GLOBAL GO-GETTERS: TEAMS IN A GLOBAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTION GO HEAD-TO-HEAD IN SECURE CODING CONTEST
As a Secure Code Warrior customer, this worldwide financial organization stepped up to run a secure coding tournament in November 2020. Its goal was to empower those in their local teams to learn more about the threats they face and understand the importance of secure code training, right from the start.

The tournament attendees included application security experts from locations around the world, and included developers, software engineers, IT security managers and data scientists.

WHY SHOULD YOUR FINANCIAL ORGANIZATION PRIORITIZE SECURE CODING?

A focus on secure coding will help you understand which vulnerabilities your organization is most exposed to – and identify ways to build a strong defense against any security breaches that could occur.

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WHAT DID THE FINANCIAL ORGANIZATION’S ATTENDEES TELL US ABOUT THEIR SECURE CODE TRAINING PREFERENCES?

Of those who attended the tournament...

94% said that they prefer Secure Code Warrior’s method of hands-on learning with gamification over traditional classroom and e-learning.

94% said that the tournament matched or exceeded their expectations.

83% would recommend similar tournaments to others within the organization and local teams.

Based on a survey of 18 tournament participants.
TOP 10 VULNERABILITIES
IN THE FINANCIAL SECTOR

01 Cross-Site Request Forgery
02 Memory corruption
03 Authentication
04 Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)
05 Access control
06 Business logic
07 Improper session handling
08 Insufficient Transport Layer Protection
09 Improper Platform Usage
10 Denial of Service

Don’t panic, our secure code training can help your developers tighten up security for your bank. Find out on the next slide how this financial organization’s teams measured up on some of the above pain points.
The aim of the tournament was to raise this Global Financial Organization’s awareness of the OWASP Top 10 application vulnerabilities and give them the opportunity to flex their secure coding skills in a friendly competition to see how they measure up.

Our group of 65 tournament participants showed a broad range of technical skills across several coding languages and were able to complete an extraordinary 1387 gamified coding challenges between them. Out of the OWASP Top 10 vulnerabilities, participants scored most highly on securing “vulnerable components” across the board, but there was room for improvement on securing “authentication”.

Every developer, software engineer, or IT security manager is a secure code expert in the making, and tournaments are a fun way to get them thinking about security standards, shared security responsibilities, and teach them how to fix common security bugs that might lead to application breaches.

To brush up on your secure coding knowledge of our lowest scoring vulnerabilities, take a look at our “Stored XSS” and “Improper Authentication” educational videos.
Prioritizing secure code training is easier when the tools at developers’ fingertips are informative and engaging. But don’t take our word for it, see what the tournament attendees had to say about using Secure Code Warrior’s gamified platform for secure code training:

“I enjoyed watching the score of other people. It was useful and easy to learn things.”

IT Security Manager

“I enjoyed all parts of the tournament. Trying to find vulnerable code blocks and fixing them in the right way … all the process was fun. It was a very good experience for me. I learned lots about secure coding. It was very useful, and it was easy to find what you are looking for. I am very grateful.”

Software development engineer

“Powerful platform with a lot of content available. People with all levels of knowledge can participate, can get help and do not get frustrated – and very relevant for my work.”

Senior IT expert

“[The training exercises] were great and I learned a lot. I enjoyed the competitive element and motivation to really train before.”

Software Developer

“I played a lot with the mission controls before the event. Also watched most of the resource videos. [The tournament] was very useful. It helped me learn what are the elements that you have to watch out for and discover the syntax of the Django and Flask frameworks (Python) that I had never used before. It is quite easy to navigate. I enjoyed the preparation. I could take my time to do the missions and learn new things while taking notes and checking the documentation of the packages used in the codes. It was very constructive! It exceeded my expectations.”

Data Scientist
As the tournament results show, this financial organization is well on the way to promoting the importance of securing banking applications across the world. Their approach to stability goes hand in hand with our mission of prioritizing security, right from the start, and Secure Code Warrior is proud to partner with such an esteemed global institution.

We’re glad that this organization enjoyed the tournament and we’re delighted to show others in the application security business that secure code training and development can be a lot of fun. But tournaments are just a small part of the Secure Code Warrior platform. We also offer training courses, assessments, missions, and a whole load of other handy resources to help developers on their way to secure code success.

To kick start your secure code transformation, request a free secure coding tournament with Secure Code Warrior today.