

**Practices for Secure Software Report** 

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## **Document Revision History**

Version	Date	Author	Comments
1.0	Oct 16, 2022	Rui Costa	First Commit

### Client



### Instructions

Submit this completed practices for secure software report. Replace the bracketed text with the relevant information. You must document your process for writing secure communications and refactoring code that complies with software security testing protocols.

- Respond to the steps outlined below and include your findings.
- Respond using your own words. You may also choose to include images or supporting materials. If you include them, make certain to insert them in all the relevant locations in the document.
- Refer to the Project Two Guidelines and Rubric for more detailed instructions about each section of the template.

#### Developer

Rui Costa

## 1. Algorithm Cipher

"A hashing algorithm is a mathematical function that garbles data and makes it unreadable. Hashing algorithms are one-way programs, so the text can't be unscrambled and decoded by anyone else." (Hashing Algorithm Overview: Types, Methodologies & Usage | Okta, n.d.) There are four Common hashing; MD-5, RIPEMD-160, SHA, and Whirlpool.

MD5 was one of the first algorithms and was developed in 1991. It's not considered today a secure algorithm since it has been discovered how to decode the algorithm. RIPEMD-160 was developed in 1990 and is still considered secure today since no one has discovered how to decode the algorithm. Whirlpool was developed in 2000, and RIPEMD-160 is still considered secure since no one has decoded the algorithm. The United States government created SHA. In 2001, the NSA and NIST developed the successor to the original SHA called SHA 2.

I'm recommending SHA 2 based on the standout features of the algorithm:

- "It produces 224, 256, 384 or 512 bits hash value." (Difference between SHA1 and SHA2 GeeksforGeeks)
- SHA2 has more improved certificates than SHA1.
- Used widely.
- "Developed by U.S National Security Agency to replace SH1." (Difference between SHA1 and SHA2 - GeeksforGeeks)

"SHA-256 generates an almost-unique 256-bit (32-byte) signature for a text." (Chris Veness, <a href="https://www.movable-type.co.uk">www.movable-type.co.uk</a>, 2002-2017, n.d.) SHA-256 is a one-way cryptographic function and is a fixed size for any size of the source text. Since it's a one-way process, it's difficult to be compromised by a hacker and other malicious users.

### **Citations:**

Chris Veness, <a href="www.movable-type.co.uk">www.movable-type.co.uk</a>, 2002-2017. (n.d.). SHA-256 Cryptographic Hash Algorithm implemented in JavaScript | Movable Type Scripts. Retrieved September 30, 2022, from <a href="https://www.movable-type.co.uk/scripts/sha256.html">https://www.movable-type.co.uk/scripts/sha256.html</a>

Hashing Algorithm Overview: Types, Methodologies & Usage | Okta. (n.d.). Okta, Inc. Retrieved September 30, 2022, from https://www.okta.com/identity-101/hashing-algorithms/

Difference between SHA1 and SHA2 - GeeksforGeeks. <a href="https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/difference-between-sha1-and-sha2/">https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/difference-between-sha1-and-sha2/</a>

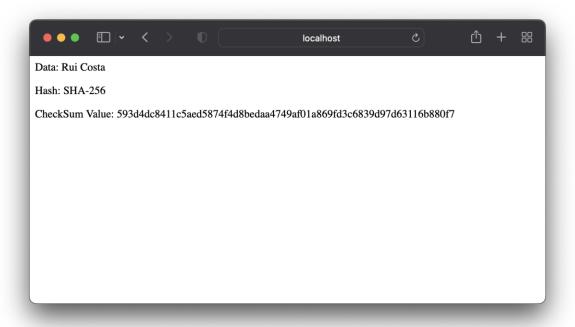
#### 2. Certificate Generation

Insert a screenshot below of the CER file.



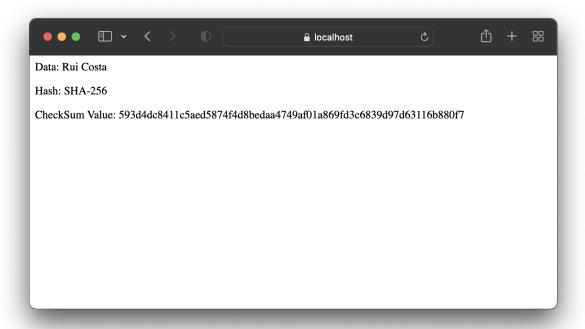
## 3. Deploy Cipher

Insert a screenshot below of the checksum verification.



## 4. Secure Communications

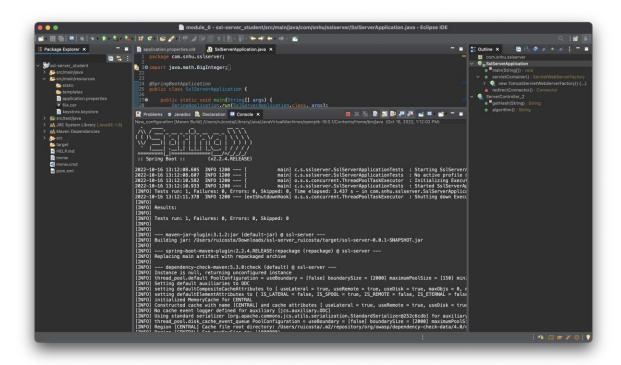
Insert a screenshot below of the web browser that shows a secure webpage.

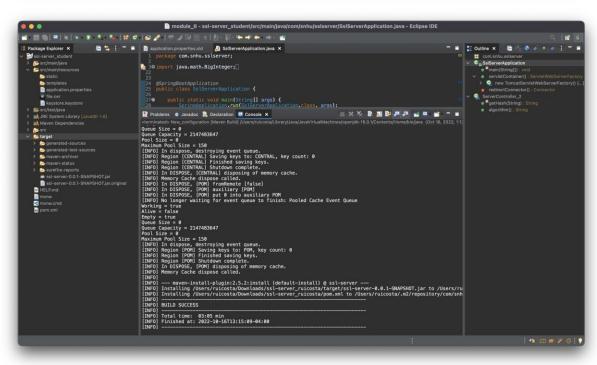




## 5. Secondary Testing

Insert screenshots below of the refactored code executed without errors and the dependency-check report.

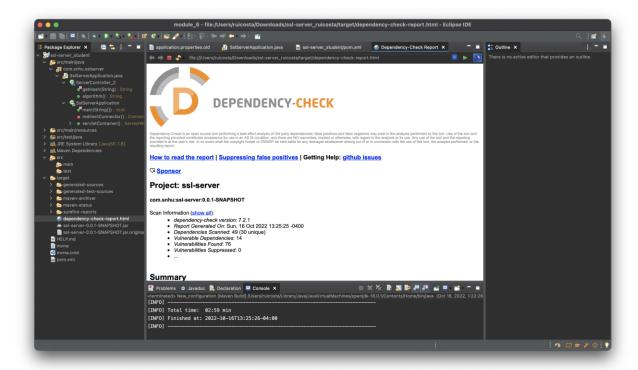






## 6. Functional Testing

Insert a screenshot below of the refactored code executed without errors.



## 7. Summary

The areas of Security reviewed and addressed:

- a. Input Validation (Secure input and Representations): Artemis Finacial's web-based application requires users to authenticate to gain access to their respective portfolios and services provided by Artemis Financial. Failure to conduct proper input validation will leave Artemis Financial vulnerable to cross-site scripting attacks and Structured language injections. XSS and SQL injection are among the most dangerous attacks. "XSS is a client-side vulnerability that targets other application users, while SQL injection is a server-side vulnerability that targets the application's database" (What Is Cross-site Scripting (XSS) and How to Prevent It? | Web Security Academy, n.d.).
- b. APIs (Secure API's Interactions): Artemis Finacial's web-based application uses RESTful APIs. "Application programming interface (API) security refers to the practice of preventing or mitigating attacks on APIs. APIs work as the backend framework for mobile and web applications. Therefore, it is critical to protect the sensitive data they transfer. (What Is API Security?, n.d.)" Since the APIS sensitive customer information, security mitigations must be in place to prevent attacks or vulnerabilities.
- c. Cryptography (Secure Distributed Composting): Since Artemis Financial is working with sensitive customer data, data should be secured in transit and at rest. This prevents eavesdropping on communications and access to data residing on disk since communications will be encrypted. The Java Cryptography Architecture (JCA) and The Java Cryptography Extension (JCE) will also be used to provide a security framework.
- d. Client/Server (Secure Distributed Composing): Client/Server composes the communication between the customer and the web application's backend. The security of Client/Server communications is vital to a secure platform. Items such as authentication, encryption, and monitoring must be considered to have secure Client/Server communications.
- e. Code Error (Secure Error Handling): Error handling should correctly use secure exceptions often missed during software design. These and other considerations need to be considered to mitigate future threats.
- f. Code Quality (Secure Coding practices/patterns): Code quality is vital to having a secure and reliable platform. The code must be rigorously tested, and software engineers must include unit tests. Code quality also requires software engineers to document and comment on their code properly, allowing other software engineers to understand the logic quickly. This process will help mitigate errors as well as troubleshoot new errors.
- g. Encapsulation (Secure Data Structures): "Encapsulation is an important feature that allows a programmer to control access to components of a class. Used properly, encapsulation can enhance program security. (Encapsulation CS2 C++.)"Data and its functions must be encapsulated appropriately to ensure an application's operations are secure against vulnerabilities.

## **Citations and References**

Financial Sector Cybersecurity. (n.d.). Center for Strategic and International Studies. Retrieved September 18, 2022, from <a href="https://www.csis.org/programs/strategic-technologies-program/archives/cybersecurity-and-governance/financial-sector">https://www.csis.org/programs/strategic-technologies-program/archives/cybersecurity-and-governance/financial-sector</a>

IBM Report: Consumers Pay the Price as Data Breach Costs Reach All-Time High. (n.d.). IBM India News Room. Retrieved September 18, 2022, from <a href="https://in.newsroom.ibm.com/IBM-Report-Cost-of-Data-Breach-2022">https://in.newsroom.ibm.com/IBM-Report-Cost-of-Data-Breach-2022</a>

Six most common cyber attacks. (2019, February 15). IT Governance USA Blog. Retrieved September 18, 2022, from <a href="https://www.itgovernanceusa.com/blog/six-most-common-cyber-attacks">https://www.itgovernanceusa.com/blog/six-most-common-cyber-attacks</a>

What is cross-site scripting (XSS) and how to prevent it? | Web Security Academy. (n.d.). Retrieved September 18, 2022, from https://portswigger.net/web-security/cross-site-scripting

What Is API Security? (n.d.). Fortinet. Retrieved September 18, 2022, from <a href="https://www.fortinet.com/resources/cyberglossary/api-security">https://www.fortinet.com/resources/cyberglossary/api-security</a>

"Encapsulation CS2 C++." Security Injection: Encapsulation - CS2 C++,
https://cisserv1.towson.edu/~cyber4all/modules/nanomodules/Encapsulation-CS2 C++.html.

### 8. Industry Standard Best Practices

We recommend using a trusted Certificate Authorities which was not used in this report.

"The primary advantage of using certificates from a CA is that **the identity of the certificate holder is verified by a trusted third party**." (Benefits of Self-signed and CA-signed Digital Certificates, n.d.) We know the benefits of a TLS; all traffic is encrypted. However, to trust the certificate from the respective domain, we use the CA. The CA validates the identity of the certificate holder.

### **Citations:**

Benefits of Self-signed and CA-signed Digital Certificates. (n.d.). Retrieved October 3, 2022, from <a href="https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/b2b-integrator/5.2?topic=certficates-benefits-self-signed-ca-signed-digital-certificates">https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/b2b-integrator/5.2?topic=certficates-benefits-self-signed-ca-signed-digital-certificates</a>