Matthew Trembley

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Southern New Hampshire University

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7-1 Journal: Consider the Motive

Considering the motive for any potential attacks on software can be a phenomenal tool in a developer’s toolbox. If a developer can identify a motive, they may be able to find a potential attack vector and fix any vulnerability associated with it. Moving forward, I can apply this concept to my own coding by having a comprehension of the projects I will work on. For example, if one is working on a software project for a financial institution, it would be important to know a motive of other people’s or organization’s finances. Having a certain awareness of the stakes when developing a software product can be helpful in preventing attacks from different vectors. The same can be said for an organization that stores a lot of private data, like a credit bureau. To explain it to a new developer, I could use a potential motive for demonstration. If an IT personnel from the company is ‘let go’ and they feel it was wrongly placed, with their internal knowledge they could potentially launch their own attack based on revenge. With this being the case, it would be important to ensure the *timely* updates to databases and make sure code is secure. Also, this can be an example of considering the motive for the reflection in next week’s module. Another example could again be an attack towards a shopping site. With many customers using payment information, the data in motion and at rest is vulnerable. A malicious actor could potentially steal secure information and steal millions from customers.