

Guest Editorial Preface

Special Issue of Secure Software Engineering in DevOps and Agile Development

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AGILITY AND SECURITY: WHY NOT BOTH?

In AA Milne’s “Winnie-the-Pooh” (1926), we are presented with a pragmatic approach to making choices which has since been adopted by many a populist politician. The quote “...and when Rabbit said, ‘Honey or condensed milk with your bread?’ he was so excited that he said, ‘Both’...” is one of those rare instances that actually sound better in the Norwegian translation than in the English original, which may go some way toward explaining its popularity in Norwegian popular culture.

This special issue contains revised and extended papers from the 2018 International Workshop on Secure Software Engineering in DevOps and Agile Development (SecSE, 2018), organized as part of the XP conference in Porto, Portugal. SecSE is aiming for the “Winnie-the-Pooh approach”, highlighting research that enables software development to be agile without sacrificing security.

The workshop opened with a keynote from Professor Nancy R. Mead, SEI/CMU, titled “Adventures in Threat Modeling”, focusing on recent threat modeling research performed at the SEI. Professor Mead recounted their 2015-16 research project examining *STRIDE*, *Security Cards*, and *Persona non Grata*, and described a new hybrid threat modeling method (hTMM).

After the full papers (see below), four practitioner talks were presented. First Helen Sharp, Open University UK, presented “Security conversations in practice”, documenting ordinary developers’ perception of software security. Related work has since been presented at the ICSE conference (Lopez et al., 2018). Then, Pawel Rajba from the University of Wroclaw presented “Key success factors in getting secured applications in challenging environment”, followed by an industrial perspective by Jostein Jensen, Kongsberg Digital, arguing that “Secure Software Development [is] A Key Enabler for the Industrial Revolution”. The practitioner talks were concluded by Mari Grini, Telenor Digital, presenting “Experiences introducing a defined secure software development lifecycle” in the telecom industry.

This special issue contains three articles. First, Jabangwe et al. present a survey detailing “Challenges and solutions for addressing software security in agile software development”, trying to establish the degree of rigor employed in peer-reviewed software security literature. Then, Morales et al. detail how to go about “Weaving

Security into DevOps Practices in Highly Regulated Environments” such as military networks. Finally, Rindell et al. tackle the fundamental challenge of “Fitting Security into Agile Software Development”, mapping activities from Microsoft’s Secure Development Lifecycle, Common Criteria, and the OWASP OpenSAMM to agile development practices.

Martin Gilje Jaatun, Editor-in-chief
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REFERENCES

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