Security Compass

Kapsch TrafficCom Scales Critical Infrastructure Security with SD Elements.

Intelligent Transportation Systems Secured by Design with Security Compass' SD Elements.

kapsch >>>

COMPANY
Kapsch TrafficCom

LOCATION
Global

PERSON AND ROLE
DI Juliane Höbarth BSc
Head of Product Security, Standardization and Environmental Sustainability

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The automation and scaling capabilities of SD Elements have allowed us to deliver secure products more efficiently, freeing up valuable resources to innovate and focus on further improving our product security.

DI Juliane Höbarth BSc
Head of Product Security, Standardization and Environmental Sustainability

Challenge

Kapsch TrafficCom's unique traffic intelligence solutions allow cities and countries to be proactive about improving road safety, minimizing congestion and minimizing the impact of both unexpected incidents and planned events. Due to the safety-critical element of road travel and mobility, Kapsch TrafficCom has always prioritized state-of-the-art security for their products and solutions.

As a global infrastructure provider, one of Kapsch TrafficCom's highest priorities is delivering secure solutions to their customers. Led by a Product Security Team, the organization established a sound security framework covering their whole product development lifecycle based on industry best practices. A custom in-house managed security requirements repository in Jira was derived from several standards, including ISO 27002, IEC 62443, NIST 800-53 and GDPR. At the time, their security process included: manually selecting the standards as interpreted by their fully allocated ProdSec Team who was too often at maximum capacity for supporting Product and Development colleagues, to then add the manually selected requirements to the product backlog, working with the teams to lead the measurement and progress of the security backlog implementation using Jira queries and Confluence reporting.

Requirements Met by SD Elements

With investments in continuous process improvements, Kapsch TrafficCom's Product Security team was highly motivated when evaluating SD Elements to **improve and scale the product security processes**, which would include **faster and more efficient selection of applicable security standards** for their products in development, **maintenance of security controls and requirements**, prioritization of those security requirements in the product backlog and **improved measurement** of the progress of security backlog implementation **and reporting** on their product security landscape.

Solution

Kapsch TrafficCom's Product Security Team evaluated various security solutions, in addition to assessing their capacity to continue to maintain their in-house, manually maintained repository. Upon the recommendation of a colleague who had a successful and productive experience with SD Elements, they evaluated SD Elements and found that **out of the box, they would get a repository of all the applicable security standards covering the base customer security requirements and beyond. "We looked into the market, but it became clear that SD Elements is the best fit for our needs,"** states Juliane Höbarth, Head of Product Security.

The Business Impact of SD Elements at Kapsch TrafficCom

Outsourcing Standards Maintenance & Validation

With verified maintenance of this repository of security content within SD Elements, Kapsch TrafficCom's Product Security team **optimized their time by offloading the manual maintenance of their internal repository of security controls and requirements.** The reduction in time spent on manual tasks that could now be automated and scaled has positioned Kapsch to improve their existing product security processes at scale.

Improved Team Capacity & Security at Scale

With the automated maintenance of the repository, the team could also more easily identify the deltas in new security standards for their products, without having to comb through the controls and requirements documentation themselves and account for bias and interpretation because of human and manual effort.

The Product Security Team also freed up an average of ⅓ of each team member's capacity simply by having SD Elements identify and prioritize security requirements. Instead of the Product Security Team performing these tasks manually and repeatedly, **SD Elements acted as a force multiplier for the team.** It allowed them to use their security expertise to validate SD Elements' recommendations and translate those into product and development requirements that flowed through for assignment as Jira tickets, without the repetitive effort of identifying the security requirements manually.

> **If we wouldn't have purchased SD Elements, we would still use a third of our team's capacity just to maintain the repository to search through the standards.**
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> **DI Juliane Höbarth BSc**
> Head of Product Security, Standardization and Environmental Sustainability

Year 1 of SD Elements at Kapsch TrafficCom

- **100% of the targeted products are onboarded to the platform** and every intended product has **security requirements out of SD Elements in each product's backlog**

- Most products have already started to implement those requirements

Year 2 of SD Elements at Kapsch TrafficCom

- **Onboard 100% of KTC products to SD Elements**

- **Increase the implementation degree - meaning to implement not just the critical security requirements, but also have time to appropriately prioritize the security requirements of lower criticality that are still contributing to an improved security posture.**

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Kapsch TrafficCom reduced the risk of missing deltas in security standards as updates became available. **With more capacity** to spend on other tasks such as penetration testing, threat analysis and modeling, **the Product Security team reduces their operational costs** and allows the development and product teams to do better, do more, and be more efficient.

Continuous Process Improvement

The purchase and adoption of SD Elements had strong executive sponsorship from Kapsch TrafficCom's Chief Technology Officer, which allowed the Product Security team to bear the culture of security strongly to product and development.

With empowered ProdSec team members, it was easy to evangelize the impact SD Elements would have. **Requirements are clear, tickets are assigned - along with the appropriate prioritization** - and the ProdSec team themselves are available to more actively support their colleagues when implementing the specific requirements.

The Future of Security by Design at Kapsch TrafficCom with SD Elements

"When thinking about the future of our secure portfolio infrastructure, I think this is not a sprint. This is a marathon. We need to constantly raise the bar of security, we need to constantly innovate and improve our practices because attackers are not sleeping," concludes Höbarth. **"What I expect from SD Elements in the future is that it further contributes to our security foundation and that it helps us have consistency in our operation and still enables us to have this freedom and free capacity to further innovate on further security protection mechanisms for our portfolio."**

> "That's the advantage of SD Elements, that **my team can invest more of their capacity to help the development teams when implementing**, versus before when they had to read the standards and elicit the content from the standards to create the requirements. **This is a better investment of their time. Our Product and Development teams are on board with the adoption of SD Elements.**
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> SD Elements standardized and automated so many of the right things we were doing manually as a Product Security team."

DI Juliane Höbarth BSc
Head of Product Security, Standardization and Environmental Sustainability

About Security Compass

Security Compass, the Security by Design Company, is a leading provider of cybersecurity solutions, enabling organizations to shift left and build secure applications by design, integrated directly with existing DevSecOps tools and workflows. Its developer-centric threat modeling offering, SD Elements, and Application Security Training solutions help organizations release secure and compliant software to market quickly and cost effectively. Security Compass is the trusted solution provider to leading financial and technology organizations, the U.S. Department of Defense, government agencies, and renowned global brands across multiple industries. The company is headquartered in Toronto, with offices in the U.S. and UK. For more information, please visit www.securitycompass.com