LBi covers all the bases with Code Dx Enterprise

Ability, agility, and integrity are at the core of LBi Software's operations. Based in Melville, N.Y., the company has 60 employees, 45 of those developers, and builds custom web applications serving two key areas: Human Resources and Sports Management.

On the HR side, LBi builds custom solutions that are integrated with its clients' Human Capital Management (HCM) solutions, including its HR HelpDesk, a highly configurable HR case management solution; and a Time and Attendance tracking product. Both solutions are customized with completely separate code bases and licensed by LBi's clients.

Through its LBi Dynasty business unit, it develops custom sports analytics software used by Major League Baseball (MLB) and specific baseball clubs, including the Arizona Diamondbacks, Atlanta Braves, Detroit Tigers, Miami Marlins, Philadelphia Phillies, and Toronto Blue Jays. LBi Dynasty's technology is also used by the National Basketball Association (NBA). The custom, cloud-based software and applications include scouting and player management tools that help manage contracts, rosters, and transactions for all of their players on both major and minor league teams. LBi's software also helps coaches and scouting officials make better informed decisions, and aids in player development. In addition, LBi Dynasty recently released a solution that runs the draft process for professional sports organizations, helping teams prioritize and rank players and manage the entire draft process.

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>
> *-George Boutis,*
> *Senior Software Architect, LBi Software*

"These solutions are really large, pulling massive amounts of data from third-party sources and combining them for use in a single unified piece of software," said Rich Teed, LBi Software President.

The Importance of Application Security

With integrity as one of the company's three core characteristics, it is no surprise that the security of its software is a top priority. LBi has always incorporated AppSec into its software development projects, but was previously more of an ad hoc approach. "In the past we used a combination of different technologies and plugins, used different code scanners after the fact, and occasionally someone would review the different third-party libraries to see if they were up-to-date," explained Teed.

Data integrity is critical for both sides of LBi's business. HR professionals need to ensure that the personally-identifiable information in its system—including some data that is protected under HIPAA regulations—is fully protected. On the sports side, confidentiality is a major issue, as much of the data collected and stored in these solutions provide teams with critical competitive advantages, such as scouting and evaluation data. They don't want that information leaked.

Adding Code Dx Enterprise to the Roster

Teed explained that, in recent years, LBi's clients began to take application security much more seriously and began hiring CISOs. Clients started asking about the firm's AppSec methodology. That's when they turned to Code Dx Enterprise, our AppSec management solution that automates and accelerates the discovery, prioritization, and risk management of software and network vulnerabilities.

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LBi implemented a new AppSec program through a three-pronged approach, beginning with educating their developers about the importance of AppSec and coding best practices. The next phase was implementing Code Dx Enterprise for static analysis and using its collection of bundled open-source static AppSec testing (SAST) tools. Stage three was integrating dynamic AppSec testing, using the Burp Security Suite as their dynamic AppSec testing (DAST) tool. They began integrating its results into their process using Code Dx Enterprise's DAST integration and unique hybrid analysis that uses DAST tools to test SAST results, determining which SAST vulnerabilities were exploitable from the outside.

"During implementation of Code Dx into our process, the Code Dx support team was really helpful," said George Boutis, senior software architect at LBi. "They were always quick to respond, technically proficient, and made it a positive experience."

"Code Dx Enterprise gave us the ability to bring everything together in a streamlined process. It used some of the plugins we were already using, but in a more automated fashion, and it had other tools we didn't realize were out there, like the OWASP Dependency Checker that would check those libraries right away and see if there were any updates that we hadn't applied already. With all the results going into Code Dx, it has enabled us to manage the process much better."

Making AppSec Part of the Game

At any point in time, LBi has 12 or 13 application development projects in progress. They are run through Code Dx Enterprise each evening as part of their nightly build process. When regression tests are performed using Burp Security Suite, all of those results are pulled into Code Dx Enterprise. The next day, developers evaluate the results and determine steps to remediate any issues.

Boutis explained, "If a vulnerability needs fixing right away, we will take care of it. If there are false-positives, we report as such. If we run it overnight and our code doesn't change, but a new security alert comes out that Code Dx has addressed, it will recognize that vulnerability and flag it. Everything gets done in a much more timely fashion."

"Code Dx Enterprise lets us centralize all of our AppSec tools and techniques into one layer. It puts all the pieces into one place so we can do everything up front, so that by the time we get to a release point, we have fixed any vulnerabilities that have been identified," added Boutis.

He explained that where they once might have been cautious about the client running a penetration test on their software, the firm now encourages them to do so in their own environment, before it goes live. "We believe it is secure, and we want them to also have that confidence. The last thing anyone wants on a project is to be a developer on an app that leads to lost or stolen data."

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"We have always made AppSec a priority," said Boutis. "But now, with Code Dx Enterprise, our clients really appreciate us being up front with AppSec. It's not just an extra feature, but part of our everyday development processes. With all the attacks right now, you want your software security to be as tight as possible. The earlier you can catch an issue, the better. And, with the automation that Code Dx Enterprise provides throughout our AppSec process, we have been able to streamline our AppSec processes and have more confidence in the security of our solutions."

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