



# Leveraging OWASP Projects and Tools in Your AppSec Program

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OWASP New Zealand and Datacom

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**NEW  
ZEALAND**  
owasp.org.nz



**DATACOM**



security initiative



Without them, this Conference couldn't happen

# About Me

- Past lives
  - Simulation developer and system analyst
  - University lecturer - Maths, Comp Sci, IT, *et al.*
  - J2EE developer and architect
- Moved to Application Security in 2014
- Moved to New Zealand in late 2017
- OWASP Leadership
  - New Zealand Chapter
  - Author, Software Assurance Maturity Model (SAMM)
  - AppSec Curriculum Project

# Where I Work and What I Do

## Datacom's AppSec Division

- Team Lead in new consulting group
- External: Advise on Software Assurance
  - SAMM-based maturity assessments
  - Maturity improvement guidance
  - GRC, Training, Tooling, DevSecOps
- Internal: Improve Software Assurance maturity of our development teams – “eat our own dog food”

We're hiring...and we're here, so...

# What You Can Expect to Hear

- My thoughts about Software Assurance
- Some information about the OWASP Software Assurance Maturity Model (SAMM)
- The names of *lots* of OWASP Projects
- A few thoughts on leveraging OWASP Projects

# What You Shouldn't Expect to Hear

- An in-depth treatment of SAMM
- Information about *every* OWASP project
  - There are 192 “active” OWASP projects\*
  - I’ll mention only 30 or so by name
  - I’ll provide *some* details on fewer than 20

\* Comprised of 19 Flagship, 20 Lab, 54 Incubator, and 99 “need website update” (12 Feb 2021)



# Reasons to Love OWASP Projects

- Developed and maintained by passionate volunteers...who happen to be experts
- Supportive community of users and contributors
  - OWASP Slack (<https://owasp-slack.herokuapp.com/>)
  - Project channels (e.g., #project-samm)
  - Topical channels (e.g., #threat-modeling)
- Open-source – Public repos on GitHub
- Project deliverables are FREE  
(as in ‘freedom’ *and* as in ‘free beer’)

# What Is Software Assurance?

**Software Assurance** is the “[l]evel of confidence that software is free from vulnerabilities, either intentionally designed into the software or accidentally inserted at anytime during its lifecycle and that the software functions in the intended manner.”

- [US] National Information Assurance (IA) Glossary, April 2010



# And, by that you mean...?

- Attain and maintain high **stakeholder confidence** in successful delivery of the features you **intended** to deliver
- Prevent, detect, and remove **vulnerabilities**
- Ensure **reliability** and **resilience** of the production system

*SO MUCH MORE than a few code reviews  
or 11<sup>th</sup>-hour penetration tests*

# Software Assurance Maturity Model Flagship Project

## What is SAMM?

The Software Assurance Maturity Model (SAMM) is an open framework that provides an effective and measurable way for all types of organizations to analyze and improve their software security posture.

[owaspsamm.org](https://owaspsamm.org)



### **Measurable**

Defined maturity levels across business practices



### **Actionable**

Clear pathways for improving maturity levels



### **Versatile**

Technology, process, and organization agnostic

# What is SAMM?

The resources provided by SAMM aid in:

- evaluating an organization's existing software security practices;
- building a balanced software security assurance program in well-defined iterations;
- demonstrating concrete improvements to a security assurance program; and
- defining and measuring security-related activities throughout an organization.

# SAMM v2.0 Structure

- Five Business Functions
- 15 Practice Areas
- 2 Activity Streams per Practice Area

Governance	Design	Implementation	Verification	Operations
Strategy & Metrics	Threat Assessment	Secure Build	Architecture Assessment	Incident Management
Policy & Compliance	Security Requirements	Secure Deployment	Requirements-driven Testing	Environment Management
Education & Guidance	Secure Architecture	Defect Management	Security Testing	Operational Management

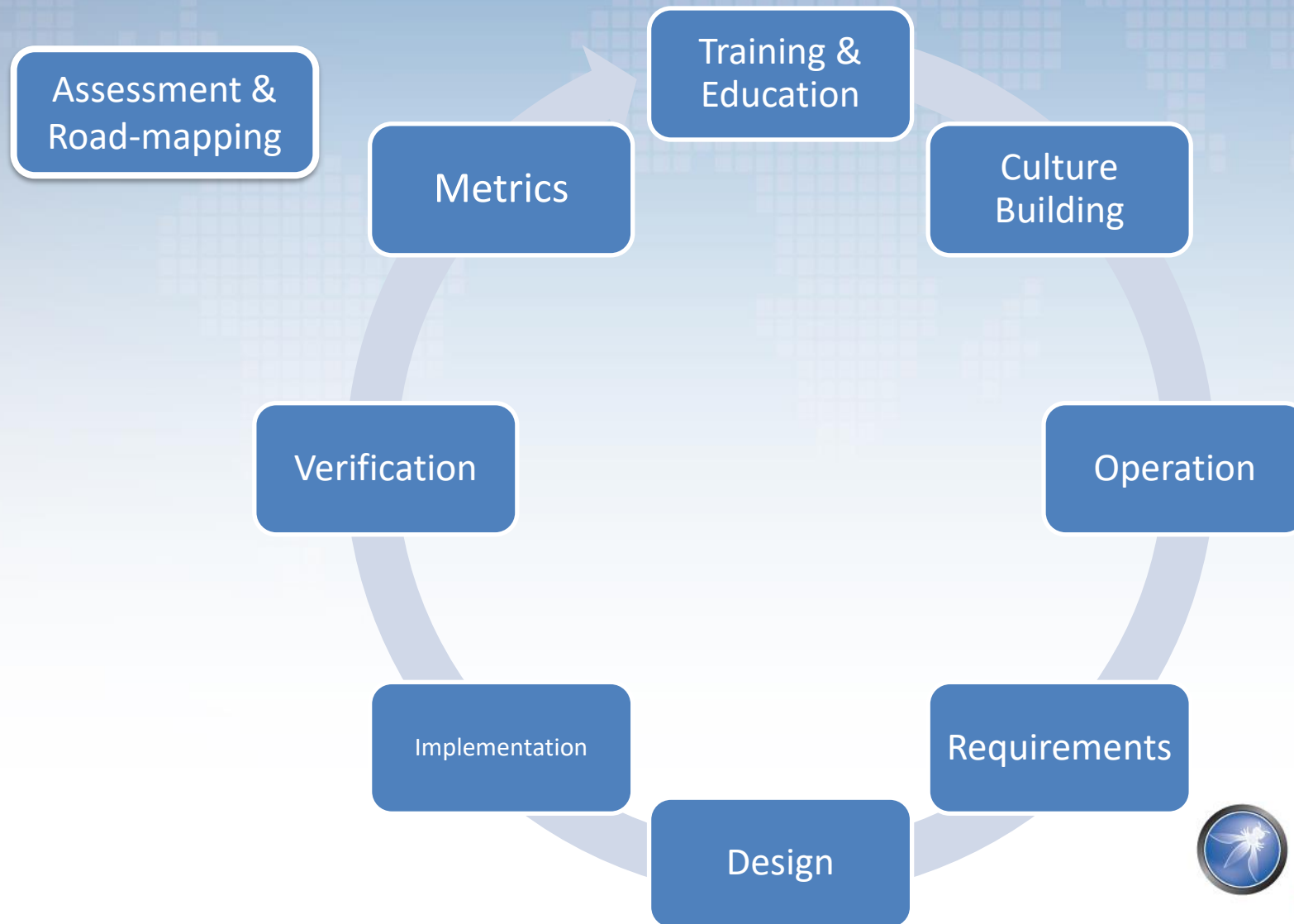
# SAMM Maturity Levels

Within an Activity Stream, Activities represent progressive maturity levels:

- Level 0 – Practice unfulfilled
- Level 1 – *Ad hoc* / best-effort / inconsistent
- Level 2 – Defined / documented / standardised
- Level 3 – Measured and optimised

# AppSec Program Elements

Ref: OWASP Integration Standards Project





# Training & Education

## Awareness Docs:

- **OWASP Top 10**
- Mobile Top 10
- API Top 10

## Board Game:

- Snakes & Ladders

## Training Platform:

- **SecureFlag**

## Intentionally Vulnerable WebApps:

- **Juice Shop**
- Security Shepherd
- WebGoat
- PyGoat

# OWASP Top 10

## Flagship Project

- Standard awareness document for developers and web application security.
- Represents broad consensus about the most critical security risks to web apps
  - Current version: 2017
  - Next version: 2021

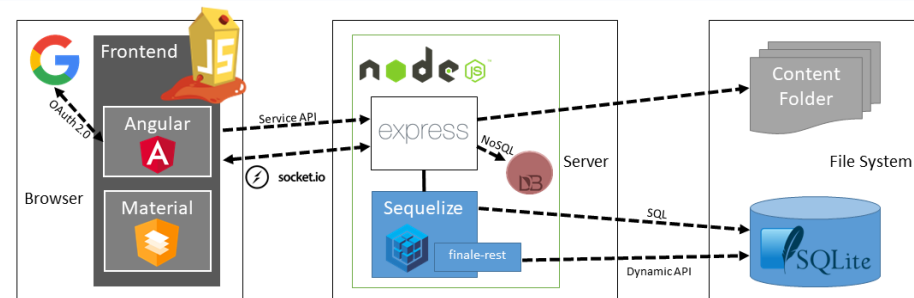
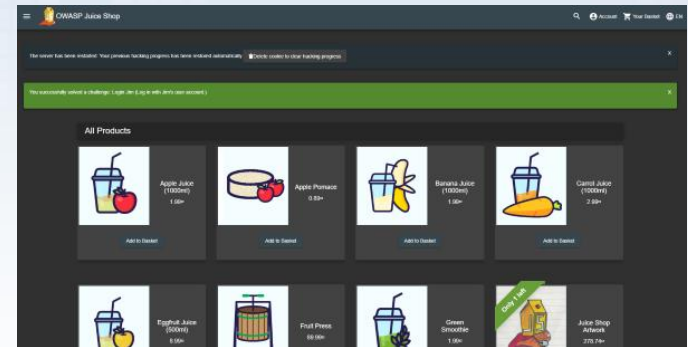


# Juice Shop

## Flagship Project



- World's most modern and sophisticated insecure web application!
- Exhibits vulnerabilities from the entire [OWASP Top Ten](#), and lots more
- Useful for:
  - Security training
  - Awareness demos
  - Capture the Flag events (CTFs)
  - Target app for security tools



# SecureFlag Open Platform Incubator Project

“The SecureFlag Open Platform is an open-source training platform created for developers to learn and practice modern secure coding techniques through hands-on exercises.”

- Built-in courses
- Real-world challenges – verified with *functional tests*
- Containerised labs
- Deployed in multiple AWS regions

OWASP's instance for members:

<https://secureflag.owasp.org>

# Culture Building

## Security Champions playbook

### Identify teams

- Enumerate products and services
- List teams per each product
- Identify Product manager (responsible for product) and team manager (working directly with developers)
- Write down technologies (programming languages) used by each team

### Define the role

- Measure current security state among the teams and define security goals you plan to achieve in mid-term (e.g. by using OWASP SAMM)
- Identify the places where champions could help (such as verifying security reviews, raising issues for risks in existing code, conducting automated scans etc.)
- Write down clearly defined roles, as these will be the primary tasks for newly nominated champions to work on

### Nominate champions

- Introduce the idea and role descriptions and get approvals on all levels - both from product and engineering managers, as well as from top management
- Together with team leader identify potentially interested candidates
- Officially nominate them as part of your security meta-team

### Comm channels

- Make sure to have an easy way to spread information and get feedback
- While differing from company to company, this usually includes chats (Slack/IRC channel, Yammer group, ...) and separate mailing lists
- Set up periodic sync ups - bi-weekly should be fine to start with

### Knowledge base

- Build a solid internal security knowledge base, which would become the main source of inspiration for the champions
- It should include security meta-team page with defined roles, secure development best practices, descriptions of risks and vulnerabilities and any other relevant info
- Pay special attention to clear and easy-to-follow checklists, as it's usually the simplest way to get the things going

### Maintain interest

- Develop your ways or choose one of the below to keep in touch and maintain the interest of the champions
- Conduct periodic workshops and encourage participation in security conferences
- Share recent appsec news (e.g. Ezine) via communication channels
- Send internal monthly security newsletters with updates, plans and recognitions for the good work
- Create champions corner with security library, conference calendar, and other interesting materials



# Operation-ModSecurity Core Rule Set Flagship Project

- Set of generic attack detection rules for use with [ModSecurity](#) or compatible web application firewalls
- Sims to protect web applications from a wide range of attacks, including the [OWASP Top Ten](#), with a minimum of false alerts.
- Provides protection against many common attack categories



OWASP  
ModSecurity  
Core Rule Set  
THE 1<sup>ST</sup> LINE OF DEFENSE

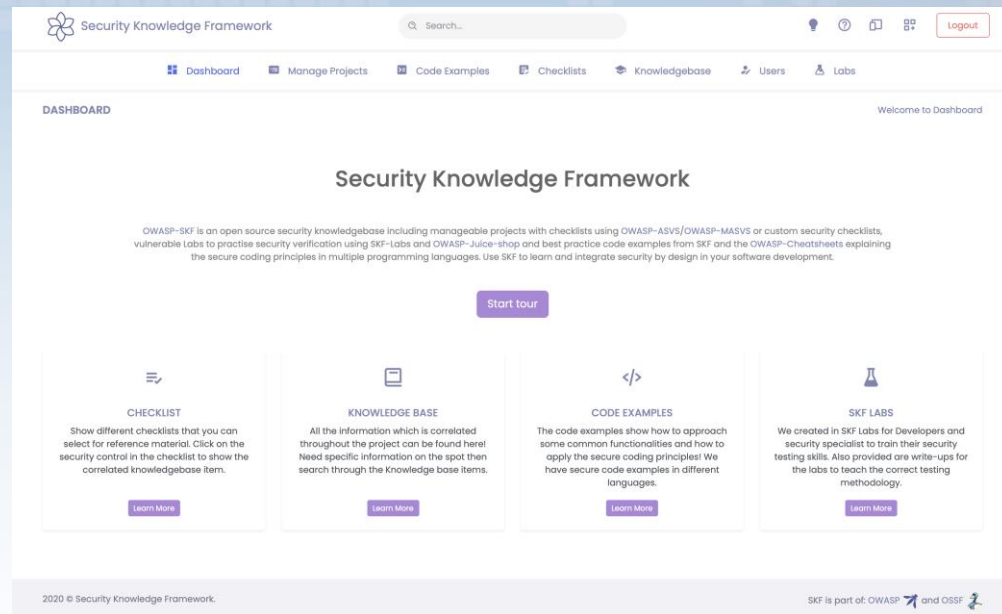


# Requirements

- **Security Knowledge Framework (SKF)**
- **SecurityRAT**
- **Application Security Verification Standard (ASVS)**
- **Mobile Application Security Verification Standard (MASVS)**

# Security Knowledge Framework (SKF) Flagship Project

- Open-source Python-Flask web application
- Uses ASVS to train you and your team in writing secure code, *by design*



<https://demo.securityknowledgeframework.org/>

# SecurityRAT

## Incubator Project

Security Requirement Automation Tool (SecurityRAT) focuses on automating the generation and management of security requirements

1. You specify the type of software artifact
2. SecurityRAT tells you which requirements you should fulfill
3. You decide how to handle those desired requirements
4. You persist the artifact state in an issue tracker and create tickets for the requirements where an explicit action is necessary
5. You document relevant changes in requirement compliance whenever appropriate.

Demo instance at <https://securityrat.org>

# Design

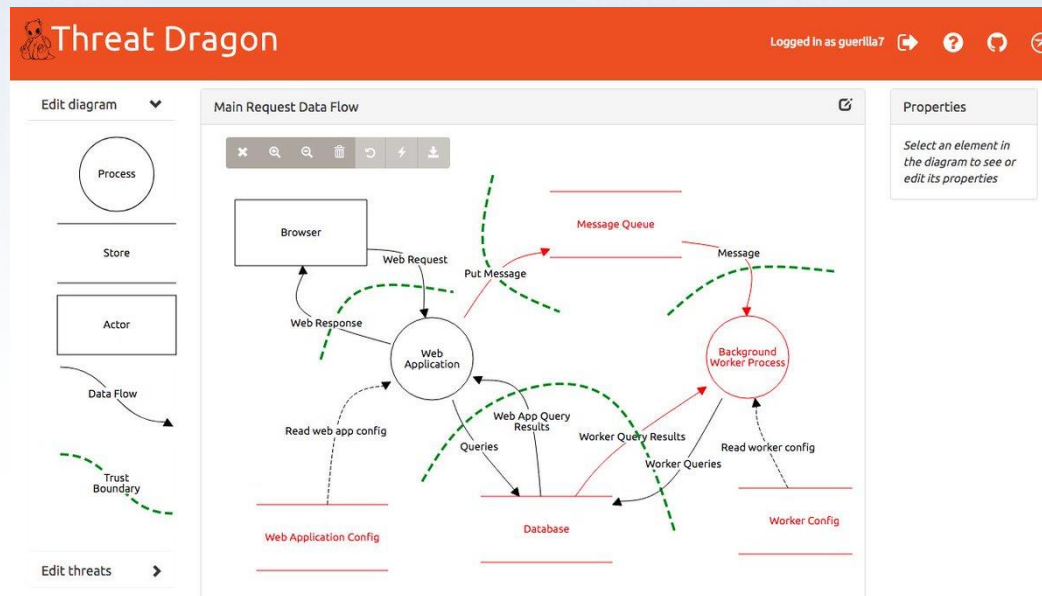
## Threat Modelling

- **Threat Dragon**
- **PyTM**
- **Cornucopia**
- Threat Modeling Playbook – See Seba's talk

# Threat Dragon

## Incubator Project

- Open-source threat model diagram creation tool
- Runs as desktop app or web app

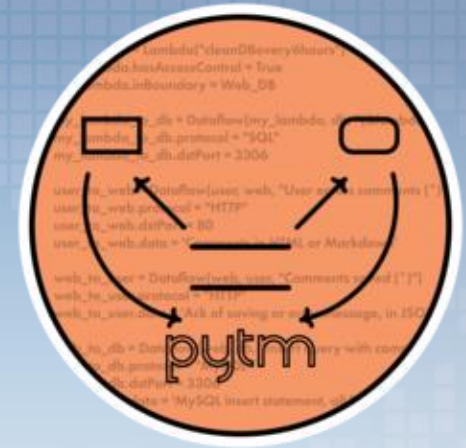




# PyTM

## Incubator Project

- A 'Pythonic' framework for threat modeling
- Define your system *in Python*, using the elements and properties described in the pytm framework.
- Can generate Data Flow Diagram (DFD) or Sequence Diagram views of system and threats





# Cornucopia

## Lab Project

- Card game to support secure coding design
- Similar design to *Elevation of Privilege (EoP)*
- Based on Secure Code Practices (SCP) – Quick Reference Guide
- Six suits:
  - Data validation and encoding
  - Authentication
  - Session management
  - Authorization
  - Cryptography
  - Cornucopia
- Cards available through OWASP, or download and print locally



# Implementation

- Documentation
  - **Top 10 Proactive Controls**
  - Go Secure Coding Practices (SCP) Guide
  - Cheat Sheet Series
- Software Composition Analysis (SCA)
  - Dependency-Check
  - **Dependency-Track**
- Libraries
  - Enhanced Security API (ESAPI)
  - CSRFGuard

# Top 10 Proactive Controls

## Lab Project

Describes the most important control and control categories that **every architect and developer** should absolutely, 100% include in every project

[C1: Define Security Requirements](#)

[C2: Leverage Security Frameworks and Libraries](#)

[C3: Secure Database Access](#)

[C4: Encode and Escape Data](#)

[C5: Validate All Inputs](#)

[C6: Implement Digital Identity](#)

[C7: Enforce Access Controls](#)

[C8: Protect Data Everywhere](#)

[C9: Implement Security Logging and Monitoring](#)

[C10: Handle All Errors and Exceptions](#)



# Dependency-Track Flagship Project

- Intelligent Supply Chain Component Analysis platform
- Leverages capabilities of Software Bill of Materials (SBOM)



# Verification

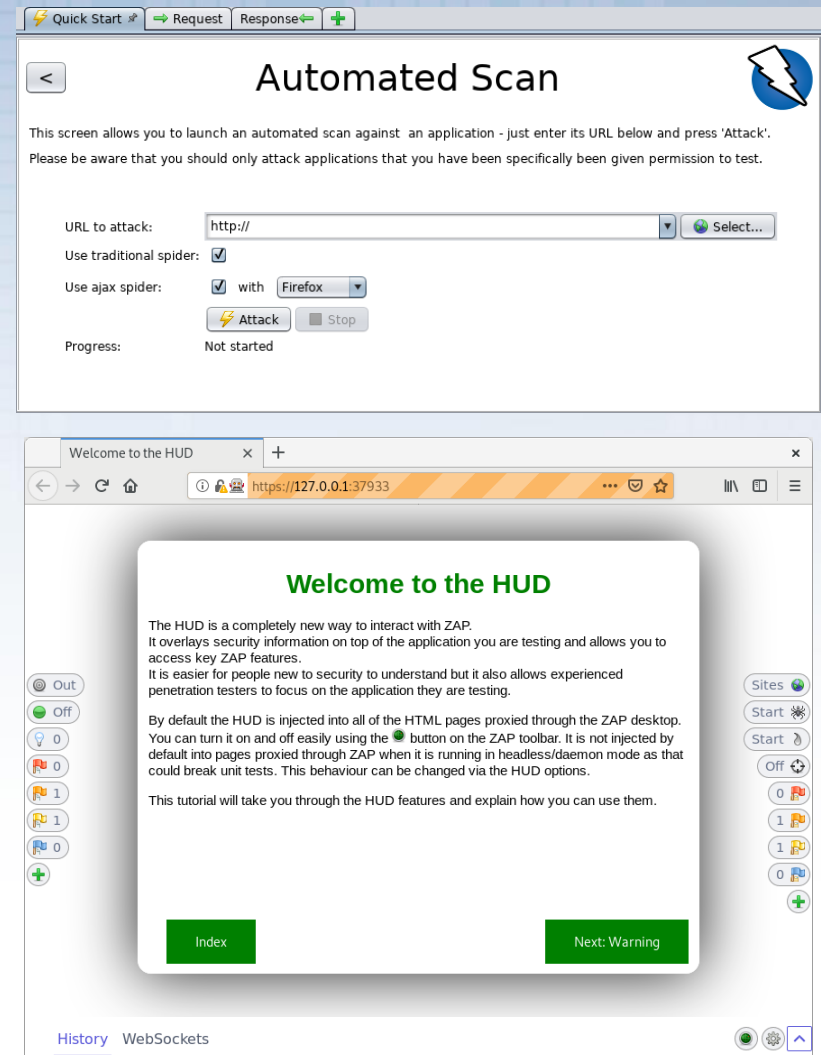
- Documentation
  - Web Security Testing Guide
  - Mobile Security Testing Guide
- Tools
  - **Zed Attack Proxy (ZAP)**
  - Attack Surface Detector
  - **Amass**
  - **Code Pulse**
  - Offensive Web Testing Framework (OWTF)
  - Nettacker
  - **DefectDojo** – Check out Rohit's talk tomorrow
- Frameworks
  - Glue
  - Dracon



# Zed Attack Proxy (ZAP)

## Flagship Project

- World's most widely used web app scanner
- Free and open-source
- Passive scanning
- Automated active scanning
- Manual exploring
- ZAP Heads-Up Display puts functionality directly in your browser





# Amass

# Flagship Project

# Our Goal - In-depth DNS Enumeration, Attack Surface Mapping and External Asset Discovery!

- Mapping of network attack surfaces
- External asset discovery
- Open-source information gathering and active reconnaissance techniques

```
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```

OWASP Amass Project - @owaspamass  
In-depth Attack Surface Mapping and Asset Discovery

```
Usage: amass intel|enum|viz|track|db|dns [options]  
  
-h      Show the program usage message  
-help   Show the program usage message  
-version Print the version number of this Amass binary
```

Subcommands:

```
amass intel - Discover targets for enumerations  
amass enum  - Perform enumerations and network mapping  
amass viz   - Visualize enumeration results  
amass track - Track differences between enumerations  
amass db    - Manipulate the Amass graph database  
amass dns   - Resolve DNS names at high performance
```

The user's guide can be found here:  
[https://github.com/OWASP/Amass/blob/master/doc/user\\_guide.md](https://github.com/OWASP/Amass/blob/master/doc/user_guide.md)

An example configuration file can be found here:  
<https://github.com/OWASP/Amass/blob/master/examples/config.ini>

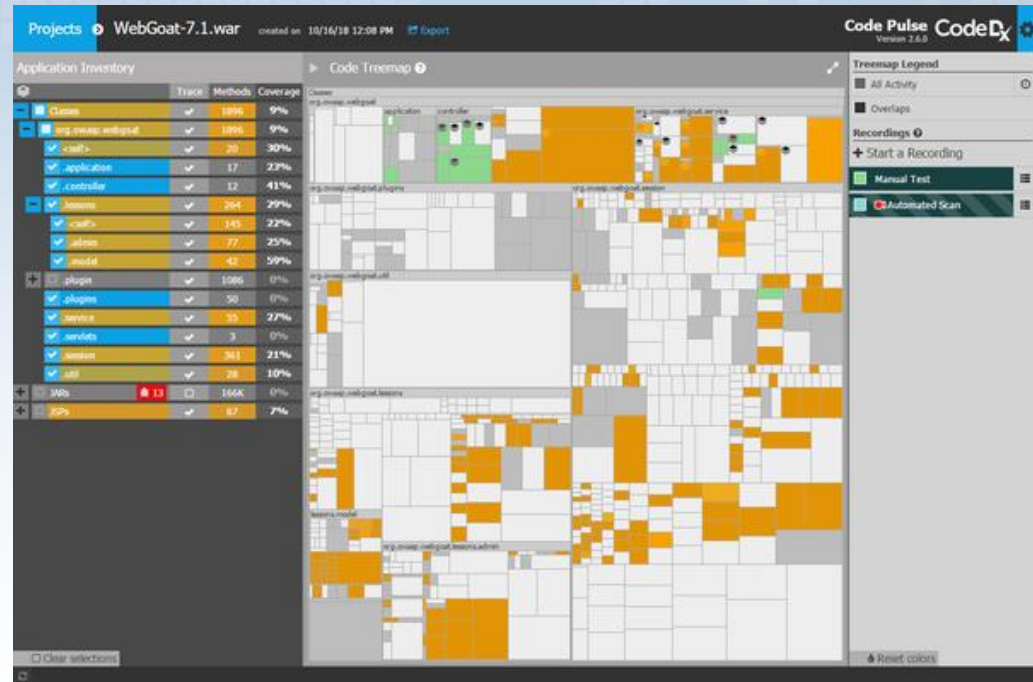
The Amass tutorial can be found here:  
<https://github.com/OWASP/Amass/blob/master/doc/tutorial.md>



# Code Pulse

## Lab Project

- Provides insight into the real-time code coverage of black box testing activities
- Cross-platform desktop application
- Agent-based runtime monitoring



# DefectDojo

## Flagship Project

- Open-source vulnerability management tool
- Streamlines the testing process
  - Templating
  - Report generation
  - Metrics



# Some Closing Thoughts

- Don't oversell – “free” tools aren't *really* free
  - Be honest and realistic about total cost of ownership: instance charges, admin hours, etc.
- Use the right tool for your use case
  - When the OWASP tool isn't the right one, it can still provide a cost-effective proof-of-concept
- Don't be too proud to ask for help
  - OWASP community
  - NZ AppSec community
  - External consultants (like me)

# Resources

- OWASP Integration Standards Project: <https://owasp.org/www-project-integration-standards/>
- OWASP SAMM: <https://owaspsamm.org/>
- OWASP: <https://owasp.org>
- Security Champions Playbook: <https://github.com/c0rdis/security-champions-playbook>
- Join the OWASP Slack: <https://owasp-slack.herokuapp.com/>

# Questions?



# Thank You!

Want to chat some more?

Looking for help?

Reach out!

OWASP: [john.dileo@owasp.org](mailto:john.dileo@owasp.org)

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