, continuous scanning

Basic scanning—Amazon ECR uses the Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVEs) database from the open-source Clair project

Enhanced with periodically updated database from Amazon Linux Security Center (ALAS) for Amazon Linux containers

ALAS

Amazon Linux Security Center

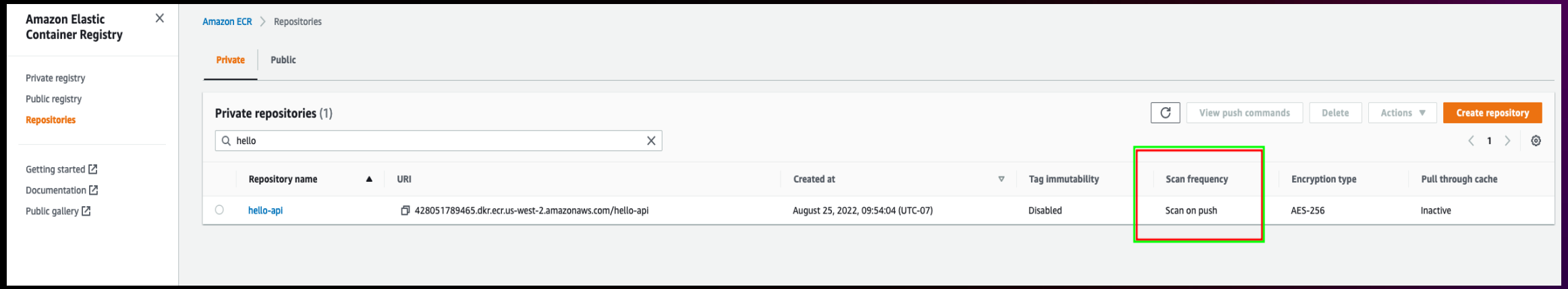
Amazon Linux | Amazon Linux 2 | Amazon Linux 2022

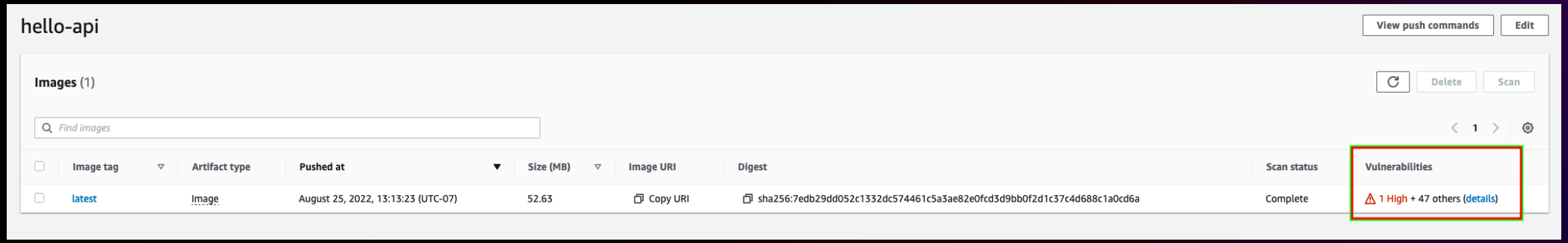
Below are bulletins for security or privacy events pertaining to the Amazon Linux AMI. You can also subscribe to our RSS feed.

Date Created	Date Updated	ALAS	Severity	Package	CVE(s)
2022-10-17 20:22	2022-10-20 20:35	ALAS-2022-1639	Low	vim	CVE-2022-2257 CVE-2022-2264 CVE-2022-2284 CVE-2022-2285 CVE-2022-2286 CVE-2022-2287 CVE-2022-2288 CVE-2022-2289 CVE-2022-2304 CVE-2022-2343 CVE-2022-2344 CVE-2022-2345 CVE-2022-2816 CVE-2022-2817 C CVE-2022-3037
2022-10-03 19:29	2022-10-10 20:41	ALAS-2022-1638	Medium	ruby20	CVE-2022-28739
2022-09-30 02:41	2022-10-10 20:40	ALAS-2022-1637	Important	libapreq2	CVE-2022-22728
2022-09-30 02:41	2022-10-10 20:39	ALAS-2022-1636	Important	kernel	CVE-2021-33655 CVE-2021-4159 CVE-2022-1462 CVE-2022-1679 CVE-2022-2153 CVE-2022-2588 CVE-2022-2663 CVE-2022-3028 CVE-2022-36123 CVE-2022-36879 CVE-2022-36946 CVE-2022-40307
2022-09-15 03:57	2022-09-20 23:21	ALAS-2022-1635	Important	golang	CVE-2022-1705 CVE-2022-1962 CVE-2022-1996 CVE-2022-24675 CVE-2022-27191 CVE-2022-28131 CVE-2022-28327 CVE-2022-29526 CVE-2022-30629 CVE-2022-30630 CVE-2022-30631 CVE-2022-30632 CVE-2022-30633 CVE- CVE-2022-32148
2022-09-15 03:57	2022-09-20 23:20	ALAS-2022-1634	Critical	cacti	CVE-2022-0730

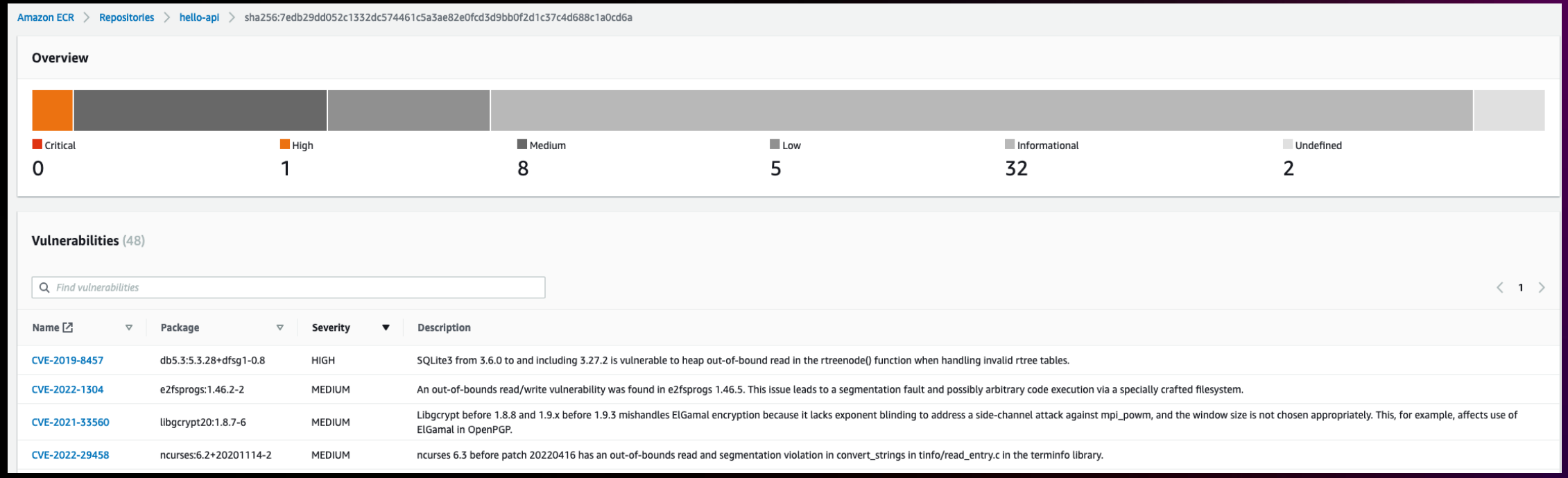
Basic Scan

Container images are scanned for operating system vulnerabilities





Basic Scan - Operating System Vulnerabilities



Enhanced Scan

Container images are scanned for both operating systems and programing language package vulnerabilities

Operating system	Version	Vendor security advisories
Alpine Linux (Alpine)	3.12	Alpine Secdb
Alpine Linux (Alpine)	3.13	Alpine Secdb
Alpine Linux (Alpine)	3.14	Alpine Secdb
Alpine Linux (Alpine)	3.15	Alpine Secdb
Alpine Linux (Alpine)	3.16	Alpine Secdb
Amazon Linux 2 (AL2)	AL2	ALAS
Amazon Linux 2022 (AL2022)	AL2022	ALAS
CentOS Linux (CentOS)	7	CESA
CentOS Linux (CentOS)	8	RHSA
Debian Server (Bullseye)	11	DSA
Debian Server (Buster)	10	DSA
OpenSUSE Leap (SUSE Leap)	15.2	SUSE CVE
OpenSUSE Leap (SUSE Leap)	15.3	SUSE CVE
Oracle Linux (Oracle)	7	ELSA
Oracle Linux (Oracle)	8	ELSA
Oracle Linux (Oracle)	9	ELSA
Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL)	7	RHSA
Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL)	8	RHSA
Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL)	9	RHSA
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server (SLES)	12	SUSE CVE
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server (SLES)	15	SUSE CVE
Ubuntu (Trusty)	14.04 (ESM)	USN
Ubuntu (Xenial)	16.04 (ESM)	USN
Ubuntu (Bionic)	18.04 (LTS)	USN
Ubuntu (Focal)	20.04 (LTS)	USN
Ubuntu (Jammy)	22.04 (LTS)	USN

Supported programming languages: Amazon ECR scanning

For container images in Amazon Elastic Container Registry (Amazon ECR) repositories, Amazon Inspector can scan software packages for the following programming languages:

- C#
- Go
- Java
- JavaScript
- PHP
- Python
- Ruby
- Rust

Languages and Runtime Vulnerability

CVE-2022-2526 - systemd, systemd-libs	2		0
CVE-2022-1996 - go-srpm-macros	2		0
CVE-2022-2526 - systemd-libs, systemd-sysv and 1 more	1		0
CVE-2022-2526 - systemd-libs, systemd and 1 more	1		0
SNYK-GOLANG-GOPKGINYAMLV3-2952714 - gopkg.in/yaml.v3	0		20
SNYK-GOLANG-GOPKGINYAMLV3-2841557 - gopkg.in/yaml.v3	0		20
SNYK-GOLANG-GITHUBCOMEMICKLEIGORESTFUL-2435653 - github.com/e...	0		3
IN1-PYTHON-WHEEL-3092128 - wheel	0		0
IN1-PYTHON-URLLIB3-1533435 - urllib3, urllib3	0		0
IN1-PYTHON-SETUPTOOLS-3113904 - setuptools, setuptools	0		0
IN1-PYTHON-RSA-570831 - rsa	0		0
IN1-PYTHON-RSA-570831 - rsa, rsa	0		0
IN1-PYTHON-RSA-1038401 - rsa, rsa	0		62
IN1-PYTHON-GITPYTHON-2407255 - GitPython, GitPython	0		0
IN1-GOLANG-K8SIOKUBERNETES-1585632 - k8s.io/kubernetes	0		0
IN1-GOLANG-K8SIOKUBERNETES-1585632 - k8s.io/kubernetes, k8s.io/kub...	0		0
IN1-GOLANG-K8SIOKUBERNETES-1585630 - k8s.io/kubernetes, k8s.io/kub...	0		2

IN1-PYTHON-URLLIB3-1533435 - urllib3, urllib3

Finding ID: arn:aws:inspector2:us-west-2:537017154062:finding/057f42f3e210ea90982cc2210a035e1c

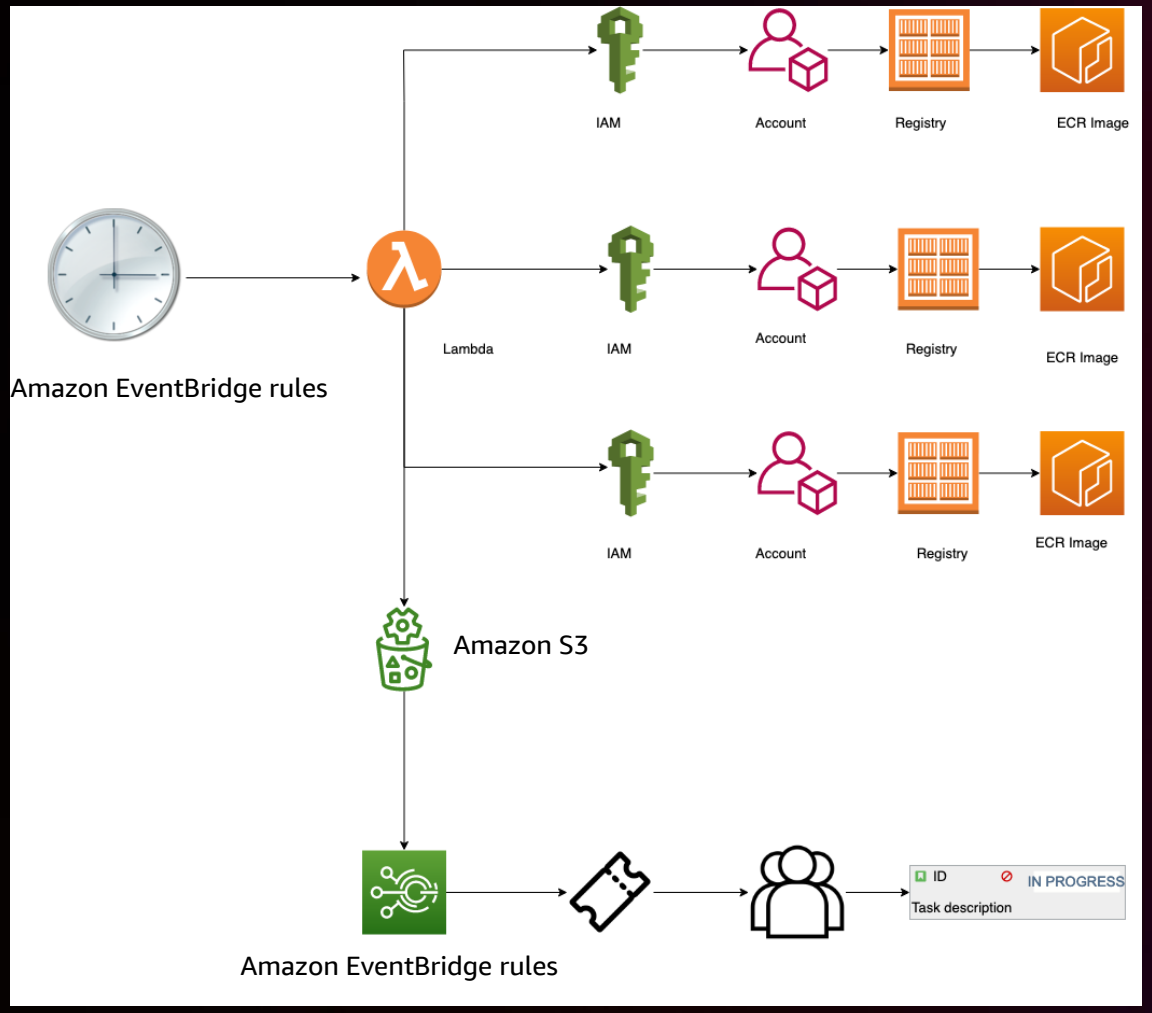
[urllib3](https://pypi.org/project/urllib3/) is a HTTP library with thread-safe connection pooling, file post, and more. Affected versions of this package are vulnerable to Regular Expression Denial of Service (ReDoS) via the `SUBAUTHORITY_PAT` regex pattern in `src/urllib3/util/url.py`. If a URL is passed as a parameter or redirected to via an HTTP redirect and it contains many `@` characters in the authority component, the authority regular expression exhibits catastrophic backtracking, causing a denial of service.

Finding details | Inspector score

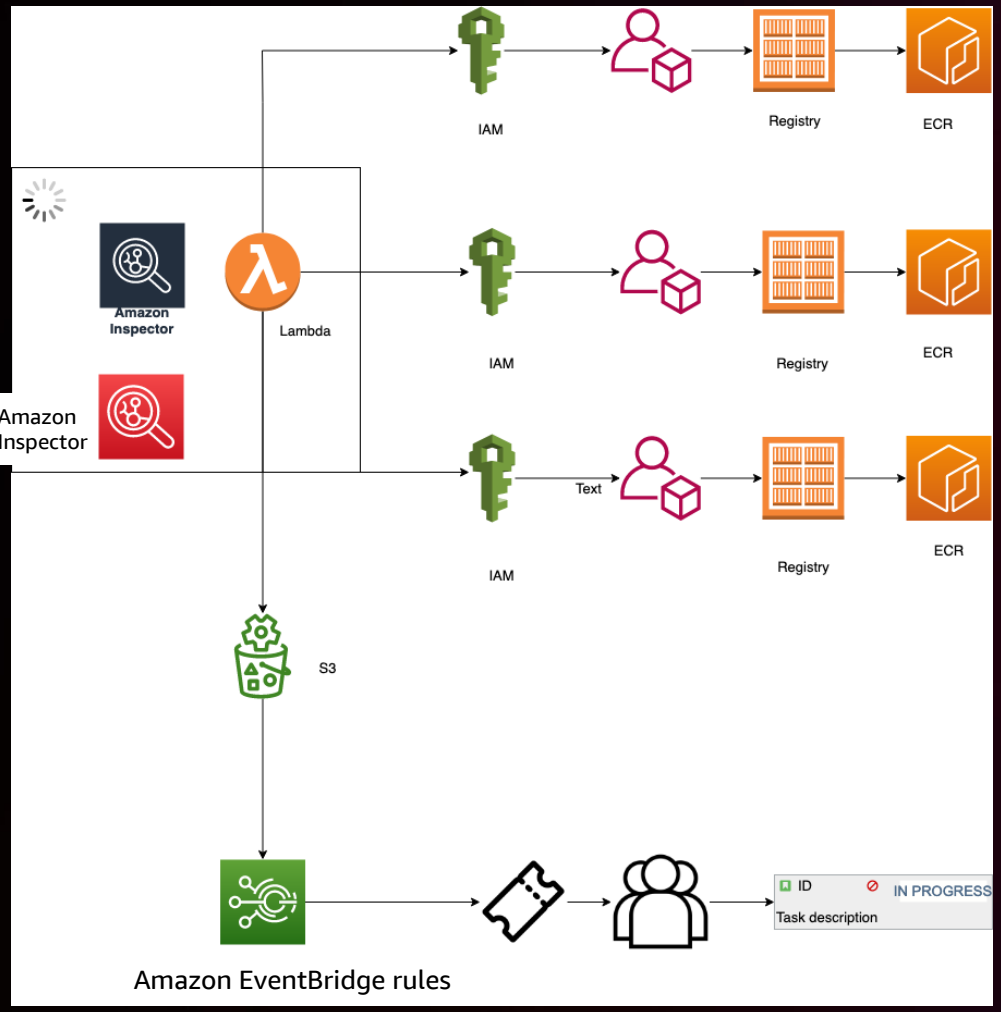
Finding overview	
AWS account ID	[redacted]
Severity	Medium
Type	Package Vulnerability
Fix available	No
Created at	November 15, 2022 3:55 PM (UTC-08:00)
Affected packages	
Name	urllib3
Installed version / Fixed version	0:1.26.4 / Not available
Package manager	PYTHONPKG
File paths	build/runtime/lib/python3.7/site-packages/urllib3-1.26.4-py3.7.egg-info/PKG-INFO (+1)
Remediation	

How do we build the system using blocks now?

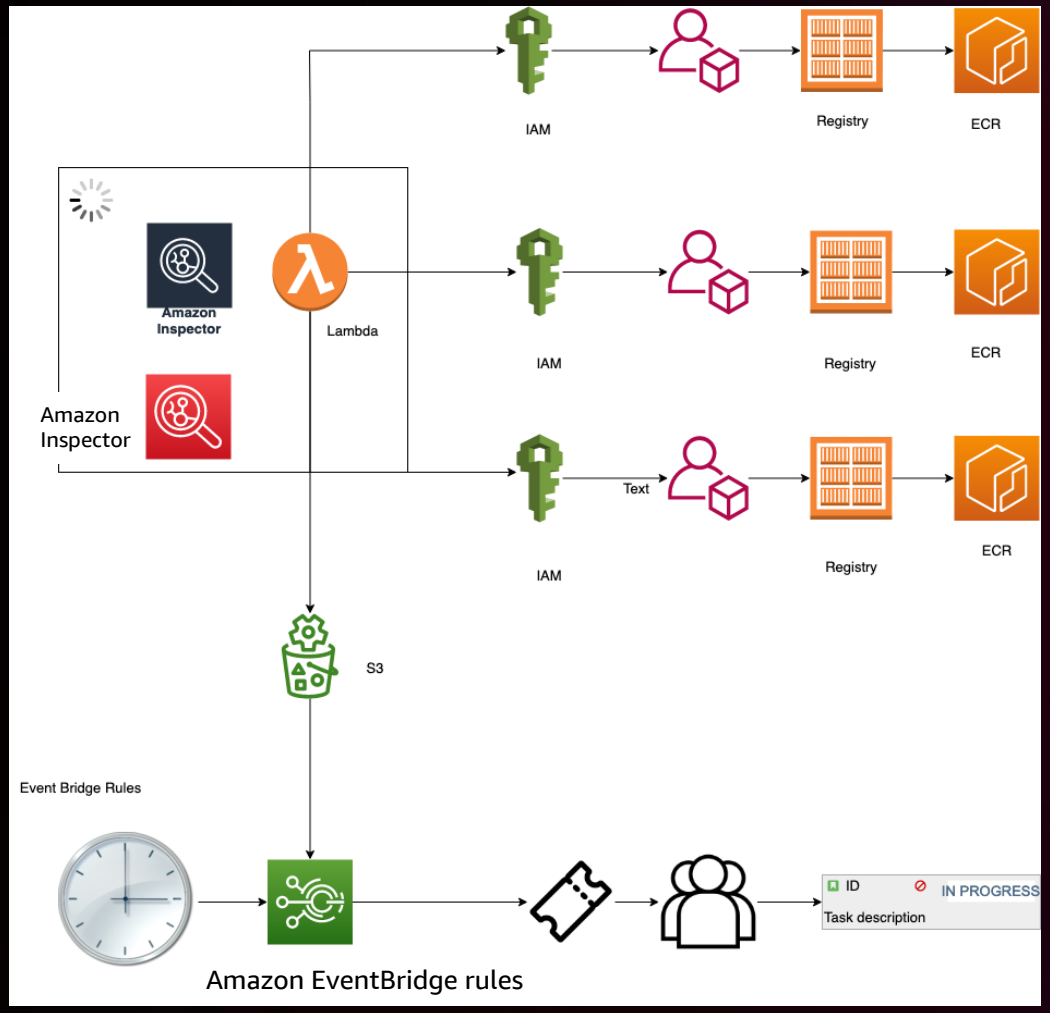
Scan Images Periodically



Continuously



Use Both – Continuous and Event Driven



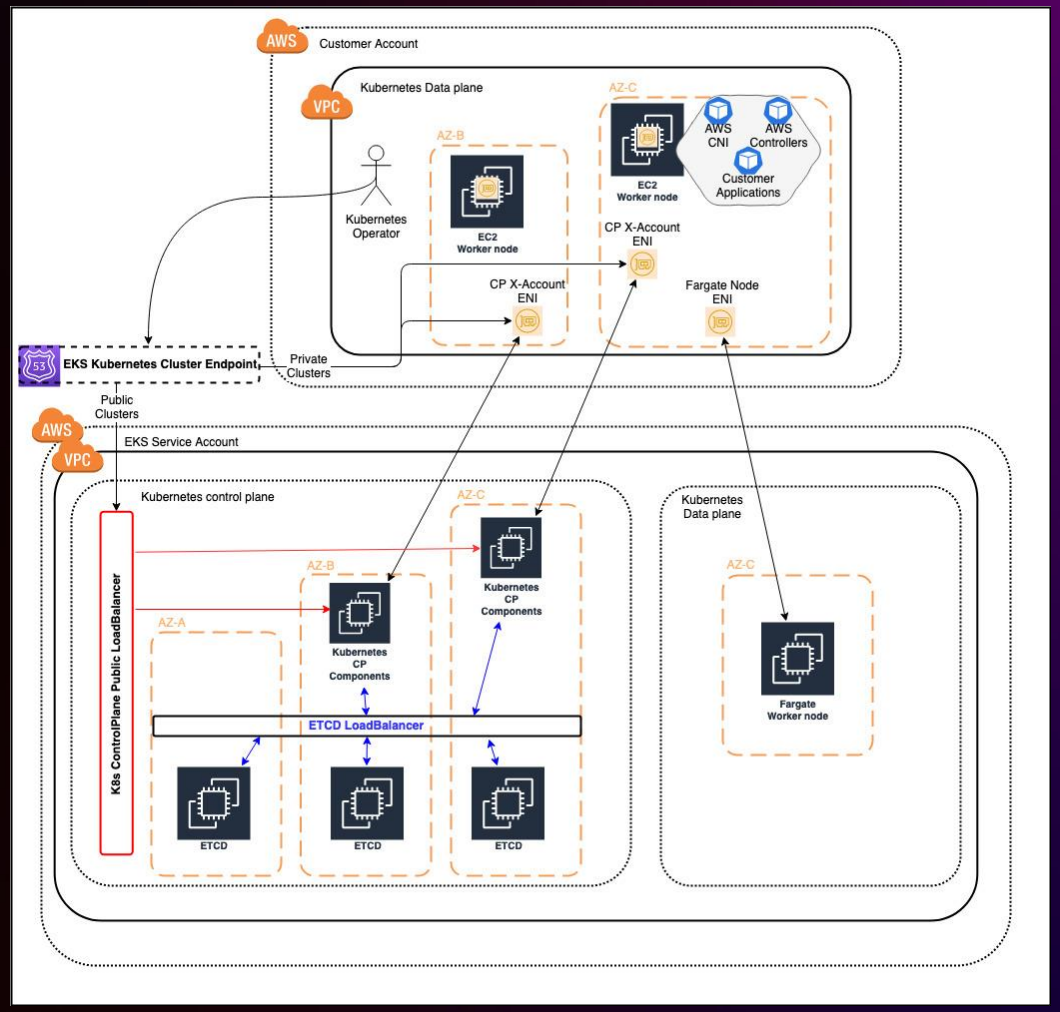
Amazon EKS

Amazon EKS has containers in Managed End of the Service called Control Plane.

In the Customer Accounts running workloads.

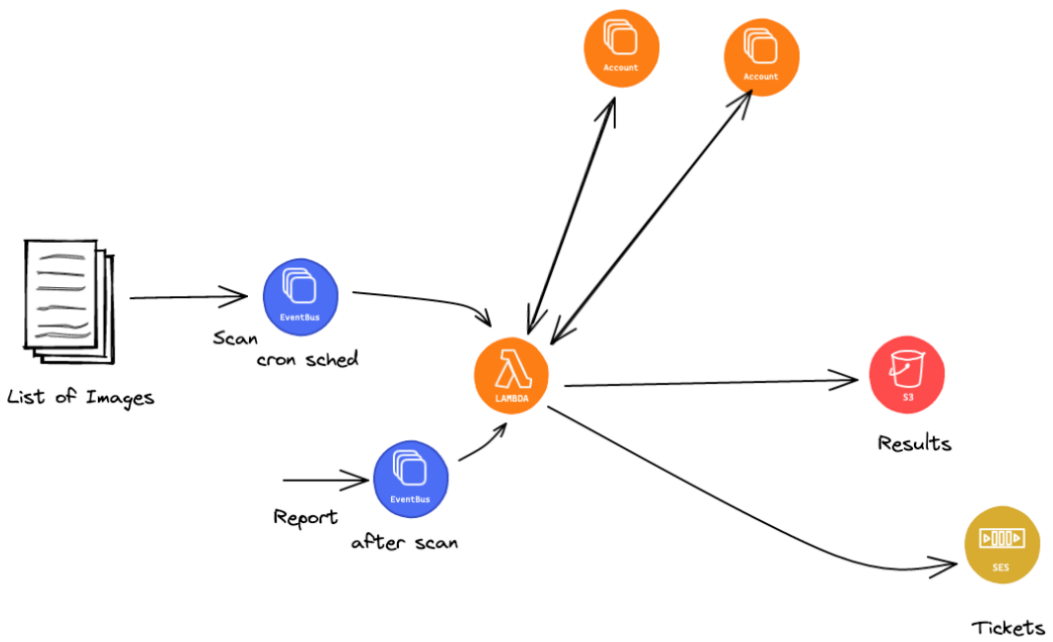
In AWS Fargate Compute Nodes.

Amazon EKS scans for vulnerabilities in the images and we take remediate actions to resolve the vulnerabilities.

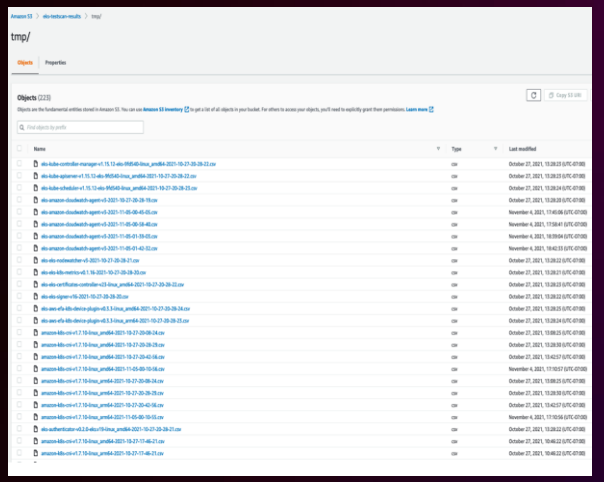


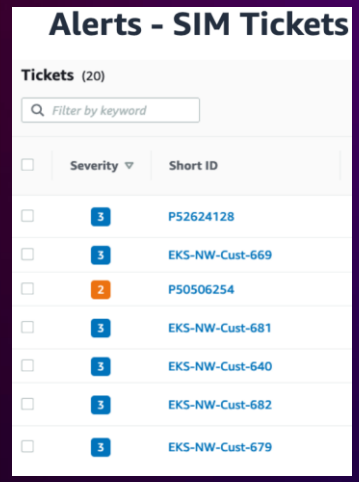
System Design

Periodic Scanning



List of Images





Enhanced Scanning

Support for Enhanced Scanning

- Basic Scan:
  - Triggered manually

TestPkgEksImageScan/mainline/images/eks-networking/**images.yaml**

```
Ticketing:
  Category: AWS
  Type: EKS
  Item: Test-Image-Scan
  AssignedGroup: test-image-scan
  SimFolder:

ImageECR:
  AccountID:              # build-beta account
  Region: us-west-2

images:
  - repository: eks/vpc-resource-controller
    imageTag: v1.1.0-linux_amd64
    sim:
```

  - ScanType: Basic

- Enhanced Scan:
  - Continuous scan, triggered automatically

TestPkgEksImageScan/mainline/images/eks-networking/**enhanced.yaml**

```
Ticketing:
  Category: AWS
  Type: EKS
  Item: Test-Image-Scan
  AssignedGroup: test-image-scan
  SimFolder:

ImageECR:
  AccountID:              # Account with Inspector Enabled
  ScanType: Enhanced      # Should return Enhanced Scan Results
  Region: us-west-2

images:
  - repository: amazon-k8s-cni
    imageTag: v1.11.2-linux_amd64
```

  - ScanType: Enhanced
  - Added reporting the enhanced scan results with Sim Ticket

Architectural patterns customers can adopt

There are multiple ways customers can use the Amazon ECR technology to their advantage.

Use a architecture similar to one described in previous slides for your application containers.

Monitor and evaluate the reports continuously to find real issues from non-applicable red herrings.

Prevent deployment of application containers from Amazon ECR if they have vulnerabilities. Has production impact.

Minimize Attack Vectors

Do not include shell in your containers.

Just enough dependencies, nothing more.

Amazon EKS minimal base images

"Distroless" Container Images

Use static analysis tools on the binaries used in containers, especially the entry point binaries.

Example: Kube-proxy

Managing the kube-proxy add-on

PDF | RSS

`Kube-proxy` maintains network rules on each Amazon EC2 node. It enables network communication to your pods. `Kube-proxy` is not deployed to Fargate nodes. For more information, see `kube-proxy` in the Kubernetes documentation. There are two types of the `kube-proxy` container image available for each Kubernetes version:

- **Default** – This type is based on a Debian-based Docker image that is maintained by the Kubernetes upstream community.
- **Minimal** – This type is based on a minimal base image maintained by Amazon EKS Distro, which contains minimal packages and doesn't have shells. For more information, see Amazon EKS Distro.

Latest available kube-proxy container image version for each Amazon EKS cluster version

Image type	1.24	1.23	1.22	1.21	1.20	1.19
kube-proxy (default type)	v1.24.7-eksbuild.2	v1.23.8-eksbuild.2	v1.22.11-eksbuild.2	v1.21.14-eksbuild.2	v1.20.15-eksbuild.2	v1.19.16-eksbuild.2
kube-proxy (minimal type)	v1.24.7-minimal-eksbuild.2	v1.23.8-minimal-eksbuild.2	v1.22.11-minimal-eksbuild.2	v1.21.14-minimal-eksbuild.2	v1.20.15-minimal-eksbuild.3	v1.19.16-minimal-eksbuild.3

Example: Kube-proxy

Managing the kube-proxy add-on

PDF | RSS

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kube-proxy (minimal type)	v1.24.7-minimal-eksbuild.2	v1.23.8-minimal-eksbuild.2	v1.22.11-minimal-eksbuild.2	v1.21.14-minimal-eksbuild.2	v1.20.15-minimal-eksbuild.3	v1.19.16-minimal-eksbuild.3

Minimal build, upstream image

Image tag	Artifact type	Pushed at	Size (MB)	Image URI	Digest	Scan status	Vulnerabilities
v1.24.7-minimal-eksbuild.2-linux_arm64	Image	November 02, 2022, 11:58:53 (UTC-07)	24.93	Copy URI		Complete	None
v1.24.7-minimal-eksbuild.2-linux_amd64	Image	November 02, 2022, 11:58:50 (UTC-07)	25.55	Copy URI		Complete	None
v1.24.7-eksbuild.1-linux_arm64	Image	October 20, 2022, 13:57:21 (UTC-07)	38.17	Copy URI		Complete	1 High + 46 others (details)

“Once a problem is described using an appropriate representation, the problem is almost solved.”

Patrick Winston

Thank you!

Senthil Kumaran
linkedin.com/in/orsenthil

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