

## SMART CONTRACT AUDIT REPORT

for

YSL.IO Protocol

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## 1 Introduction

Given the opportunity to review the design document and related smart contract source code of the YSL.IO protocol, we outline in the report our systematic approach to evaluate potential security issues in the smart contract implementation, expose possible semantic inconsistencies between smart contract code and design document, and provide additional suggestions or recommendations for improvement. Our results show that the given version of smart contracts can be further improved due to the presence of several issues related to either security or performance. This document outlines our audit results.

#### 1.1 About YSL.IO

YSL.IO aims to optimize and amplify the returns from yield farming platforms through the maximization of locked liquidity. The protocol has a distinctive token economy of three native tokens: YSL, sYSL, and xYSL. The first one serves as the protocols utility token; The second one is a dual-purpose token acting both as the reward token and the governance token for the YSL.IO ecosystem (and its price is determined not only by market activity but is also linked to the amount of YSL-BUSD locked liquidity); And the third token is designed to create locked liquidity with each transaction whilst also decreasing in supply, given its deflationary nature. Each token within the YSL.IO ecosystem presents a different value proposition and helps create a unique token economy.

The basic information of the YSL.ID protocol is as follows:

Table 1.1: Basic Information of The YSL.ID Protocol

Item	Description
Name	YSL.IO
Website	https://ysl.io/
Туре	Ethereum Smart Contract
Platform	Solidity
Audit Method	Whitebox
Latest Audit Report	November 17, 2021

In the following, we show the Git repository of reviewed files and the commit hash value used in this audit.

https://github.com/ysl-io/ysl-protocol.git (a0c856d)

#### 1.2 About PeckShield

PeckShield Inc. [11] is a leading blockchain security company with the goal of elevating the security, privacy, and usability of current blockchain ecosystems by offering top-notch, industry-leading services and products (including the service of smart contract auditing). We are reachable at Telegram (https://t.me/peckshield), Twitter (http://twitter.com/peckshield), or Email (contact@peckshield.com).



Table 1.2: Vulnerability Severity Classification

## 1.3 Methodology

To standardize the evaluation, we define the following terminology based on OWASP Risk Rating Methodology [10]:

- <u>Likelihood</u> represents how likely a particular vulnerability is to be uncovered and exploited in the wild:
- Impact measures the technical loss and business damage of a successful attack;
- Severity demonstrates the overall criticality of the risk.

Likelihood and impact are categorized into three ratings: *H*, *M* and *L*, i.e., *high*, *medium* and *low* respectively. Severity is determined by likelihood and impact and can be classified into four categories accordingly, i.e., *Critical*, *High*, *Medium*, *Low* shown in Table 1.2.

Table 1.3: The Full List of Check Items

Category	Check Item
	Constructor Mismatch
	Ownership Takeover
	Redundant Fallback Function
	Overflows & Underflows
	Reentrancy
	Money-Giving Bug
	Blackhole
	Unauthorized Self-Destruct
Basic Coding Bugs	Revert DoS
Dasic Couling Dugs	Unchecked External Call
	Gasless Send
	Send Instead Of Transfer
	Costly Loop
	(Unsafe) Use Of Untrusted Libraries
	(Unsafe) Use Of Predictable Variables
	Transaction Ordering Dependence
	Deprecated Uses
Semantic Consistency Checks	Semantic Consistency Checks
	Business Logics Review
	Functionality Checks
	Authentication Management
	Access Control & Authorization
	Oracle Security
Advanced DeFi Scrutiny	Digital Asset Escrow
ravancea Ber i Geraemi,	Kill-Switch Mechanism
	Operation Trails & Event Generation
	ERC20 Idiosyncrasies Handling
	Frontend-Contract Integration
Additional Recommendations	Deployment Consistency
	Holistic Risk Management
	Avoiding Use of Variadic Byte Array
	Using Fixed Compiler Version
	Making Visibility Level Explicit
	Making Type Inference Explicit
	Adhering To Function Declaration Strictly
	Following Other Best Practices

To evaluate the risk, we go through a list of check items and each would be labeled with a severity category. For one check item, if our tool or analysis does not identify any issue, the contract is considered safe regarding the check item. For any discovered issue, we might further deploy contracts on our private testnet and run tests to confirm the findings. If necessary, we would additionally build a PoC to demonstrate the possibility of exploitation. The concrete list of check items is shown in Table 1.3.

In particular, we perform the audit according to the following procedure:

- Basic Coding Bugs: We first statically analyze given smart contracts with our proprietary static code analyzer for known coding bugs, and then manually verify (reject or confirm) all the issues found by our tool.
- <u>Semantic Consistency Checks</u>: We then manually check the logic of implemented smart contracts and compare with the description in the white paper.
- Advanced DeFi Scrutiny: We further review business logics, examine system operations, and place DeFi-related aspects under scrutiny to uncover possible pitfalls and/or bugs.
- Additional Recommendations: We also provide additional suggestions regarding the coding and development of smart contracts from the perspective of proven programming practices.

To better describe each issue we identified, we categorize the findings with Common Weakness Enumeration (CWE-699) [9], which is a community-developed list of software weakness types to better delineate and organize weaknesses around concepts frequently encountered in software development. Though some categories used in CWE-699 may not be relevant in smart contracts, we use the CWE categories in Table 1.4 to classify our findings.

#### 1.4 Disclaimer

Note that this security audit is not designed to replace functional tests required before any software release, and does not give any warranties on finding all possible security issues of the given smart contract(s) or blockchain software, i.e., the evaluation result does not guarantee the nonexistence of any further findings of security issues. As one audit-based assessment cannot be considered comprehensive, we always recommend proceeding with several independent audits and a public bug bounty program to ensure the security of smart contract(s). Last but not least, this security audit should not be used as investment advice.

Table 1.4: Common Weakness Enumeration (CWE) Classifications Used in This Audit

Category	Summary
Configuration	Weaknesses in this category are typically introduced during
	the configuration of the software.
Data Processing Issues	Weaknesses in this category are typically found in functional-
	ity that processes data.
Numeric Errors	Weaknesses in this category are related to improper calcula-
	tion or conversion of numbers.
Security Features	Weaknesses in this category are concerned with topics like
	authentication, access control, confidentiality, cryptography,
	and privilege management. (Software security is not security
	software.)
Time and State	Weaknesses in this category are related to the improper man-
	agement of time and state in an environment that supports
	simultaneous or near-simultaneous computation by multiple
	systems, processes, or threads.
Error Conditions,	Weaknesses in this category include weaknesses that occur if
Return Values,	a function does not generate the correct return/status code,
Status Codes	or if the application does not handle all possible return/status
	codes that could be generated by a function.
Resource Management	Weaknesses in this category are related to improper manage-
	ment of system resources.
Behavioral Issues	Weaknesses in this category are related to unexpected behav-
	iors from code that an application uses.
Business Logics	Weaknesses in this category identify some of the underlying
	problems that commonly allow attackers to manipulate the
	business logic of an application. Errors in business logic can
	be devastating to an entire application.
Initialization and Cleanup	Weaknesses in this category occur in behaviors that are used
	for initialization and breakdown.
Arguments and Parameters	Weaknesses in this category are related to improper use of
	arguments or parameters within function calls.
Expression Issues	Weaknesses in this category are related to incorrectly written
	expressions within code.
Coding Practices	Weaknesses in this category are related to coding practices
	that are deemed unsafe and increase the chances that an ex-
	ploitable vulnerability will be present in the application. They
	may not directly introduce a vulnerability, but indicate the
	product has not been carefully developed or maintained.

# 2 | Findings

### 2.1 Summary

Here is a summary of our findings after analyzing the YSL.IO implementation. During the first phase of our audit, we study the smart contract source code and run our in-house static code analyzer through the codebase. The purpose here is to statically identify known coding bugs, and then manually verify (reject or confirm) issues reported by our tool. We further manually review business logics, examine system operations, and place DeFi-related aspects under scrutiny to uncover possible pitfalls and/or bugs.

Severity	# of Findings
Critical	0
High	2
Medium	2
Low	3
Informational	0
Total	7

We have so far identified a list of potential issues: some of them involve subtle corner cases that might not be previously thought of, while others refer to unusual interactions among multiple contracts. For each uncovered issue, we have therefore developed test cases for reasoning, reproduction, and/or verification. After further analysis and internal discussion, we determined a few issues of varying severities that need to be brought up and paid more attention to, which are categorized in the above table. More information can be found in the next subsection, and the detailed discussions of each of them are in Section 3.

### 2.2 Key Findings

Overall, these smart contracts are well-designed and engineered, though the implementation can be improved by resolving the identified issues (shown in Table 2.1), including 2 high-severity vulnerabilities, 2 medium-severity vulnerabilities, and 3 low-severity vulnerabilities.

ID **Title** Severity **Status** Category **PVE-001** YSLTo-Low Revisited Design **Business Logic** Resolved on ken::burnFrom() **PVE-002** Duplicate Functions in aYSLToken Resolved Low Coding Practices **PVE-003** Resolved High Proper Airdrop Unlocking in sYSLToken **Business Logic** PVE-004 Resolved Low Early Return in xYSLToken:: afterToken-**Business Logic** Transfer() PVE-005 Trust Issue Of Admin Keys Medium Security Features Mitigated **PVE-006** Medium Unfair Pool Reward Update in YSLProto-**Business Logic** Resolved **PVE-007** High Possible Sandwich Attacks in sYSLShare Time and State Resolved

Table 2.1: Key YSL.IO Audit Findings

Besides recommending specific countermeasures to mitigate these issues, we also emphasize that it is always important to develop necessary risk-control mechanisms and make contingency plans, which may need to be exercised before the mainnet deployment. The risk-control mechanisms need to kick in at the very moment when the contracts are being deployed in mainnet. Please refer to Section 3 for details.

## 3 Detailed Results

## 3.1 Revisited Design on YSLToken::burnFrom()

• ID: PVE-001

Severity: LowLikelihood: Low

• Impact: Low

• Target: YSLToken

Category: Business Logic [7]CWE subcategory: CWE-841 [4]

#### Description

The YSL. IO protocol has a distinctive token economy of three native tokens: YSL, sYSL, and xYSL. While reviewing the first token, we notice the presence of certain privileged accounts (e.g., minters), which may be able to mint (or burn) additional tokens into (or from) circulation. However, our analysis shows that the burn logic needs to be revisited.

For elaboration, we show below the related <code>burnFrom()</code> function. As the name indicates, this function allows for burning the tokens from the given account. Note this is a privileged operation and can be only called by the so-called <code>minters</code>. However, it comes to our attention that the current logic still requires the user to grant the allowance to the minter before the specified amount of tokens can be burnt.

```
///@notice Provides burning functionality
///@dev Available only for minter contract
///@param account Choosen account for burning
///@param amount Amount of tokens to burn
function burnFrom(address account, uint256 amount) external _isMinter {
    transferFrom(account, _msgSender(), amount);
    _burn(_msgSender(), amount);
}
```

Listing 3.1: YSLToken::burnFrom()

**Recommendation** Revisit the above burn logic to remove the dependency on the user approval.

**Status** The issue has been resolved as the team clarifies that the design is intended to require user approval to avoid centralization. In other words, the admin around burnFrom() is not privileged.

## 3.2 Duplicate Functions in aYSLToken

• ID: PVE-002

• Severity: Low

• Likelihood: Low

• Impact: Low

• Target: aYSLToken

• Category: Coding Practices [6]

• CWE subcategory: CWE-1126 [1]

#### Description

The YSL.10 protocol has built-in three native tokens: YSL, sYSL, and xYSL. The current repository also has the fourth standalone token contract aYSLToken. While this standalone token contract has a rather standard ERC20 token implementation, we notice its implementation needs to be revised.

Specifically, the current implementation has two constructor() functions (as shown below) and two \_isMinter() modifiers. Apparently, one of them needs to be properly removed.

```
///@notice Perform contaract initial setup
constructor() ERC20("aYSL token", "aYSL") {
    _setupRole(MINTER_ROLE, _msgSender());
    _setupRole(DEFAULT_ADMIN_ROLE, _msgSender());
}
```

Listing 3.2: aYSLToken::constructor()

**Recommendation** Remove the duplicate definitions in the aYSLToken contract. If this contract is not currently in use, we suggest to remove it from the current repository.

**Status** This issue has been fixed by removing the duplicate functions.

## 3.3 Proper Airdrop Unlocking in sYSLToken

• ID: PVE-003

• Severity: High

• Likelihood: High

• Impact: Medium

• Target: sYSLToken

• Category: Business Logic [7]

CWE subcategory: CWE-841 [4]

#### Description

The second native token syslToken in the protocol acts as the reward token and the governance token for the YSL.IO ecosystem and its price is determined not only by market activity but is also linked to the amount of YSL-BUSD locked liquidity. It has a public function unlockAirdrop() that is used to unlock airdropped tokens. However, its current implementation is flawed.

To elaborate, we show below its implementation. The airdropped tokens are linearly locked and follows the normal vesting schedule. However, the calculation of new unlocked amount mistakenly uses the usersLocked[account].unlocked (line 253), instead of the intended usersAirdropLocked[account].unlocked. As a result, it could be possible that more tokens may be mistakenly vested.

```
245
        ///@notice Unlocks airdrop vested tokens (linearly locked)
        ///@param account Address to unlock tokens for
246
247
        function unlockAirdrop(address account) public {
248
             LockedFunds memory lf = usersAirdropLocked[account];
             if (lf.lockAmount == 0 || lf.unlocked == lf.lockAmount) {
249
250
                 return;
251
             }
252
253
             uint256 unlockedBefore = usersLocked[account].unlocked;
254
             if (block.timestamp >= lf.lockBlockTimestamp + lf.lockTime) {
255
                 usersAirdropLocked[account].unlocked = lf.lockAmount;
256
             } else {
                 usersAirdropLocked[account].unlocked =
257
258
                     (lf.lockAmount * (block.timestamp - lf.lockBlockTimestamp)) /
259
                     lf.lockTime;
260
             }
261
262
             if (transferredLockedAmount[account] > 0) {
263
                 uint256 unlockedAfter = usersAirdropLocked[account].unlocked;
264
                 uint256 diff = unlockedAfter - unlockedBefore;
265
                 if (transferredLockedAmount[account] >= diff) {
266
                     transferredLockedAmount[account] -= diff;
267
                 } else {
268
                     transferredLockedAmount[account] = 0;
269
             }
270
271
```

Listing 3.3: syslToken::unlockAirdrop()

**Recommendation** Revise the above unlockAirdrop() logic by properly making use of the right usersAirdropLocked amount.

**Status** The issue has been confirmed. The team has performed a workaround to greatly contain the impact of this issue.

## 3.4 Early Return in xYSLToken:: afterTokenTransfer()

• ID: PVE-004

• Severity: Low

Likelihood: Low

• Impact: Low

• Target: xYSLToken

• Category: Business Logic [7]

• CWE subcategory: CWE-841 [4]

#### Description

The third native token xYSLToken is deflationary with the purpose of creating locked liquidity with each transaction (with ever-decreased supply). The deflationary nature is implemented in a helper routine \_afterTokenTransfer(). However, the current implementation makes an early return without making the token deflationary.

To elaborate, we show below it full implementation. When any involved party, either from or to, is whitelisted, a transaction fee is imposed. However, the early return statement (line 409) avoids the charge of any transaction fee.

```
402
         function _afterTokenTransfer(
403
             address from,
404
             address to,
             uint256 amount
405
406
         ) internal {
407
             if (whitelist[from] whitelist[to]) {
408
                 emit Transfer(from, to, amount);
409
                 return;
410
                 if (adapter == address(0)) {
411
                     emit Transfer(from, to, amount);
412
                     return;
413
414
                 uint256 fee = (amount * FEE) / FEE_DIVIDER;
                 uint256 feeBurned = (amount * FEE_BURN) / FEE_DIVIDER;
415
416
                 uint256 feeAdapter = fee - feeBurned;
418
                 _balances[to] -= fee;
419
                 _balances[address(0)] += feeBurned;
421
                 _balances[adapter] += feeAdapter;
422
                 IxYSLAdapter(adapter).transferSurcharge();
424
                 emit Transfer(from, to, amount - fee);
425
                 emit Transfer(from, address(0), feeBurned);
426
                 emit Transfer(from, adapter, feeAdapter);
427
             }
428
```

Listing 3.4: xYSLToken::\_afterTokenTransfer()

**Recommendation** Improve the above \_afterTokenTransfer() logic to make the third token deflationary.

**Status** The issue has been fixed by avoiding the early return in \_afterTokenTransfer().

### 3.5 Trust Issue of Admin Keys

• ID: PVE-005

• Severity: Medium

• Likelihood: Medium

Impact: Medium

• Target: Multiple Contracts

• Category: Security Features [5]

• CWE subcategory: CWE-287 [2]

#### Description

In the YSL.IO protocol, there is a privileged admin account (with the DEFAULT\_ADMIN\_ROLE role) that plays a critical role in governing and regulating the system-wide operations (e.g., parameter setting and fee adjustment). It also has the privilege to control or govern the flow of assets managed by this protocol. Our analysis shows that the privileged account needs to be scrutinized. In the following, we examine the privileged account and their related privileged accesses in current contracts.

```
63
       ///@notice Sets minter role
64
       ///@param _minter Address that will be set as minter
65
       function setMinter(address _minter) external onlyOwner {
66
           require(_minter != address(0), "Null address provided");
67
            _setupRole(MINTER_ROLE, _minter);
68
       }
69
70
       ///@notice Remove minter role
71
       ///@param _minter Address that will be removed as minter
72
       function removeMinter(address _minter) external onlyOwner {
73
            require(_minter != address(0), "Null address provided");
74
            revokeRole(MINTER_ROLE, _minter);
75
```

Listing 3.5: Example Privileged Operations in YSLToken

If the privileged admin account is a plain EOA account, this may be worrisome and pose counterparty risk to the exchange users. Note that a multi-sig account could greatly alleviate this concern, though it is still far from perfect. Specifically, a better approach is to eliminate the administration key concern by transferring the role to a community-governed DAO. In the meantime, a timelock-based mechanism can also be considered as mitigation. Moreover, it should be noted if current contracts are to be deployed behind a proxy, there is a need to properly manage the proxy-admin privileges as they fall in this trust issue as well.

**Recommendation** Promptly transfer the privileged account to the intended DAO-like governance contract. All changed to privileged operations may need to be mediated with necessary timelocks. Eventually, activate the normal on-chain community-based governance life-cycle and ensure the intended trustless nature and high-quality distributed governance.

**Status** The team has confirmed that the ownership will be transferred to a Timelock contract upon the deployment.

### 3.6 Unfair Pool Reward Update in YSLProtocol

• ID: PVE-006

Severity: MediumLikelihood: Medium

• Impact: Medium

• Target: YSLProtocol

• Category: Business Logic [7]

• CWE subcategory: CWE-841 [4]

#### Description

The YSL.IO protocol has a built-in incentive mechanism which follows the MasterChef approach to disseminate the second token sysl. By design, the protocol also reserves certain emission rewards for the team to support their development efforts. The related team-rewarding emission rate is supposed to be allocated from all active pools. However, our analysis shows that it directly consumes the pool who happens to be updated after one day of team-related emission.

To elaborate, we show below the related udpatePool() function. Notice the condition of if (block .timestamp - lastTeamUpdate >= 1 days && teamRate > 0) (line 204). If it is met, there is a need to mint the tokens to the team. However, the teamRate is directly reduced from the computed pool's sYSLReward. In other words, other pools are not affected for this round of team rewards. This may not be fair to the affected pool as the team-related rewards are supposed to be shared by all current pools.

```
188
         /// @notice Update reward variables of the given asset to be up-to-date.
189
         /// @param _pid Pool's id
190
         function updatePool(uint256 _pid) public {
191
             PoolInfo storage pool = poolInfo[_pid];
             if (block.number <= pool.lastRewardBlock) {</pre>
192
193
                 return;
194
195
             uint256 lpSupply = pool.strat.totalDeposited();
196
             if (lpSupply == 0 pool.allocPoint == 0) {
197
                 pool.lastRewardBlock = block.number;
198
                 return;
199
             }
200
```

```
201
             uint256 multiplier = getMultiplier(pool.lastRewardBlock, block.number);
202
             uint256 sYSLReward = (multiplier * sYSLPerBlock * pool.allocPoint) /
                 totalAllocPoint;
203
204
             if (block.timestamp - lastTeamUpdate >= 1 days && teamRate > 0) {
205
                 address teamWallet = 0xa7b9fFa1BB64856AA62C762bBB0a2A6792DF9613;
206
                 lastTeamUpdate = block.timestamp;
207
                 IsYSL(sYSL).mintFor(teamWallet, teamRate);
208
                 sYSLReward -= teamRate;
209
            }
210
211
             pool.accsYSLPerShare = pool.accsYSLPerShare + ((sYSLReward * DECIMALS) /
                 lpSupply);
212
             pool.lastRewardBlock = block.number;
213
```

Listing 3.6: YSLProtocol::updatePool()

**Recommendation** Revisit the team rewards design so that it is fairly applied to current pools.

**Status** The issue has been addressed by taking the above suggestion to improve the team reward allocation.

#### 3.7 Possible Sandwich Attacks in sYSLShare

• ID: PVE-007

• Severity: High

• Likelihood: Low

Impact: High

• Target: Multiple Contracts

• Category: Time and State [8]

• CWE subcategory: CWE-682 [3]

#### Description

As part of the protocol logic, there is a constant need to convert one token to another. And the current protocol is designed to interact with various UniswapV2 pools for token conversion. Our analysis shows that the conversion can be improved by specifying effective slippage control to avoid unnecessary loss.

```
77
            uint256 fee = _amount / 10;
78
            _amount -= fee;
80
            IERC20(BUSD).safeTransfer(feeAddress, fee);
82
            // Calculate YSL emissions and add it together with BUSD to locked liquidity
83
            uint256 emission = getPrice(BUSD, _YSL, IERC20(BUSD).balanceOf(address(this)),
                apeSwap);
84
            IsYSL(_YSL).mintFor(address(this), emission);
85
            addLiquidity(BUSD, _YSL, IERC20(BUSD).balanceOf(address(this)), emission,
                apeSwap, adapter);
87
            // Calculate sYSL emission equivalent for BUSD
88
            uint256 sYslEmission = getPrice(BUSD, sYSL, _amount, apeSwap);
89
            IsYSL(sYSL).mintFor(address(this), sYslEmission);
91
            // Add emission
92
            userDeposited[_user] += sYslEmission;
93
            totalDeposited += sYslEmission;
94
            return sYslEmission;
95
```

Listing 3.7: sysLShare::transferIn()

To elaborate, we show above the transferIn() routine from the sYSLShare contract. We notice the sYSL token is minted based on the calculated YSL emissions via getPrice(). However, this function simply relies on the pair's reserves for the price calculation. Apparently, this approach to query for current price is highly unreliable and suffers from price manipulation!

```
174
         function getPrice(
             address token0,
175
176
             address token1,
177
             uint256 amount,
178
             address _router
179
         ) internal view returns (uint256 out) {
180
             address[] memory path = new address[](2);
181
             path[0] = token0;
182
             path[1] = token1;
183
             out = IPancakeRouter02(_router).getAmountsOut(amount, path)[1];
184
```

Listing 3.8: YSLOpt::getPrice()

Note that this is a common issue plaguing current AMM-based DEX solutions. Specifically, a large trade may be sandwiched by a preceding sell to reduce the market price, and a tailgating buy-back of the same amount plus the trade amount. Such sandwiching behavior unfortunately causes a loss and brings a smaller return as expected to the trading user because the swap rate is lowered by the preceding sell. As a mitigation, we may consider specifying the restriction on possible slippage caused by the trade or referencing the TWAP or time-weighted average price of UniswapV2. Nevertheless, we need to acknowledge that this is largely inherent to current blockchain infrastructure and there is still

a need to continue the search efforts for an effective defense. The same issue is also applicable to other routines, including processCollectedFee() and collectxYSLFee() from the xYSLAdapter contract, as well as getBusdAmount() from the StrategySwap contract

**Recommendation** Develop an effective mitigation to the above front-running attack to better protect the interests of farming users.

**Status** This issue is addressed by following the above suggestion to add necessary slippage to mitigate or even prevent the sandwich attack.



# 4 Conclusion

In this audit, we have analyzed the design and implementation of the YSL.IO protocol. The audited system presents a unique addition to current DeFi offerings by optimizing and amplifying the returns from yield farming platforms through the maximization of locked liquidity. The current code base is clearly organized and those identified issues are promptly confirmed and fixed.

Meanwhile, we need to emphasize that Solidity-based smart contracts as a whole are still in an early, but exciting stage of development. To improve this report, we greatly appreciate any constructive feedbacks or suggestions, on our methodology, audit findings, or potential gaps in scope/coverage.



## References

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