

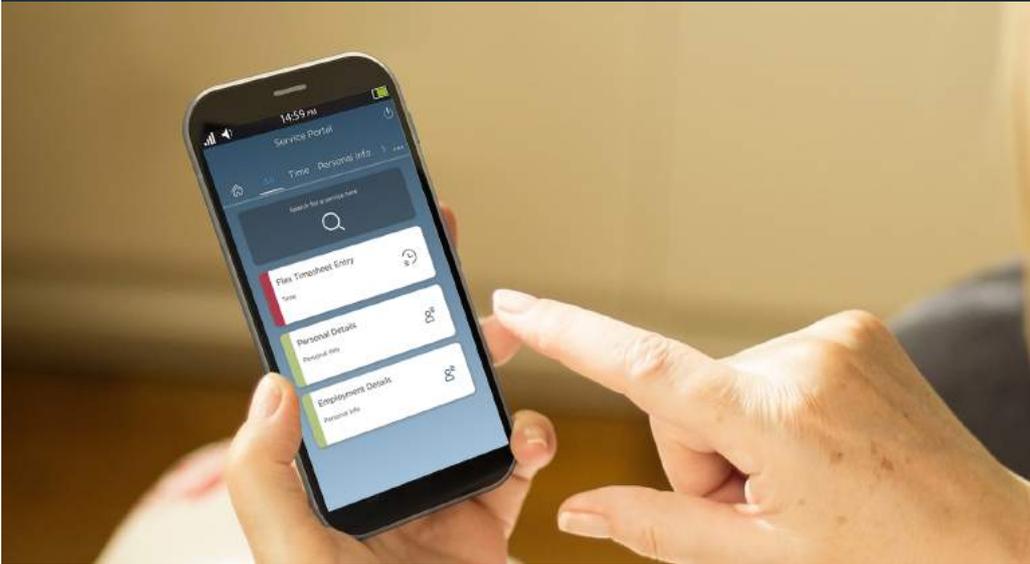
Case Study

Department of Finance,
Services & Innovation
NSW Government



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Introduction

This case study examines the NSW Government Department of Finance, Services & Innovation’s decision to implement Quixxi Security to protect their Mobile application :- GovConnect.

Client

The client is the Department of Finance, Services & Innovation(DFSI) – part of the Government on New South Wales, in Australia. The DFSI is responsible for delivering services to the 7.5 million people who live in NSW, managing the NSW Government’s finances, and delivering on an aggressive Innovation agenda that is driving the NSW economy. Key to supporting innovation is to innovate themselves, and as a result the NSW Government embraces digital Services for it’s citizens.

Challenge

As with most developed nations, Australia has a population that embraces technology and is often one of the first markets to embrace new ways of working. The citizens of NSW, increasingly want to interact with their state Government online, using desktops, laptops, and more frequently – from their mobile smart phones. The NSW government has risen to this challenge and is working hard to deliver “Mobile friendly services” for users via their Android and Apple devices.

NSW DFSI thus developed the “GovConnect” App for the 18,000 Government staff to use to get employee information, manage their payroll and keep up to date with the day to day requirements of being a Public Servant in NSW.

Details

Customer Name: NSW

Government Department of Finance, Services & Innovation

Industry: Government

Location: Australia

Challenges

- Identifying security threats in the development phase.
- Protecting the mobile app once it goes live and keep user data safe.

Solution

- Quixxi Scan helped identify vulnerabilities in the mobile app during development
- Quixxi Shield was used to obfuscate and encrypt the code making it hackproof.

Testimonials

“Quixxi Shield not only protects the mobile Apps themselves but also thwarts the hackers ability to reverse engineer it and learn about the web back end the app uses. As this back end is shared across the Mobile and web versions of GovConnect – we are protecting both platforms with Quixxi Security.”

Gavin Brown, Director Systems and Architecture, NSW DFSI.

Due to the sensitive nature of the data contained in the GovConnect App the DFSI wanted to ensure they had clear visibility into the quality of the app development, especially any vulnerabilities introduced into the code during enhancements, and to protect the app from attack by Hackers.

*“ We had two challenges with GovConnect. The first was – how do we know if we are developing securely ? While we are good App developers, we’re not cyber security experts and we cannot afford to manually penetration test the app every time we improve it . The second challenge was – how do we protect the app in the field ? Once it’s deployed to our staff’s personal devices – we have no control.” **Gavin Brown, Director Systems and Architecture, NSW DFSI.***

Like many companies, the DFSI needed to deliver services via traditional web browsers, but also via specific Mobile Applications on mobile phones and tablets. As a result they chose to utilise Cordoba to create their mobile applications for IOS and Android.

Solution

DFSI Implemented Quixxi Security’s SaaS platform for vulnerability scanning and Mobile app Shielding using Quixxi Shield on both IOS and Android. All future version of the GovConnect app will be scanned with Quixxi Shield under the NSW DFSI Govconect App license, providing immediate feedback to the development team at every code iteration. Effectively allowing them to spot any vulnerabilities as soon as the new code is compiled.

Quixxi Shield is then used to harden the GovConnect App, obfuscating and encrypting the code – making it all but impossible for the app to be hacked or reverse engineered by bad actors. The Apps are then deployed to the Apple App Store and Google Play store as usual, and pushed to the citizens of NSW in the normal process of updating.

Benefits

Quixxi Scan provides immediate visibility of any new vulnerabilities introduced as the NSW Government Apps are improved and developed. This not only allows the NSW DFSI Mobile app development team to immediately address them, but provides the NSW Government with an easy to use Risk mitigation and compliance strategy that meets all of their Compliance requirements.

Quixxi Shield provides further protection of the app once deployed to NSW Government employees mobile devices encrypting and obfuscating the code and logic contained in the GovConnect App. This makes it near to impossible for the app to be reverse engineered or hacked.

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About Quixxi Security

Quixxi Security is a product of the Lakeba Group, developed to help Mobile application developers secure their mobile apps against attack. Quixxi Security protects Mobile Applications on IOS and Android by providing Automated Vulnerability Assessment with Quixxi Scan, Protection Mobile applications against attack with Quixxi Shield and managing applications once deployed to your customers using Quixxi Supervise.



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