



APPSEC  
EUROPE

# AppSec Awareness: A Blue Print for Security Culture Change

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*@edgeroute*

# About Chris Romeo

- CEO / Principal Consultant @ Security Journey
- 20 years security experience, CISSP, CSSLP
- 10 years at Cisco, leading the Cisco Security Ninja program & CSDL
- Speaker at RSA, AppSec USA, AppSec EU, & ISC2 Security Congress



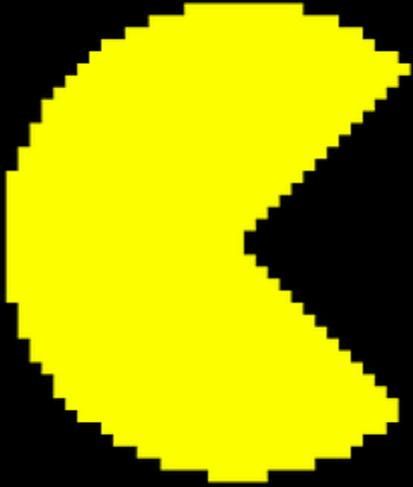
@edgeroute

# Agenda

- The Problem Space or why do we need an application security awareness?
- Creating sustainable security culture
- Application Security Awareness
  - Designing your own program



# Software is eating the world

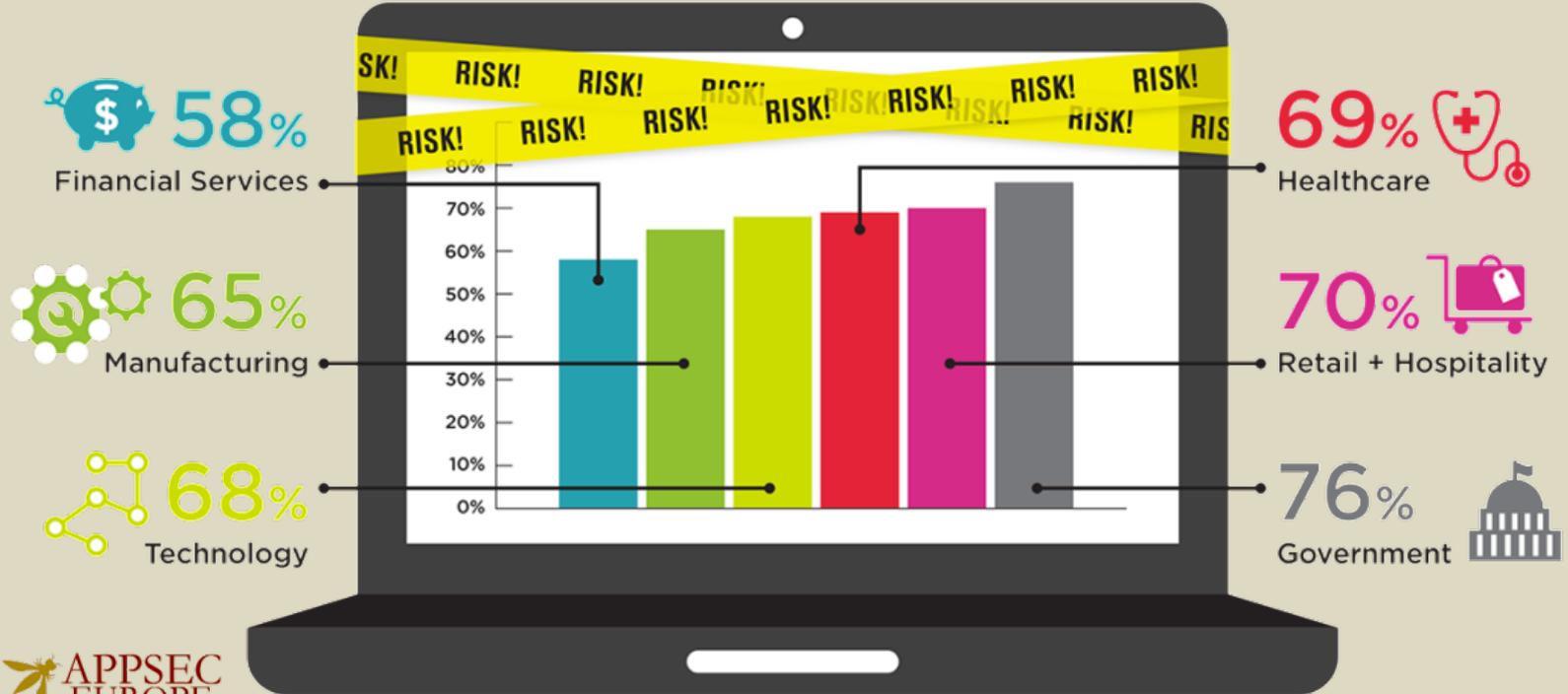


Customers demand security in everything



# FAILED OWASP TOP 10

How many apps fail the OWASP Top 10 upon initial risk assessment?



 58%

Financial Services

 65%

Manufacturing

 68%

Technology

69% 

Healthcare

70% 

Retail + Hospitality

76% 

Government

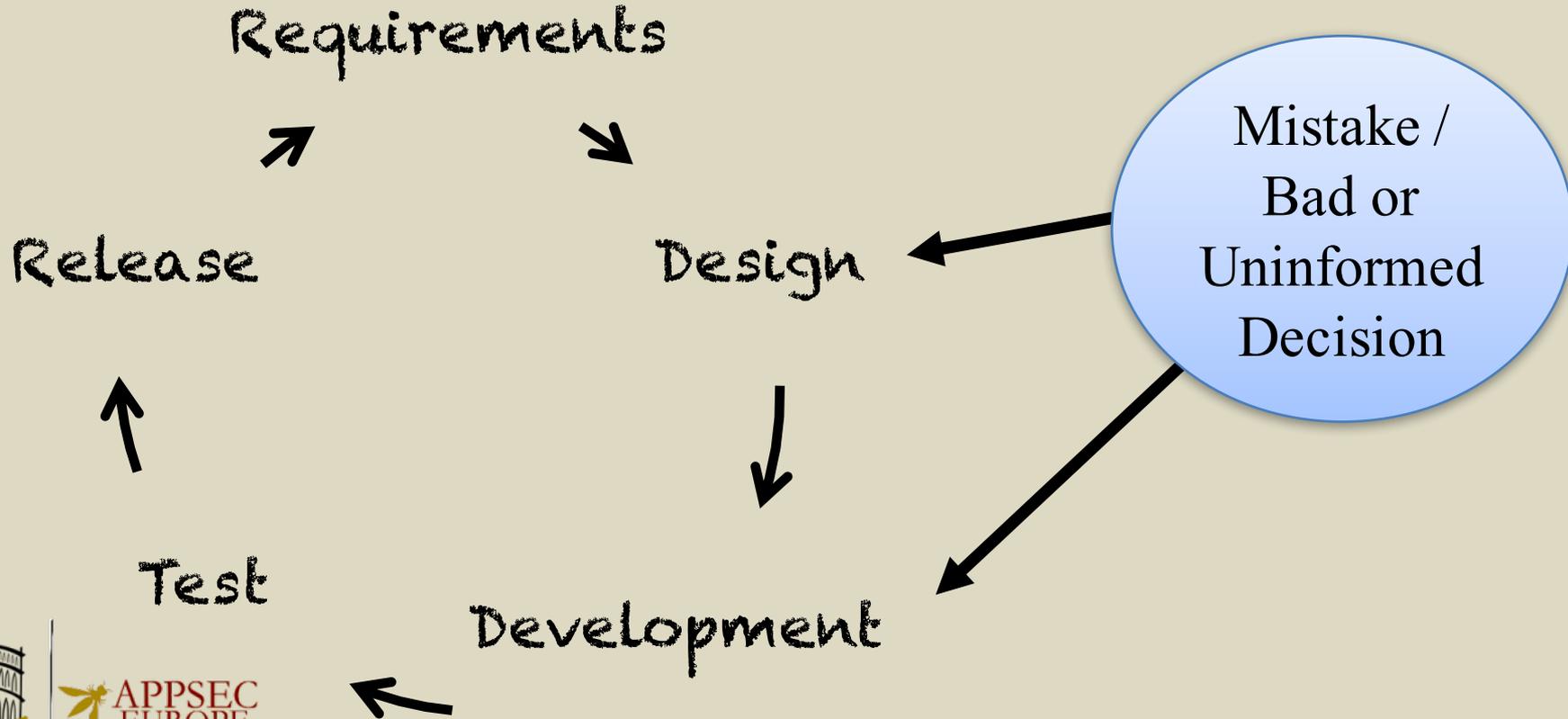


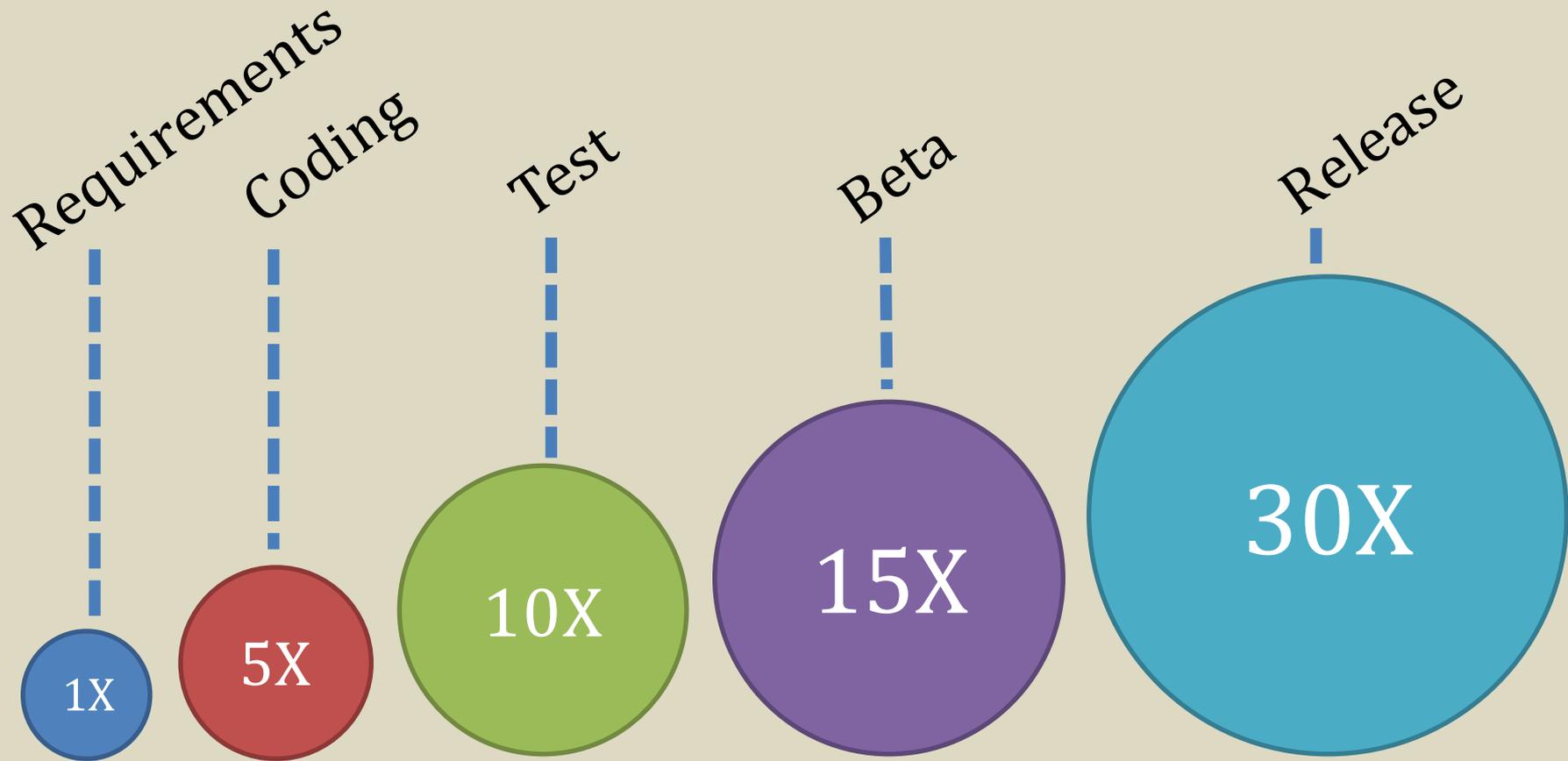
The data represents 208,670 application assessments submitted for analysis during the 18-month period from October 1, 2013 through March 31, 2015 by large and small companies, commercial software suppliers, open source projects and software outsourcing.

**VERACOIDE**



# The Source of Vulnerabilities





Relative Cost to Fix

# The Mindset of the “Average” Developer



# The Goal

Developers that  
think like security  
people.



# Security Culture



“What happens {**with security**} when people are left to their own devices.”

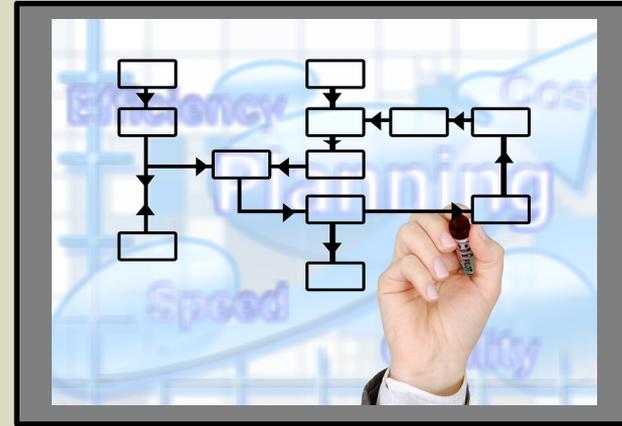
--Tim Ferriss



1. Application security is about the people.
2. The people introduce the vulnerabilities.



# Why change a security culture?



# Defining Features of a Sustainable Security Culture

Deliberate  
and disruptive

Engaging and  
fun

Rewarding

Return on  
investment



# How do we change a security culture?



Open  
their  
eyes



Awareness



Fill their  
brains



Knowledge



Fill their  
brains



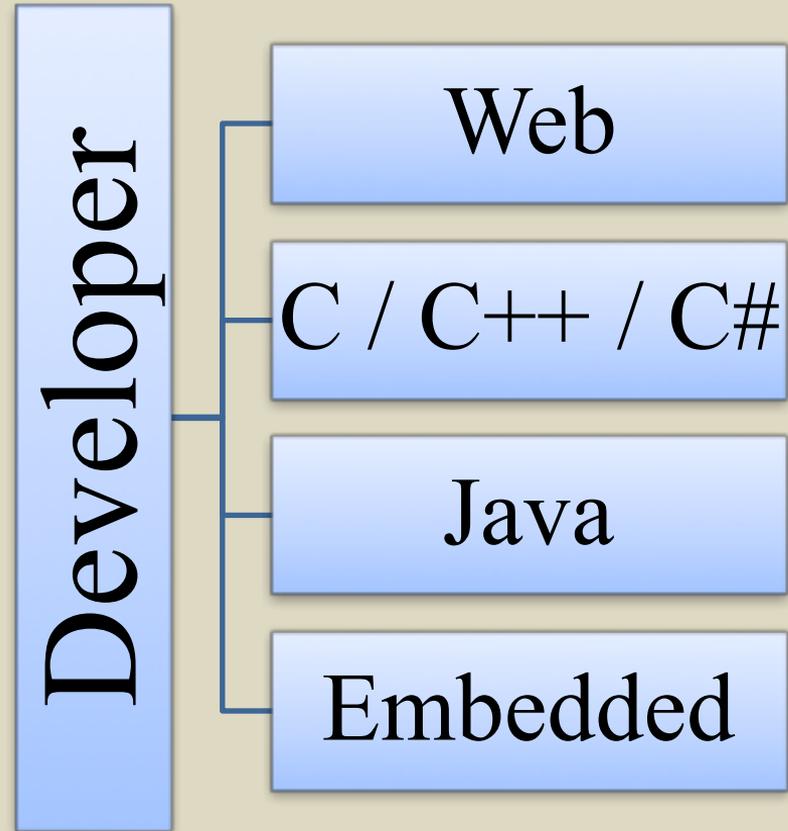
History



Fill their  
brains



Role Specific



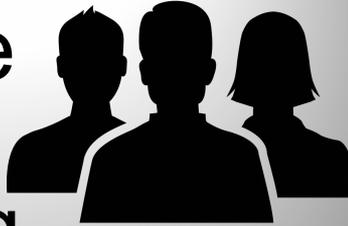
Task  
their  
hands



Activity



Embrace  
the  
gathering



# Community



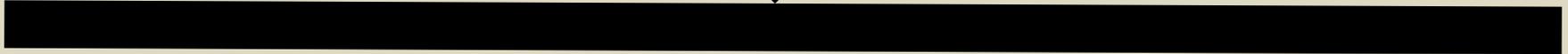
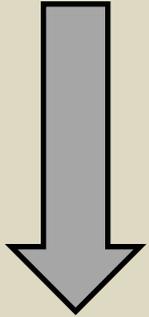
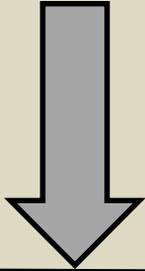
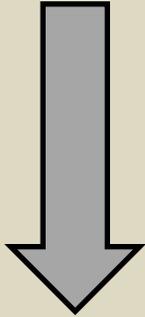
”Security Champions”



Security Awareness



Security Training



# The Security Learning Spectrum

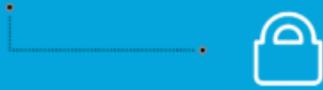


# Benefits of an #appsec awareness program

1. Everyone gains a foundational knowledge of #appsec and with minimal investment
2. Dev's learn the detailed lessons of #appsec and avoid repeating history
3. Provides a defined mission through security activity
4. Central connection point for your new crop of security conscious



# Security



## Security

# The Cisco Security Dojo



Chris Romeo - April 30, 2015 - 2 Comments

Over the past three years, Cisco has invested in the creation of an application security awareness program. The program helps the good citizens of this company understand, apply, and act upon a strategy to build more trustworthy products. We launched the existence of the program to the world at the RSA Conference 2015. I am sharing this with you because we've created something unique to the industry, and we want to encourage other companies to pursue the creation of an application security awareness program.

When you think about security awareness, do you envision phishing e-mails, Nigerian princes, and tailgating cyber criminals? Security vulnerabilities are a fact of life, but we can help our organizations develop a greater level of understanding and a desire to put security first in their development efforts. At Cisco, we believe that security awareness training should feature traditional training about crazy links you should not click under any circumstances and how to stop strangers from entering your buildings, as well as application security awareness. Application security awareness, when done well, can drive security culture change to make a company and its products and solutions safer. Moving an organization to focus on security is possible, because we have done it.

Enough talking about it, please take a sneak peek at how we do it here in this video.



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<https://blogs.cisco.com/security/the-cisco-security-dojo>

# Building an Application Security Awareness Program

1. Program  
Architecture

2. Content

3. Humor /  
Story

4.  
Gamification



# Building an Application Security Awareness Program

## Program Architecture

- Design your program and record decisions in a planning document
- Impact: Everyone involved in the project understands the vision and execution



# Assess Security Culture



# Define the problem

- Our organization lacks:
  - general application security knowledge
  - appreciation for the evolving threat landscape
  - experience with secure development practices and tools
  - motivation to improve security



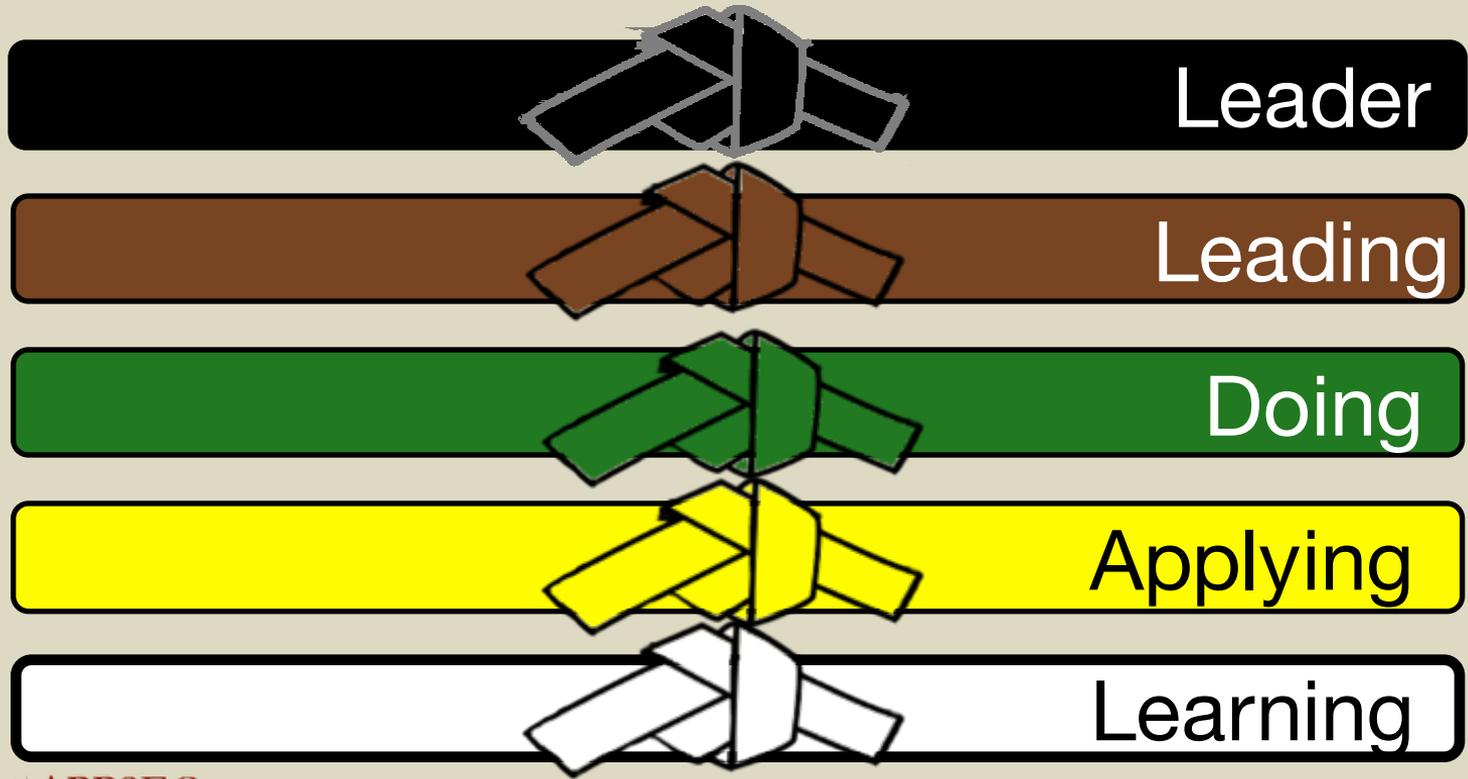
# Build a Team



# Design Decision #1: Theme



# Design Decision #2: Levels



# Design Decision #3: Roles

## Development

- SW Engineer
- Tester
- Manager
- HW Engineer

## Operations

- IT
- DevOps

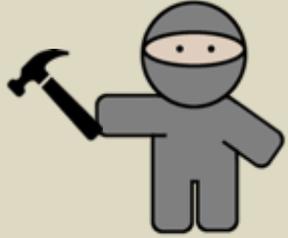
## Internal

- Sales
- Marketing
- Executives

## Everyone



# Design Decision #4: Activities & Behaviors



## Build

- A security tool or process
- Partnerships
- Security community

## Enrich

- Mentor
- Teach a course
- Deliver presentations



## Explore

- Security issue analysis
- Security committee
- A vulnerable web app

## Implement

- A security feature
- A security test
- Security strategy



# Recognition



# Budget & Schedule



2016

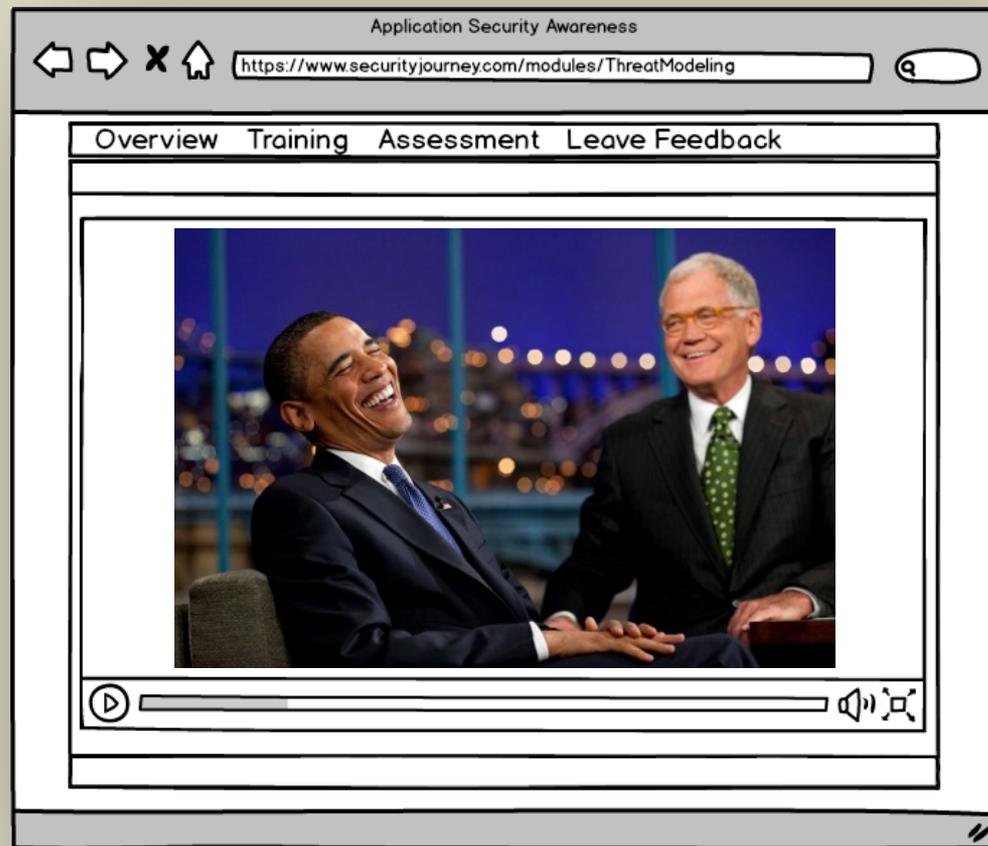


2017, 18, 19?



# Building an Application Security Awareness Program

## Content

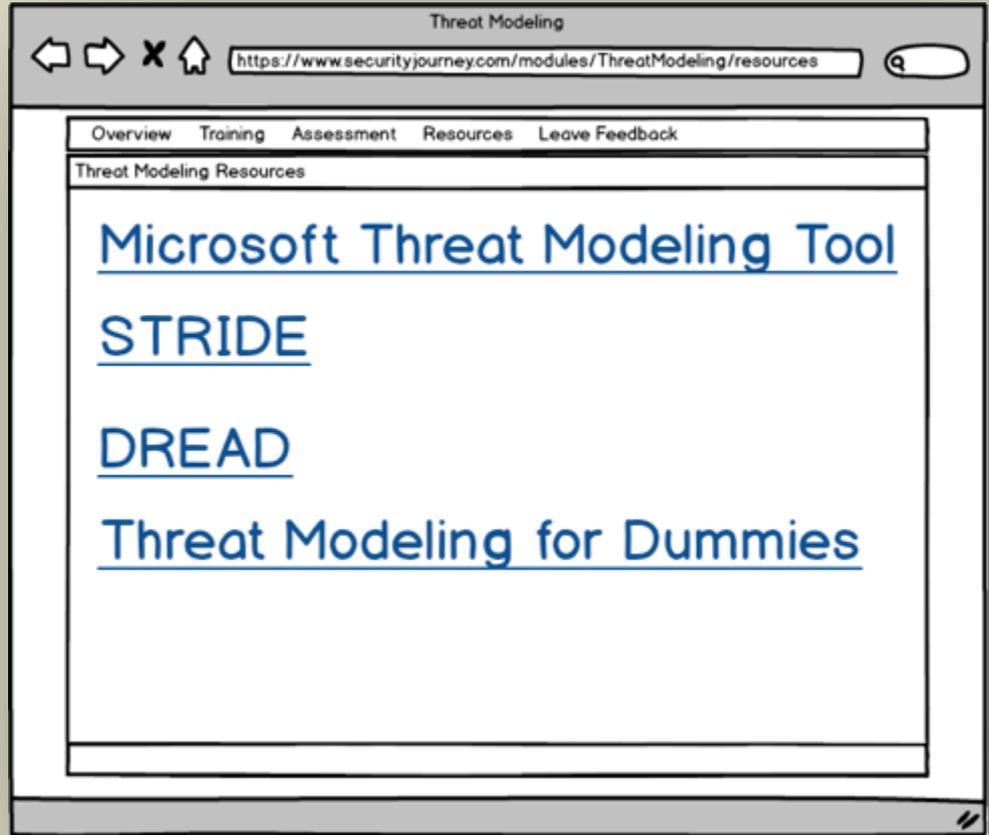


# Assessment

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Assessment" with the URL <https://www.securityjourney.com/modules/threatmodeling/>. The page has a navigation bar with links for "Overview", "Training", "Assessment", and "Leave Feedback". The main content area is titled "Threat Modeling" and contains the question: "Threat modeling provides the best return on resource investment during which phase of the secure development lifecycle?". There are four radio button options: "Secure Design" (selected), "Requirements", "Response", and "Implementation". A feedback box is open, displaying the text "Correct" and "The secure design phase provides the best return on investment." Below the feedback box is a "Continue" button. At the bottom of the page, there is a "Question 4 of 9" indicator and a "Submit" button.



# Resources



# Level 1 Content Map

Security  
Fundamentals

Attacks &  
Attackers

Simple SDL

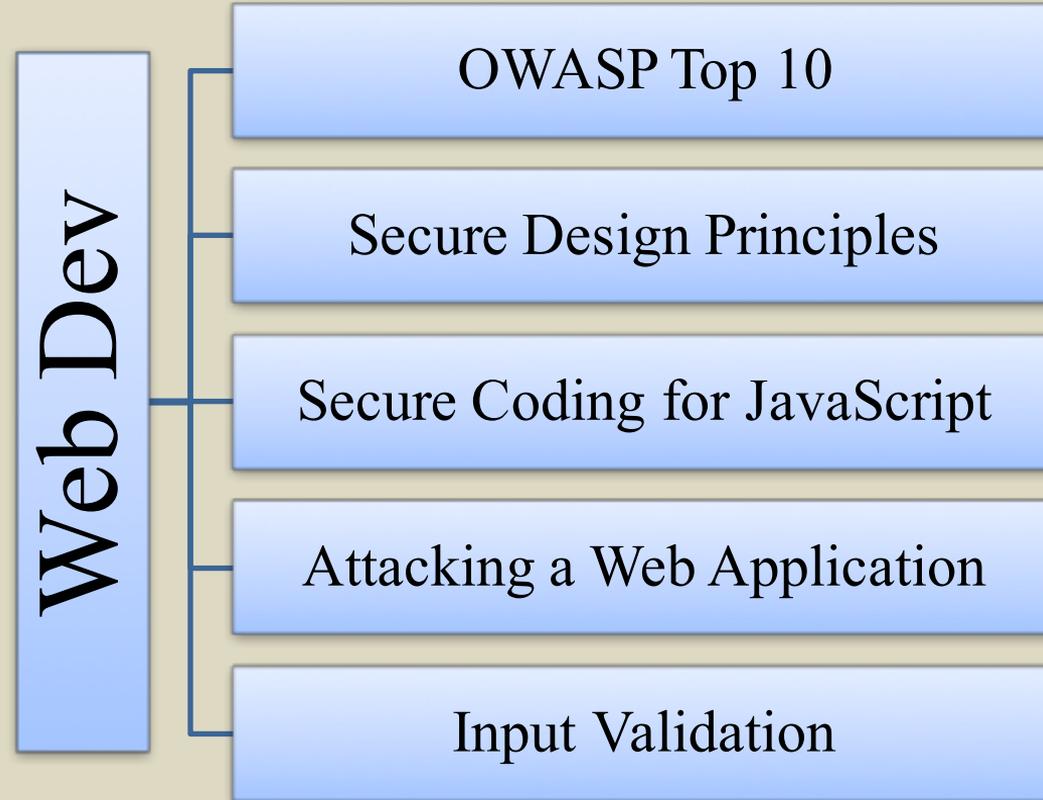
Security Myths

Privacy &  
Customer Data  
Protection

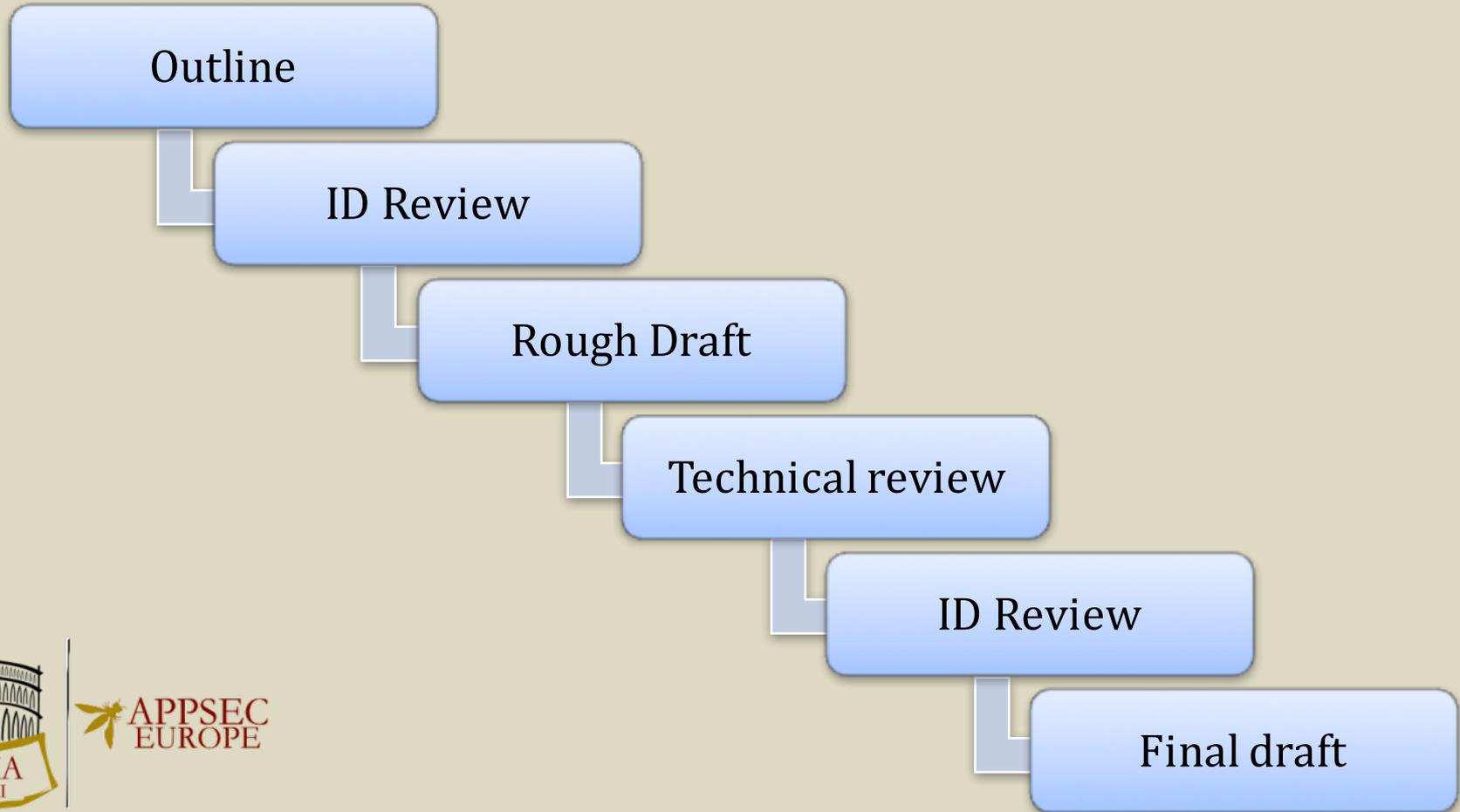
Security  
Business Case



# Level 2 Content Map



# Content Creation Process



# Building an Application Security Awareness Program

## Humor / Story



# Examples

- Still Cartoons
- Full motion cartoons
- Video

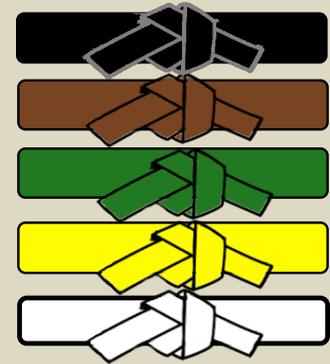


# A word of caution...



# Building an Application Security Awareness Program

## Gamification



# User Interface

Security  
Fundamentals



Attacks &  
Attackers



Threat  
Landscape



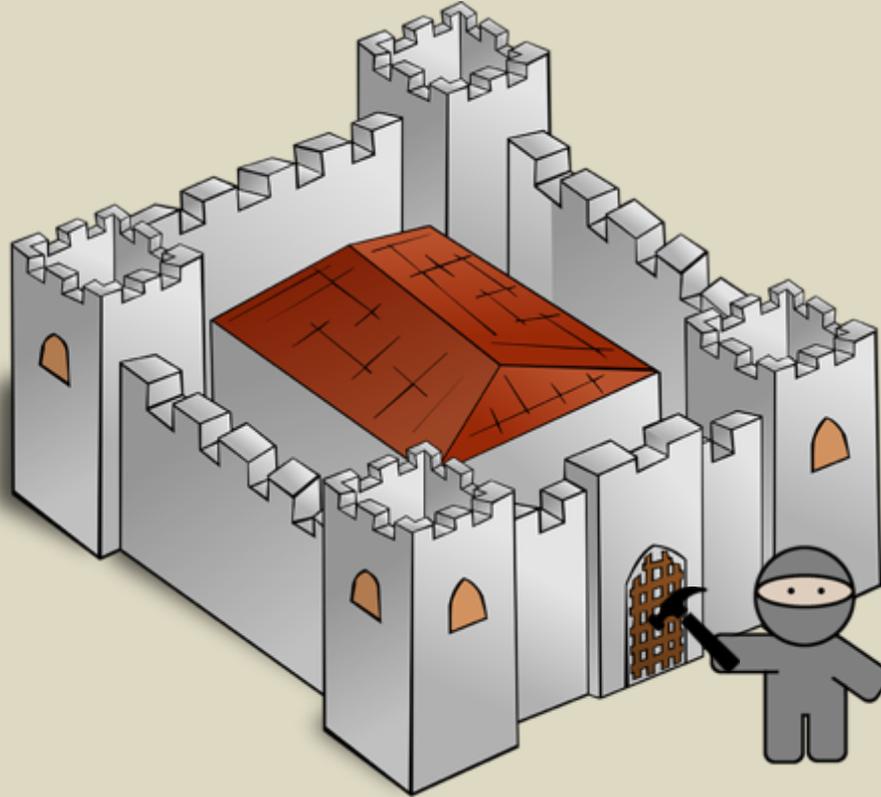
Security Myths



Cryptography



Privacy





# Key Takeaways

- Vulnerabilities are real and everywhere
- Changing security culture
  - Open their eyes (awareness)
  - Fill their brains (knowledge / history)
  - Task their hands (activity)
- Building an application security awareness program
  - Program Architecture
  - Content
  - Humor / Story
  - Gamification



# Build Your Own



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# Build one with OWASP



# Q+A & Contact

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