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## Letter from the Executive Director

We are in the midst of summer, which often means vacation and holiday for many of our US and European members. We hope that everyone is enjoying their summer plans, both in and out of the office.



Despite the vacation season, summer has brought a number of new SAFECode initiatives that are just heating up as well as return to some that have been quiet for a while. In fact, if you haven't looked at our working group initiatives, now is a great time to [check out our new projects](#) and see if anything interests you. There is quite a bit of buzz around our new fuzzing techniques group and the Security by The Numbers group has some exciting updates coming soon.. New projects also include a team exploring the potential for a new science-driven security summit and a team considering relevant issues in personal data privacy. Check out our Team(s) in Focus and Government Affairs sections for more details.

-Steve

## Government Affairs Corner

In early June, the U.S. National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) released draft software security guidance in the form of a new paper titled, "[Mitigating the Risk of Software 1 Vulnerabilities by Adopting a Secure Software Development Framework \(SSDF\)](#)." The draft is open for public comment through August 5.

SAFECode has been actively and formally engaged with NIST on the development of this guidance since the project began in late 2017 and, as such, you'll find our contribution acknowledged early in the document and our guidance referenced throughout. Over the summer, members have been working together to prepare comments on the public draft, which should be submitted by the time this newsletter is published.

We are pleased to see NIST take a leadership role in bringing together secure software development best practices in a single document that aims to both capture the latest guidance and describe it in a common language. This work will help all those who create, sell, buy and use software to better communicate about the security process used in its development and the implications of those practices for software security risk management.

In late 2017, the SAFECode board visited Brussels to meet with EU officials about the new cybersecurity legislation that was then under development. The legislation has now been approved and EU government agencies are beginning to implement its provisions. The SAFECode government affairs teams are working to understand the roles and plans of the new organizations that the EU is standing up and to encourage the EU to recognize the importance of secure development practices to effective cybersecurity.

If you are interested in learning more about Government Affairs, please [contact us here](#).

## Two 2019 (ISC)2 Security Congress Sessions Not To Miss

SAFECode secured two presentations at the [2019 \(ISC\)2 Security Congress](#), October 28-30, 2019 in Orlando, FL at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort. The hour-long presentations will focus on Security Champions and SDL respectively. (ISC)<sup>2</sup> Security Congress brings together more than 4,000 industry colleagues, offers 150+ educational and thought-leadership sessions, and fosters collaboration with other forward-thinking companies. The goal of this cybersecurity conference is to advance security leaders by arming them with the knowledge, tools, and expertise to protect their organizations. Below is an overview of the presentations.

- **Building Secure Software Takes A Champion** will be presented by Altaz Valani from Security Compass. This hour-long session will explore the importance of Security Champions (SC). Many leading companies consider them crucial to software security success. Participants will learn how to create a successful SC program – based on the real-world experiences of SAFECode members. This session is for anyone working to build a security-supportive software development culture.
- SAFECode Executive Director Steve Lipner will lead a session titled **Getting Started With SDL**. This session will reveal resources to help small-to-mid-sized organizations create effective SDL programs and address secure development concerns that are especially important to smaller organizations. Most important, it will describe approaches to building a program "from nothing" with limited resources.

For more information or to register for (ISC)2 Security Conference [click here](#).

## Team(s) in Focus

SAFECode's TLC has been busy spinning up and progressing working groups on several topics. Here are some updates from our most active groups:

### Security Summit Working Group - Altaz Valani, Lead

- In 2019, we have yet to produce a scientific basis for application security. It is still largely an art and vulnerabilities keep happening.
- The Security Summit WG is working on an industry roundtable with a pre-determined agenda for academics and practitioners to share and present around Security Science. The goal is to extend the Software Security Body of Knowledge through academic/industry collaboration and production of practically useful material based on scientific rigor. In addition to SAFECode members, the group has reached out to academic institutions, industry groups, and the IEEE to gauge interest in a joint effort. So far the response has been positive.

### Personal Data Privacy Working Group - Brent Cobb, Lead

- The Personal Data Privacy Group writes about topics concerning the awareness and protection of individual data and data-generating products. Individual user data is essentially digital ore: It can be collected, analyzed, refined, packaged into distinct products, and monetized. PDP blog is primarily focused on defining the elements of consumer digital footprints, and effective strategies to protect and secure that data.
- Personal Data Privacy is also an ethical and legal responsibility on behalf of consumers in the enterprise. Monthly, PDP explores the landscape of data topics from consumer IoT to data-aggregation and corporate data stewardship. Fuzzing Techniques Working Group - Souheil Moghnie, Lead With the Fuzzing Working Group within SAFECode, we're providing a high-level description of what Fuzzing is and the various types of Fuzzers and the Pros and Cons of each. We are also diving deep into what types of data can/should be Fuzzed and how. Furthermore, the Fuzzing Working Group will be shedding some light on the value of Fuzzing as well as the issues that can be found and mitigated by doing the proper Fuzzing technique.

### By The Numbers Working Group - (Lead TBD, contact [helpdesk@safecode.org](mailto:helpdesk@safecode.org) if you are interested in leading this group!)

- By the Numbers Group has been developing a member survey to characterize and understand the secure development training/learning programs across member companies. We meet every other week and will be sending the survey out this summer.

To join in the discussion, or to start a group on a specific topic, please email [helpdesk@safecode.org](mailto:helpdesk@safecode.org)

## Check Us Out on Twitter

Are you following us on Twitter [@SAFECode](#)? If not, make sure to tune in this summer. We'll be highlighting some of the basics covered in our training courses each Tuesday with our Tipping Tuesday series. And you might start seeing some familiar faces on Thursdays as we ask members of our TLC to share insights on a wide range of topics in software security for TLC Thursdays. We'd love to have you follow us and join the conversation. And if you'd like to share a tip or participate in our TLC series, reach out to us at [helpdesk@safecode.org](mailto:helpdesk@safecode.org)

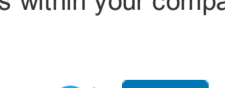
## Latest SAFECode Reads

- [Staffing the Software Security Team: Who You Gonna Call?](#)
- [BSA Releases the BSA Framework for Software Security \(and some of it may look familiar\)](#)
- [When it Comes to Training, Think Bigger](#)
- [Secure Development Practices Aren't Enough](#)
- [A Behind-the-Scenes Glance at SAFECode's RSA Conference Week](#)
- [Security Champ Chatter: Tips For Working on a Project Team](#)

Did someone forward this to you? Make sure you don't miss the next issue by [subscribing today!](#)

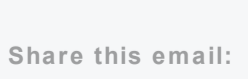
## About This Newsletter

This newsletter is provided as a benefit to members, as it provides crucial information on upcoming industry events, opportunities for involvement in forwarding the SAFECode mission, and various channels through which SAFECode and its member companies are represented. We invite you to participate in all the above discussions and events and to forward this email to your co-workers within your company.



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