

Rally: Taking a Preventative Approach to Cloud Security

Rally® (www.rallyhealth.com) simplifies health care, making it easier for companies and employees to manage complex benefits and improve overall health. Among its other responsibilities, the Rally development team supports critical services within the Rally digital ecosystem to establish user identities and to verify eligibility.

Rally uses cloud provider PaaS services and an IaaS virtual infrastructure (including Amazon Web and Relational Databases Services, as well as MongoDB and Scala) that span their identity management, provider, patient eligibility, end user, and privileged user systems.

“We wanted a thorough architectural risk analysis on our cloud infrastructure, especially around our authentication and eligibility systems,” says Nathan Coleman, a software security engineer at Rally. “We wanted someone who was extremely tech-savvy, which was a hard requirement for us. One of the reasons we chose Synopsys was for that level of technical expertise, and that we were guaranteed to have the same person who interviewed with us to do our review, which some of the other candidates couldn’t guarantee.”

Rally had three major areas encompassing their external security evaluation:

- The security posture of their core authentication and authorization systems.
- Their security controls.
- Insight into the threat landscape for their run-time environment.

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Synopsys' services for Rally included an **architectural risk analysis** (ARA), a **configuration review**, and a **code-assisted penetration test**.

- The configuration review provided an in-depth assessment of the security posture of Rally's cloud infrastructure and audited the run-time configuration of their deployed cloud applications and security controls to identify weaknesses, giving a snapshot report describing how the configuration met or did not meet security goals.
- The penetration test identified what sensitive data was managed within Rally's business model and explored applications to catalogue exposed portions subject to attack and how they might be exploited. Each issue was tested in order of perceived risk using a hybrid of manual and tool-based analysis for both run-time and secure code analysis.

"The ARA verified our understanding about the architecture and provided recommendations for us," says Coleman. "The coded system penetration test and configuration review gave a clear path for remediation—"here's an issue with the configuration and here's how you fix it.' The penetration test was informed by the ARA, giving less false positives. The configuration review was probably the easiest to directly funnel to our workflow."

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"Our overall experience with Synopsys was professional and informative," concludes Coleman. "We really want to be involved in the security community, and we really want to push the envelope of security. Working with Synopsys helped us move closer to both those goals."

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The Synopsys difference

Synopsys Software Integrity Group helps organizations build secure, high-quality software, minimizing risks while maximizing speed and productivity. Synopsys, a recognized leader in application security, provides static analysis, software composition analysis, and dynamic analysis solutions that enable teams to quickly find and fix vulnerabilities and defects in proprietary code, open source components, and application behavior. With a combination of industry-leading tools, services, and expertise, only Synopsys helps organizations maximize security and quality in DevSecOps and throughout the software development life cycle.

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