John Cruz

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Certifications & Credentials

CompTIA

CompTIA Security+ Certification (SY0-701)

TCM Security

Practical Web Pentest Associate Certification (PWPA) (July 2024) | Practical Junior Penetration Tester (PJPT)(November 2024)

Technical Projects

Web Application Security, Penetration Testing, and Software Development

- Led a web application security penetration test on the TCM FailSafe app, using Kali Linux and Burp Suite to uncover OWASP Top 10 vulnerabilities like SQL Injection, DOM-based XSS, and IDOR. Employed SQLmap for automated testing and provided CVSS-based remediation reports to enhance security resilience.
- Designed and managed a Windows Server 2022 Active Directory homelab, simulating real-world network environments to gain exposure to AD management, attack surface enumeration, and post-compromise threat detection techniques.
- Executed an Internal Network Penetration Test in a TCM Security simulated Active Directory environment using Kali Linux, following NIST SP 800-115. Conducted LLMNR poisoning, Kerberoasting, and NTDS.dit dumping with Metasploit and Mimikatz. Delivered a detailed report with findings and remediation.
- Developed and launched secure NFT ticketing platforms for multiple clients, raising over $100,000 and serving 500+ users. Built with React, TypeScript, and Stripe API, while conducting Solidity smart contract audits and implementing robust Web 3 security protocols for wallet management and transaction integrity.
- Contributed to Hashlips, Thirdweb, and TCM Security Discord communities, providing support on frontend, backend, and security issues. Assisted developers with troubleshooting and guided users through ethical hacking and bug bounty courses.

Professional Experience

Moverz Group · New York, NY
Full Stack Developer — Jan. 2022 - Current

- Built a Web 3 NFT ticketing system using React and Typescript, securing payment flows with Thirdweb SDK, and ensuring wallet integration security.
- Enhanced DApp security and transaction reliability, increasing transactions by 30% through smart contract audits and vulnerability mitigation.
- Reduced smart contract deployment costs by 98% with Node.js/Prisma optimizations, integrating security measures to protect user data.
- Conducted security risk assessments on Web 3 smart contracts, strengthening security protocols and safeguarding digital assets.
- Mentored an intern in Web 3 security fundamentals, including blockchain vulnerabilities, secure wallets, and Solidity coding best practices.

Yardi Systems · New York, NY
Technical Analyst — Jul. 2019 - Jul. 2023

- Monitored server performance and application incidents using Kibana and Grafana, collaborating with teams to resolve cloud, server, and SQL-related issues.
- Diagnosed and resolved internal server errors and application slowdowns by analyzing server logs, error logs, SQL scripts, and application code (VB and SQL).
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams including Development and Security to troubleshoot and resolve web application issues affecting clients.
- Conducted security testing for cloud-based applications, identifying vulnerabilities and implementing improvements in SQL and application code.
- Documented findings and solutions in Confluence, creating technical documentation to streamline issue resolution and enhance team knowledge.

Buncee · New York, NY
Software Engineer & QA Tester — Jul. 2018 - Jul. 2019

- Automated security checks using Selenium, collaborating with developers to address platform vulnerabilities and improve system integrity.
- Collaborated with design teams to revamp UX/UI, reducing vulnerabilities and increasing security by 20% through proactive measures.
- Developed new application features focused on secure coding practices, reducing potential security risks such as XSS and SQL injection.
- Worked directly with end-users to refine security features, improving application performance and addressing user-reported issues promptly.

Shop Arc · New York, NY
Junior System Engineer & Security Analyst — Jan. 2017 - Sep. 2017

- Managed IT support tickets and resolved technical issues, collaborating with cross-functional teams to maintain operational efficiency.
- Automated software deployments and security updates with PowerShell scripts, improving system integrity and efficiency.
- Conducted vulnerability assessments of web applications using OWASP Top 10 guidelines, identifying and addressing security gaps to mitigate risks.
- Led disaster recovery initiatives to protect and secure critical architectural data and virtual reality (VR) applications, ensuring business continuity.
- Coordinated security awareness programs and phishing simulations to enhance organizational knowledge of cybersecurity threats and best practices.

Sapient Global Markets · New York, NY
Full Stack Developer & Consultant — June 2015 - Sep. 2016

- Developed secure full-stack applications using ES6 JavaScript and AngularJS, ensuring data integrity and client security throughout development.
- Contributed to wireframe and feature development for the Fidelity Go project, improving security processes and ensuring secure data handling.
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams on web applications, focusing on front-end code, bug discovery, and supporting security standards.

Education

Stony Brook University · New York, New York

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science / Information Systems Engineering with a concentration in Web Applications — 2012-2016