

Scorecard Tech Talk

Building a Stronger Open Source Ecosystem: OpenSSF Scorecard

March 13th, 10AM PT/1PM ET



OpenSSF

OPEN SOURCE SECURITY FOUNDATION

Welcome!

- Thank you for joining us today! We will begin at 10:02am PT.
- While we wait for everyone to join, please take a moment to do one (or more) of the following:
 - Please add questions using the Zoom Q&A feature
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- This Tech Talk is being recorded



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Agenda

- Housekeeping
- Panelist Introductions
- Introduction to OpenSSF Scorecard
- Understanding the OpenSSF Scorecard
- Insights from Implementing Organizations
- Panel Discussion: Member Organizations' Experiences
- Q&A from the Audience



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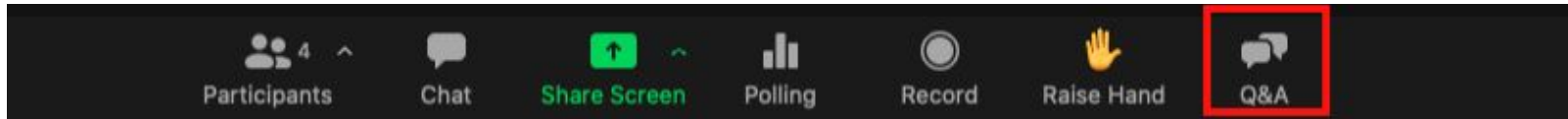
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- <https://openssf.org/community/code-of-conduct/>

Housekeeping

Please submit your questions during the meeting by using the Q&A feature on Zoom.



Thank you!



Panelists

Caroline Lee, Security Engineer, IBM

Caroline is based out of Boston, Massachusetts, and works as a Security Engineer at IBM in CISO Remediation. She holds a Masters in Computer Science with a Specialization in Cybersecurity. Previously, she has worked on CICD, Application Security, and Cloud Security initiatives in the government sector. She is currently involved in projects in Application Security, DevSecOps, and more.





Chris Swan - Engineer, Atsign

Chris Swan is an Engineer at Atsign, building the atPlatform, a Networking 2.0 technology that is putting people in control of their data and removing the frictions and surveillance associated with today's Internet. He was previously a Fellow at DXC Technology where he held various CTO roles. Before that he held CTO and Director of R&D roles at Cohesive Networks, UBS, Capital SCF and Credit Suisse, where he worked on app servers, compute grids, security, mobile, cloud, networking and containers. Chris is an InfoQ Editor writing about cloud, DevOps and security, he co-hosts the Tech Debt Burndown Podcast and is a Dart Google Developer Expert (GDE).

Melba Lopez - Senior Technical Staff Member (STSM), IBM

Melba Lopez is a seasoned cybersecurity professional currently serving as a Senior Technical Staff Member (STSM) at the IBM Office of CISO. With a primary focus on the strategy and delivery of enterprise software supply chain security, Melba plays a pivotal role in safeguarding critical assets against emerging supply chain threats.

In addition to her role at IBM, Melba is deeply involved in industry initiatives aimed at fortifying software supply chains. She serves as an OWASP Dependency Track maintainer, demonstrating her commitment to advancing open-source security solutions. Previously, she held leadership positions within the Open Source Security Foundation (OpenSSF), including co-lead of the Supply Chain Integrity Working Group and Lead of the Positioning Special Interest Group.

Melba's expertise spans over 18 years, covering a diverse range of domains such as application development, cloud computing, networking, and security. Her multidisciplinary background equips her with a comprehensive understanding of the intricate landscape of cybersecurity challenges. With a Master's degree in Cybersecurity & Information Assurance, Melba is passionate about leveraging her knowledge and experience to drive impactful changes in the cybersecurity ecosystem.



Laurent Simon - Security Engineer, Google

Laurent is a security engineer in the Open Source Security Team (GOSST) at Google. His team works in collaboration with the open-source community and the OpenSSF on novel security solutions, such as Scorecards, Allstar, Sigstore, SLSA, OSS-Fuzz, OSV, etc.



Introduction to OpenSSF Scorecard

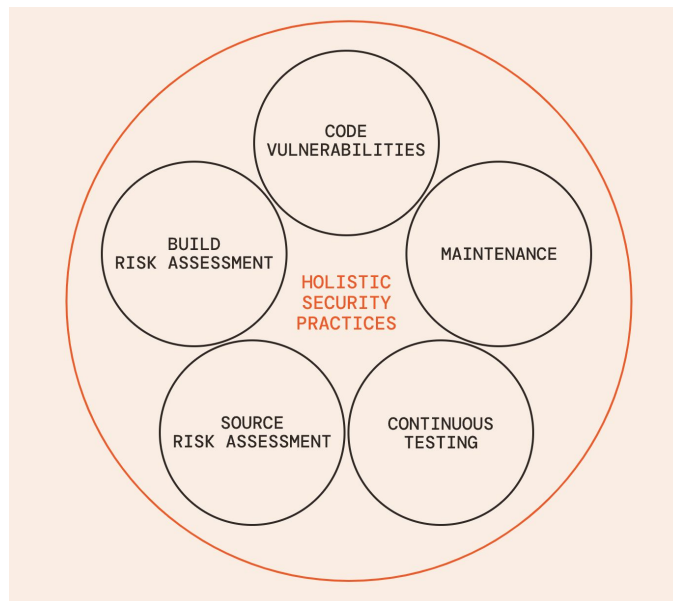
Caroline Lee



Introduction to OpenSSF Scorecard

- 18 checks affecting different aspect of the software supply chain (shown right)
- Each automated check returns a score out of 10 and a risk level
- The risk level adds weighting to the score (shown below)
- The weighted value of all checks are compiled into a single, aggregate score

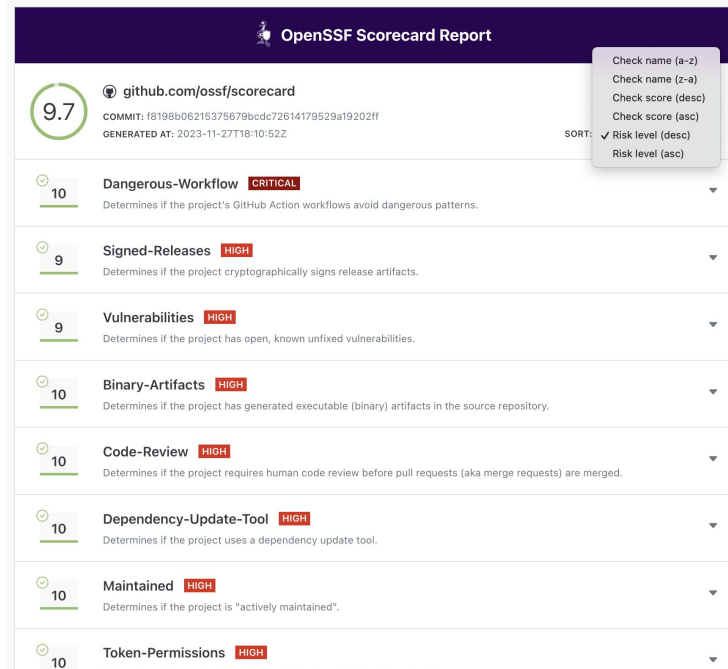
CRITICAL RISK	10
HIGH RISK	7.5
MEDIUM RISK	5
LOW RISK	2.5



<https://github.com/ossf/scorecard#scorecard-checks>

Introduction to OpenSSF Scorecard

- Running the Checks
 - Run automatically using the GitHub Action
 - Run manually via the Command Line Interface
- Viewing Scores
 - Use the Webviewer to see score reports for regularly scanned projects (shown right)
 - Use the REST API to query pre-calculated scores of OSS projects
 - Weekly scan of *1.2M+* critical OSS projects with results published in a BigQuery public dataset
- Details at <https://github.com/ossf/scorecard>



Understanding the OpenSSF Scorecard

Laurent Simon



Main components of the codebase

- Repository client
- Checks
 - Raw part layer
 - Probe layer
 - Evaluation layer
- Scorecard run API



Repository client

- Golang interface defining a CVS
- Abstracts away details of each CVS (GitHub, GitLab, etc)

```
type RepoClient interface {
    InitRepo(repo Repo, commitSHA string, commitDepth int) error
    URI() string
    IsArchived() (bool, error)
    ListFiles(predicate func(string) (bool, error)) ([]string, error)
    // Returns an absolute path to the local repository
    // in the format that matches the local OS
    LocalPath() (string, error)
    // GetFileReader returns an io.ReadCloser corresponding to the des
    // Callers should ensure to Close the Reader when finished.
    GetFileReader(filename string) (io.ReadCloser, error)
    GetBranch(branch string) (*BranchRef, error)
    GetCreatedAt() (time.Time, error)
    GetDefaultBranchName() (string, error)
    GetDefaultBranch() (*BranchRef, error)
    GetOrgRepoClient(context.Context) (RepoClient, error)
    ListCommits() ([]Commit, error)
    ListIssues() ([]Issue, error)
    ListLicenses() ([]License, error)
    ListReleases() ([]Release, error)
}
```

https://github.com/ossf/scorecard/blob/main/clients/repo_client.go

Repository client implementations

- Uses platform-specific APIs
- GitHub
 - <https://github.com/ossf/scorecard/tree/main/clients/githubrepo>
 - GraphQL APIs <https://docs.github.com/en/graphql>
 - RESTful APIs <https://docs.github.com/en/rest>
- GitLab
 - <https://github.com/ossf/scorecard/tree/main/clients/gitlabrepo>

Checks¹ (1)

- Three sub components
 - Raw result layer
 - Probe layer
 - Evaluation layer
- Raw result layer²
 - Uses the **repository client** to **gather** all information required by a check and **caches** it, like a snapshot
 - Branch protection check: settings, CODEOWNER file, etc

¹<https://github.com/ossf/scorecard/tree/main/checks>

²https://github.com/ossf/scorecard/blob/main/checker/raw_result.go

Checks¹ (2)

- Probes (release soon-ish!)
 - Takes as input the raw result cache data
 - Output a low-level **claim** about a project. Will enable **fine-grained policies**² on results!
 - A check is made up of multiple probes, each with a description and a clear remediation
 - Example: **requiresCodeOwnersReview**³ probe determines if code owners reviews are required, based on settings and presence of Codeowner file (raw result cache)
- Evaluation
 - Reads a set of probe results and computes a score⁴

¹<https://github.com/ossf/scorecard/tree/main/checks>

²<https://events.linuxfoundation.org/open-source-summit-north-america/program/schedule/>

³<https://github.com/ossf/scorecard/tree/main/probes/requiresCodeOwnersReview>

⁴https://github.com/ossf/scorecard/blob/main/checks/evaluation/branch_protection.go

Raw results

```
// BranchProtection runs the Branch-Protection check.
func BranchProtection(c *checker.CheckRequest) checker.CheckResult {
    rawData, err := raw.BranchProtection(c)
    if err != nil {
        e := sce.WithMessage(sce.ErrScorecardInternal, err.Error())
        return checker.CreateRuntimeErrorResult(CheckBranchProtection, e)
    }

    // Set the raw results.
    pRawResults := getRawResults(c)
    pRawResults.BranchProtectionResults = rawData

    // Evaluate the probes.
    findings, err := zrunner.Run(pRawResults, probes.BranchProtection)
    if err != nil {
        e := sce.WithMessage(sce.ErrScorecardInternal, err.Error())
        return checker.CreateRuntimeErrorResult(CheckBranchProtection, e)
    }

    // Return the score evaluation.
    return evaluation.BranchProtection(CheckBranchProtection, findings, c.Dlogger)
}
```

Probes

Scoring

https://github.com/ossf/scorecard/blob/main/checks/branch_protection.go

requiresCodeOwnersReview probe

id: requiresCodeOwnersReview

short: Check that the project requires dedicated code owners to review PRs.

motivation: >

Code owners are expected to have deep knowledge about a code; Having experienced reviewers for PRs is expected to prevent

implementation: >

The probe checks which branches require code owner reviews. The probe only considers default and release branches.

outcome:

- The probe returns one OutcomePositive for each branch that requires code owner review for PRs, and one OutcomeNegative

remediation:

effort: High

text:

- Configure the project such that code owners must review PRs.
- For GitHub-hosted projects, see [the About code owners documentation](https://docs.github.com/en/repositories/managing).
- For GitLab-hosted projects, see [the Code Owners documentation](https://docs.gitlab.com/ee/user/project/codeowners/).

<https://github.com/ossf/scorecard/blob/main/probes/requiresCodeOwnersReview>

Run API

- <https://github.com/ossf/scorecard/blob/main/pkg/scorecard.go>
- RunScorecard() Golang API
- Launched each check in a Go routine

Collaborative aspects

- Weekly public meetings. ~100 contributors, ~5 triagers, ~3 active maintainers
 - Upcoming Contributor Workshop at OSS NA⁵
- Collaboration with GitHub and Google since the inception of the project
 - GitHub Action^{1,2}
 - Private vulnerability reporting API³
- Probe implementation available soon-ish!
 - Several months of work with AdaLogics (vendor)⁴
 - Funded by AWS donation!
 - Feedback from IBM, nodejs security WG, Google, CNCF, etc
- GOSST Upstream Team
 - Open 455 PRs in 2023, with 320 merged, 41 rejected (others are still "in flight")

¹<https://github.blog/2022-01-19-reducing-security-risk-oss-actions-openssf-scorecards-v4/>

²<https://security.googleblog.com/2021/07/measuring-security-risks-in-open-source.html>

³<https://github.blog/changelog/2024-03-08-check-if-private-vulnerability-reporting-is-enabled-via-rest-api/>

⁴<https://events.linuxfoundation.org/open-source-summit-north-america/program/schedule/>

⁵<https://openssf.org/blog/2024/02/26/soss-community-day-north-america-na-agenda-live/>

Recognition of scorecard in the community (1)

- Engagements with government
 - Google promotes Scorecard through consultations with White House and RFI^{1,2}
 - The OpenSSF promotes scorecard to US Office of the National Cyber Director (ONCD)^{3,4}
- Research
 - Sonatype shows Scorecard results correlate with project security⁵
 - NCSU using scorecard effectiveness and check relevance to ecosystems^{6,7}

¹<https://blog.google/technology/safety-security/shared-success-in-building-a-safer-open-source-community/>

²<https://www.regulations.gov/comment/ONCD-2023-0002-0074>

³<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Final-ONCD-Technical-Report.pdf>

⁴<https://openssf.org/blog/2024/02/26/openssf-supports-efforts-to-build-more-secure-and-measurable-software/>

⁵<https://openssf.org/blog/2022/10/20/report-finds-openssf-scorecards-are-highly-effective-measures-to-assess-project-security>

⁶<https://arxiv.org/abs/2208.03412>, ⁷<https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.14884>

Recognition of scorecard in the community (2)

- Scorecard monitor¹
 - Used by Node.js Security Working Group and CISCO OSPO team
 - Donation to Scorecard project under way²
- CNCF CLOMonitor^{3,4}
 - Used by CNCF to monitor their projects
 - Used in several of their security slams^{5,6,7}

¹<https://github.com/UlisesGascon/openssf-scorecard-monitor>, ²<https://github.com/openssf/scorecard/issues/3204>

³<https://github.com/cncf/clomonitor>, ⁴<https://clomonitor.io>, ⁵<https://www.cncf.io/reports/security-slam-2023/>

⁶<https://www.cncf.io/reports/lightning-round-at-security-slam-2023/>, ⁷<https://www.cncf.io/reports/security-slam-north-america-2022/>

Insights from Implementing Organizations

Chris Swan, Melba Lopez



Implementing Scorecard - Atsign

- An OpenSSF Scorecard can show you care about security.
- Allstar provides a good starting point.
- Pick a first repo to get a sense of what's needed.
- Then automate across the rest of the organisation.
- 20% of the effort to get 80% of the score. Uphill from there.
- Scorecards create ongoing toil that needs to be minimised.



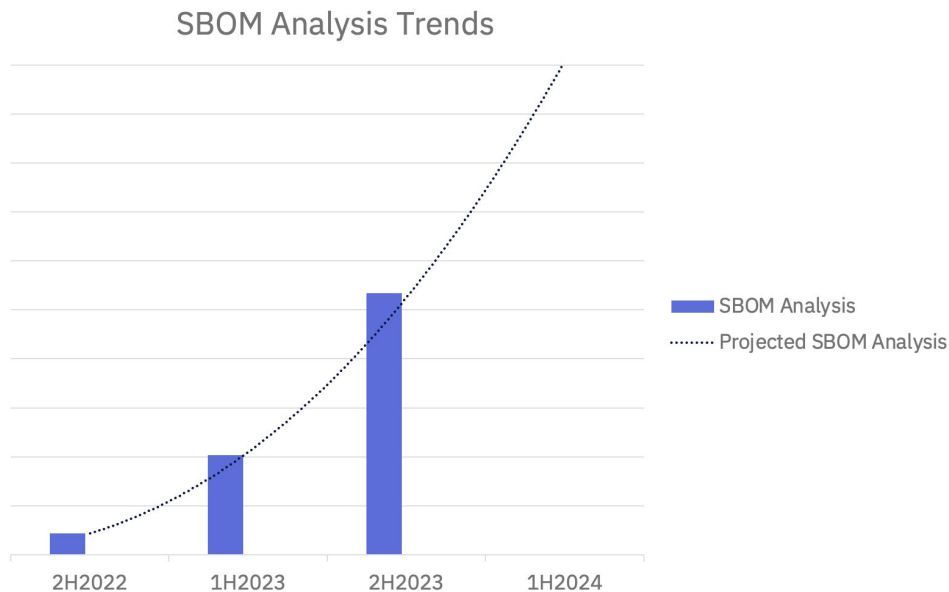
Implementing Scorecard – IBM CISO

Business Value:

- 2,327% increase YoY in SBOM assessments
- Increased awareness of 3rd party open-source hygiene

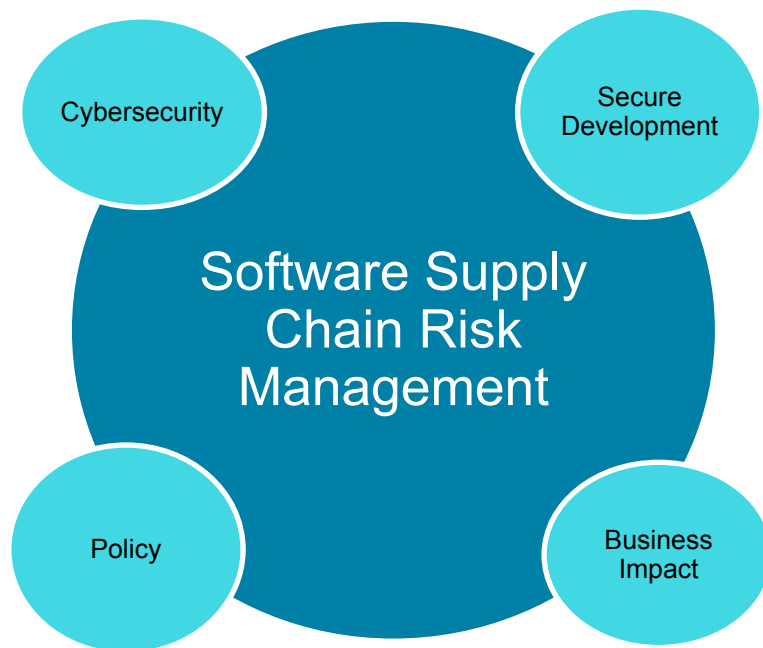
Key Areas:

- Third Party Security Risk Management (Suppliers, Vendors, OEMs)
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- IBM Product Security
- Open Source Security



Implementing Scorecard – IBM CISO

- OpenSSF Scorecard is a valuable tool in your Supply Chain Security Toolkit
- OpenSSF Scorecard can be used to assess risk beyond vulnerabilities
 - Community Health
 - Secure Development
 - Legal Risk
- OpenSSF Scorecard can be used for internal GitHub Enterprise



Panel Discussion: Member Organizations' Experiences

Experiences, challenges, and successes in adopting OpenSSF Scorecard



Audience Q&A

Take our quick Tech Talk Survey

<https://forms.gle/bzyoowDMAHbN4rAZ8>



OpenSSF Scorecard User Survey

<https://forms.gle/aqxZwmVQzWJkNuso8>



Securing Projects with OpenSSF Scorecard Course



This FREE course: Securing Projects with OpenSSF Scorecard (LFEL1006) is available on the Linux Foundation Training & Certification platform and is designed with end users of Scorecard tooling in mind.

This course will cover how to integrate the OpenSSF Scorecard into your software development life cycle.

EXPRESS LEARNING COURSE

Securing Projects with OpenSSF Scorecard (LFEL1006)

Integrate the OpenSSF Scorecard into your software development life cycle.

Upcoming Events

LF Open Source Summit North America 2024

When: April 16-18, 2024

Where: Seattle, Washington, USA

- April 15: [OpenSSF Scorecard New Contributor Workshop \[Pre-Registration Required\]](#)

- April 17: [Structured Scorecard Results: Tailor Your Own Supply-Chain Security Policies - Adam Korczynski & David Korczynski, Ada Logics](#)

Ways to Participate



Join a [Working Group/Project](#)



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