



# USDD - Ethereum Update

## Security Assessment

CertiK Assessed on Sept 2nd, 2025





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## USDD - Ethereum Update

The security assessment was prepared by CertiK.

### Executive Summary

#### TYPES

StableCoin

#### ECOSYSTEM

Ethereum (ETH)

#### METHODS

Manual Review, Static Analysis

#### LANGUAGE

Solidity

#### TIMELINE

Preliminary comments published on 09/02/2025

Final report published on 09/02/2025

### Vulnerability Summary



8

Total Findings

5

Resolved

0

Partially Resolved

3

Acknowledged

0

Declined

#### 0 Centralization

Centralization findings highlight privileged roles & functions and their capabilities, or instances where the project takes custody of users' assets.

#### 0 Critical

Critical risks are those that impact the safe functioning of a platform and must be addressed before launch. Users should not invest in any project with outstanding critical risks.

#### 0 Major

Major risks may include logical errors that, under specific circumstances, could result in fund losses or loss of project control.

#### 0 Medium

Medium risks may not pose a direct risk to users' funds, but they can affect the overall functioning of a platform.

#### 4 Minor

1 Resolved, 3 Acknowledged



Minor risks can be any of the above, but on a smaller scale. They generally do not compromise the overall integrity of the project, but they may be less efficient than other solutions.

#### 4 Informational

4 Resolved



Informational errors are often recommendations to improve the style of the code or certain operations to fall within industry best practices. They usually do not affect the overall functioning of the code.

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## **Appendix**

## **Disclaimer**

# CODEBASE | USDD - ETHEREUM UPDATE

## Repository

- <https://github.com/usdd-network/usddv2-contracts>
- <https://github.com/usdd-network/psm>

## Commit

- [e0087ff4dc34f759441e526dc79b14e6678344b8](#)
- [507d7d0ab4fcf1e18fcd6ce377c9d3aa7aad8444](#)
- [6166a18fab3abcb1f8395707f613923d0278f534](#)
- [0a6756eb55af7d2e134ceee2484ade9a9f4fa2a7](#)

## Audit Scope

The file in scope is listed in the appendix.

## APPROACH & METHODS | USDD - ETHEREUM UPDATE

This audit was conducted for USDD to evaluate the security and correctness of the smart contracts associated with the USDD - Ethereum Update project. The assessment included a comprehensive review of the in-scope smart contracts. The audit was performed using a combination of Manual Review and Static Analysis.

The review process emphasized the following areas:

- Architecture review and threat modeling to understand systemic risks and identify design-level flaws.
- Identification of vulnerabilities through both common and edge-case attack vectors.
- Manual verification of contract logic to ensure alignment with intended design and business requirements.
- Dynamic testing to validate runtime behavior and assess execution risks.
- Assessment of code quality and maintainability, including adherence to current best practices and industry standards.

The audit resulted in findings categorized across multiple severity levels, from informational to critical. To enhance the project's security and long-term robustness, we recommend addressing the identified issues and considering the following general improvements:

- Improve code readability and maintainability by adopting a clean architectural pattern and modular design.
- Strengthen testing coverage, including unit and integration tests for key functionalities and edge cases.
- Maintain meaningful inline comments and documentations.
- Implement clear and transparent documentation for privileged roles and sensitive protocol operations.
- Regularly review and simulate contract behavior against newly emerging attack vectors.

# REVIEW NOTES | USDD - ETHEREUM UPDATE

## Overview

USDD is a fork of the MakerDAO (Sky Ecosystem) Protocol on TRON, a CDP-based stablecoin. The team plans to deploy a new USDD system on Ethereum. This audit focuses on several file changes between:

- USDD repo: adb799135095620b2909abe449af174102bf38e2 → e0087ff4dc34f759441e526dc79b14e6678344b8
- PSM repo: c368445876334664d6e58b7e186c78162271ff93 → 507d7d0ab4fc1e18fcd6ce377c9d3aa7aad8444

Audit Scope:

- usddv2
  - `src/dsr/SavingsUsdd.sol` : Tokenized DSR (sUSDD) (ERC4626 token) wrapper around USDD. Implements ERC-20 shares with EIP-712 permit and ERC-1271 support.
  - `src/dsr/pot.sol` : The `Pot` contract is where a USDD holder would lock up Internal USDD to accrue earned USDD at the USDD Savings Rate.
  - `src/dss/flop.sol` : Auction contract changes to support Ethereum deployments without JST token. Adds `GemLike.decimals()`, `file("gem", address)` to set the `gem` post-deploy, "gem-not-set" guards, event for address file, and `convertFrom18` when transferring out `lots` to non-18-decimals gem.
  - `src/esm/ESM.sol` : Makes `gem` mutable via `file("gem")` (was immutable). Adds checks in `join/burn` to require gem set.
  - `src/esm/end.sol` : Integrates `pot` into shutdown. Adds `file("pot", address)` and calls `pot.cage()` during `End.cage()`, ensuring DSR is disabled on shutdown.
  - `src/proxy/proxy.sol` : The updates enhance the `DSPProxy` for Solidity `0.6.12`. The `Constructor` now invokes `setCache` with enhanced input validation; `execute(address, bytes)` returns bytes and appropriately propagates revert data; require statements have more precise messages; and handling of `returndata` in assembly is safer, among other improvements.
  - `src/manager/DssProxyActions.sol` : Transitions TRX/WTRX flows to ETH/WETH. Renames and rewires functions (`lockETH`, `freeETH`, `exitETH`, `lockETHAndDraw`, `wipeAndFreeETH`, etc.), removes unnecessary `convertTo18` for ETH, fixes signed/unsigned casts (e.g., `-toInt(art)`), and ensures ETH joins/withdrawals use WETH correctly.
- psm
  - `src/join-5-auth.sol` : USDC adapter (authorized join) for non-18 decimals tokens.
  - `src/join-7-auth.sol` : USDT adapter (authorized join) for non-18 decimals, upgradable token and fee-on-transfer token.

## External Dependencies

USDD on Ethereum will depend on a full DSS stack (vat, vow, jug, dog, spot, esm, end, pot), robust on-chain oracles (medianizers/feeds) for timely, manipulation-resistant prices, and reliable keeper infrastructure to run auctions

( `flop` / `flap` ), trigger `pot.drip()` and liquidation flows. We assume the contracts out of the audit scope above are implemented properly, the off-chain keepers are reliable, and governance is well managed.

## FINDINGS | USDD - ETHEREUM UPDATE



8  
Total Findings

0  
Critical

0  
Centralization

0  
Major

0  
Medium

4  
Minor

4  
Informational

This report has been prepared for USDD to identify potential vulnerabilities and security issues within the reviewed codebase. During the course of the audit, a total of 8 issues were identified. Leveraging a combination of Manual Review & Static Analysis the following findings were uncovered:

ID	Title	Category	Severity	Status
USD-02	Potential Underflow Issue And Reentrancy Issue Introduced By Uncertain Gem Token	Coding Issue, Volatile Code	Minor	● Acknowledged
USD-03	Potential Precision Loss Causing Unfair Bid	Inconsistency, Logical Issue	Minor	● Acknowledged
USD-04	Potential Inconsistent Decimals Between <code>wad</code> And <code>gem</code>	Volatile Code	Minor	● Acknowledged
USD-05	Fee-On-Transfer Token May Break The Assumption Of PSM Contract	Volatile Code	Minor	● Resolved
USD-01	Confirmation Of New Deployment On Ethereum And Cross Chain Design	Design Issue	Informational	● Resolved
USD-06	Potential Incorrect And Unused Interface For USDT/Upgradable Token	Design Issue	Informational	● Resolved
USD-07	Potential Inaccurate Event	Inconsistency	Informational	● Resolved
USD-08	Potential Missing Optimization With <code>toInt</code>	Coding Issue	Informational	● Resolved



## USD-02 | Potential Underflow Issue And Reentrancy Issue Introduced By Uncertain Gem Token

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Coding Issue, Volatile Code	Minor	dss/flop.sol (usddv2): 203, 235	Acknowledged

### Description

Since gem token can be updated dynamically to any address (non-standard token), there could be several risks below:

#### Potential Underflow Issue

The `convertFrom18(uint256 wad)` function performs token amount conversion assuming the gem token has `<= 18` decimals. In Solidity `^0.6.12`, unsigned integer subtraction (e.g., `18 - gem.decimals()`) is unchecked and wraps around on underflow. If the token's decimals are greater than 18, this may create a risk of denial-of-service (DoS) or incorrect token transfers in `deal()`.

```
function convertFrom18(uint256 wad) internal view returns (uint256 amt) {
    amt = wad / (10 ** uint256(18 - gem.decimals()));
}
```

#### Potential Reentrancy Issue

In the `deal(uint id)` function, an external call is made to `gem.transfer(bids[id].guy, convertFrom18(bids[id].lot))` before updating contract state (specifically, before `delete bids[id]`). This violates the checks-effects-interactions (CEI) pattern. If the gem's transfer has any callback mechanism, the attacker can potentially repeat actions to drain funds.

```
function deal(uint id) external {
    ...
    gem.transfer(bids[id].guy, convertFrom18(bids[id].lot));
    delete bids[id];
    ...
}
```

### Recommendation

It is recommended to ensure the gem's decimals are always below 18 before setting its address. Additionally, it is advisable to follow the checks-effects-interactions (CEI) pattern or avoid using tokens with potential callback mechanisms.

### Alleviation

**[USDD, 09/02/2025]:** The team will avoid using tokens with potential callback mechanisms when setting the gem. To address the underflow issue, the team will ensure they use a gem token with decimals of 18 or fewer. Since these check is performed off-chain. We therefore mark this finding as Partially Resolved.

## USD-03 | Potential Precision Loss Causing Unfair Bid

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Inconsistency, Logical Issue	● Minor	dss/flop.sol (usddv2): 234~236	● Acknowledged

### Description

The current Flopper contract, part of debt auction contract, allows dynamic replacement of the `gem` token via the `file()` function. The `convertFrom18` function assumes the `gem` token uses a fixed 18-decimal precision (WAD) for internal `lot` amounts but converts to the `gem`'s actual decimals for transfers in `deal()`. This introduces precision loss via integer division when `gem.decimals() < 18`, potentially causing auction winners to receive fewer tokens than bid for, leading to unfair outcomes.

### Recommendation

Recommend the team double-check if this design is intended.

### Alleviation

[USDD, 09/01/2025]: The team confirms that this behavior is intentional, as the system is primarily designed for gem tokens with 18 decimals. In the event that a token with 6 decimals is used, the resulting loss would be less than 0.000001 gem, which is within acceptable limits.

## USD-04 | Potential Inconsistent Decimals Between `wad` And `gem`

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Volatile Code	● Minor	esm/ESM.sol (usddv2): 155	● Acknowledged

### Description

The ESM contract allows updating the `gem` token address, but accumulates transferred amounts (`wad`) into `Sum` without normalizing for token decimals. This can lead to inconsistent comparisons against the `min` threshold if `gem` is changed to a token with `decimals != 18`, potentially breaking the emergency shutdown logic.

```
function join(uint256 wad) external {  
    ...  
    sum[msg.sender] = add(sum[msg.sender], wad);  
    Sum = add(Sum, wad);  
  
    require(gem.transferFrom(msg.sender, address(this), wad), "ESM/transfer-  
failed");  
    ...  
}
```

### Recommendation

Recommend that the team ensure the `gem` token's decimals are always 18.

### Alleviation

[USDD, 09/01/2025]: We will ensure that the `gem` token for ESM uses 18 decimals.

[CertiK, 09/02/2025]: Since this check is performed off-chain, it's possible that the `gem` token on-chain may not equal 18 decimals. We therefore mark this finding as Acknowledged.

## USD-05 | Fee-On-Transfer Token May Break The Assumption Of PSM Contract

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Volatile Code	Minor	join-7-auth.sol (psm): 103~105	Resolved

### Description

In the current `AuthGemJoin7` contract, when users deposit the external token ("gem"), the adapter credits the Vat with the actual net amount received (post-fee) by measuring the token balance delta and converting it to 18 decimals. This design is trying to support fee-on-transfer tokens.

```
// AuthGemJoin7
// For an upgradable token (like USDT) which doesn't return bool on transfers and
// may charge fees
// If the token is deprecated changing the implementation behind, this prevents
// joins
// and exits until the implementation is reviewed and approved by governance.

function join(address usr, uint256 amt, address msgSender) external auth {
    ...
    uint256 bal = gem.balanceOf(address(this));
    gem.transferFrom(msgSender, address(this), amt);
    uint256 wad = mul(sub(gem.balanceOf(address(this)), bal), 10 ** (18 - dec));
    ...
    vat.slip(ilk, usr, int256(wad));
    ...
}
```

However, the `UsddPsm` contract currently does not know this scenario. It assumes the full requested `gemAmt` was credited and uses that inflated figure in `vat.frob`, which may cause the unintended behavior (like transaction revert) in the `vat` contract.

```
// Sell gem for USDD
function sellGem(address usr, uint256 gemAmt) external {
    ...
    uint256 gemAmt18 = mul(gemAmt, to18ConversionFactor);
    uint256 fee = mul(gemAmt18, tin) / WAD;
    uint256 usddAmt = sub(gemAmt18, fee);

    // Transfer gem in and mint USDD
    gemJoin.join(address(this), gemAmt, msg.sender);
    vat.frob(ilk, address(this), address(this), address(this), int256(gemAmt18),
    int256(gemAmt18));
    ...
}
```

## Recommendation

It is recommended not to support fee-on-transfer tokens, as the DSS system may have other parts that are incompatible with such tokens. If this is the intended design, advise the team to fix the sell path to use the actual credited amount.

## Alleviation

**[USDD, 09/01/2025]:** As for the USDT-related PSM and the PSM GemJoin contract, we modified them to account for the USDT fee as follows:

In the AuthGemJoin7 contract, we return the actual wad value that the user sends into the contract.

We introduced another UsddPsm7 contract specific to USDT. In this PSM contract, we obtain the wad value from the AuthGemJoin7 contract, then use it to calculate the amount of USDD minted to the user, and credit the actual amount in the vat.

Fixed at commit: fb2b1fa2f0f93b273a51755bea2c874a371b4c20 and 4e53d61b10e6d6424aae41ab744bbba07cc74497.

## USD-01 | Confirmation Of New Deployment On Ethereum And Cross Chain Design

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Design Issue	● Informational		● Resolved

### Description

We would like to confirm whether the plan is to deploy an entirely new, Ethereum-native DSS stack (new USDD and JST supplies) with no bridging from TRON, rather than using cross-chain bridging (Teleport/DAI Bridge analogue) for USDD between TRON and Ethereum.

- Will Ethereum have a brand-new USDD (fresh mint on L1) with its own policy and supply, independent of TRON USDD? Could you provide the metadata, like the decimals, for this token?
- Will a brand-new JST (governance) be minted on Ethereum, or will an existing ERC-20 JST be reused? Could you provide the metadata, like the decimals, for this token?
- Based on the updates to the `Flopper` and `ESM` contracts, the team appears to prioritize deploying these contracts initially and attaching the JST token later. Without this governance token, certain functions of the `Flopper`, `ESM` contracts, and the governance voting process will be inactive. We would like to know if this design is intended.
- Will the team deploy a full DSS stack on Ethereum: vat, vow, jug, dog, spot, esm, end, pot (new), joins, flops/flaps, etc.?

### Recommendation

### Alleviation

[USDD, 09/01/2025]:

1. USDD will be deployed natively on Ethereum. In addition, cross-chain bridges may be used to link TRON USDD with Ethereum, but the Ethereum-native USDD contract is independent and freshly minted on L1, with 18 decimals.
2. The governance design is part of our roadmap. The current architecture allows for governance integration at a later stage, and the specific implementation approach is under evaluation.
3. Yes, this design is intentional: the core contracts will be deployed first, with certain configurations to be added later.
4. Yes, the full DSS stack modules will be deployed.

## USD-06 | Potential Incorrect And Unused Interface For USDT/Upgradable Token

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Design Issue	● Informational	join-7-auth.sol (psm): 33~34, 78	● Resolved

### Description

The `setImplementation` and `adjustFee` are not part of USDT's interface.

```
interface GemLike {
    function decimals() external view returns (uint256);
    function transfer(address, uint256) external;
    function transferFrom(address, address, uint256) external;
    function balanceOf(address) external view returns (uint256);
    function upgradedAddress() external view returns (address);
    function setImplementation(address, uint256) external;
    function adjustFee(uint256) external;
}
```

Additionally, upgradable tokens that don't have `upgradedAddress()` function (which is not a standard) will not work with this adapter.

### Recommendation

Recommend removing the unused interface and having another adapter for the other upgradable tokens.

### Alleviation

[USDD, 09/01/2025]: Issue acknowledged. Changes have been reflected in the commit hash: <https://github.com/usdd-network/psm/commit/ec50495606e7fe02491e0471d876844ff4f7f663>



## USD-07 | Potential Inaccurate Event

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Inconsistency	● Informational	join-7-auth.sol (psm): 108	● Resolved

### Description

The events are defined to log `wad` (18-decimal internal amount):

```
event Join(address indexed usr, uint256 wad, address indexed msgSender);  
event Exit(address indexed usr, uint256 wad);
```

However, the code emits `amt` (token's native decimals, pre-scaling)

```
emit Join(usr, amt, msgSender); // should be wad  
emit Exit(usr, amt);           // should be wad
```

### Recommendation

Recommend the team double-check if this design is intended or ensure the consistency.

### Alleviation

[USDD, 09/01/2025]: Issue acknowledged. Changes have been reflected in the commit hash: <https://github.com/usdd-network/psm/commit/d202ef9f2605b3c0ca5ab9e48095aba88fed44d2>

## USD-08 | Potential Missing Optimization With `toInt`

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Coding Issue	● Informational	manager/DssProxyActions.sol (usddv2): 565, 576	● Resolved

### Description

Compared with the last audited commit `adb799135095620b2909abe449af174102bf38e2`, the team attempted to replace `-int(art)` with `-toInt(art)` to prevent any possible int overflow.

```
frob(
    manager,
    cdp,
-   -toInt(convertTo18(trxJoin, amtC)),
-   -int(art)
+   -toInt(amtC),
+   -toInt(art)
);

@@ -770,7 +770,7 @@ contract DssProxyActions is Common {
    manager,
    cdp,
    -toInt(wadC),
-   -int(art)
+   -toInt(art)
);
```

We would like to remind the team that the following code is still using `-int`.

```
function wipeAll(
    address manager,
    address usddJoin,
    uint cdp
) public {
    ...
    if (own == address(this) || ManagerLike(manager).cdpCan(own, cdp,
address(this)) == 1) {
        ...
        frob(manager, cdp, 0, -int(art));
    } else {
        ...
        VatLike(vat).frob(
            ilk,
            urn,
            address(this),
            address(this),
            0,
            -int(art)
        );
    }
}
```

## Recommendation

Recommend preventing unintended overflow.

## Alleviation

[USDD, 09/01/2025]: Issue acknowledged. Changes have been reflected in the commit hash: <https://github.com/usdd-network/usddv2-contracts/commit/d104e662e2db472a493452466dc74a828e225378>

## APPENDIX | USDD - ETHEREUM UPDATE

### Audit Scope

#### usdd-network/usddv2-contracts

- esm/ESM.sol
- dss/flop.sol
- manager/DssProxyActions.sol
- dsr/SavingsUsdd.sol
- dsr/pot.sol
- esm/end.sol
- proxy/proxy.sol
- dsr/SavingsUsdd.sol
- dsr/pot.sol
- dss/flop.sol
- esm/ESM.sol
- esm/end.sol
- manager/DssProxyActions.sol
- proxy/proxy.sol

#### usdd-network/psm

- join-7-auth.sol
- join-5-auth.sol
- join-5-auth.sol
- join-7-auth.sol

## Finding Categories

Categories	Description
Coding Issue	Coding Issue findings are about general code quality including, but not limited to, coding mistakes, compile errors, and performance issues.
Inconsistency	Inconsistency findings refer to different parts of code that are not consistent or code that does not behave according to its specification.
Volatile Code	Volatile Code findings refer to segments of code that behave unexpectedly on certain edge cases and may result in vulnerabilities.
Logical Issue	Logical Issue findings indicate general implementation issues related to the program logic.
Design Issue	Design Issue findings indicate general issues at the design level beyond program logic that are not covered by other finding categories.

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# Elevating Your **Web3** Journey

Founded in 2017 by leading academics in the field of Computer Science from both Yale and Columbia University, CertiK is the largest blockchain security company that serves to verify the security and correctness of smart contracts and blockchain-based protocols. Through the utilization of our world-class technical expertise, alongside our proprietary, innovative tech, we're able to support the success of our clients with best-in-class security, all whilst realizing our overarching vision; provable trust for all throughout all facets of blockchain.

