

How Cobalt Transforms the Way Healthcare Companies Pentest



Sentara finds in-depth security testing aligned with healthcare's requirements

Sentara Healthcare is a not-for-profit health system serving Virginia and North Carolina, with 12 hospitals, outpatient care centers, imaging centers, and more. Sentara had interest from their cloud and DevOps teams to test new applications in development and systems the company was migrating to a cloud environment. In an industry that has recently been a big target for hackers, security is one of the most important aspects—that's where Cobalt's pentest solution provides visibility into weaknesses and supports remediation.

The Challenges



Delayed Rollout Process

Sentara had previously experienced delays in the testing process that slowed down their entire rollout and cost the company more money over time.



Limited Visibility

Previous companies Sentara worked with exchanged only a few email messages, contributing to a limited communication flow.



Unvetted Security Posture

In the past, not having an environment vetted and ready to be published would typically set Sentara back in its business goals.

The Results



Ease of Communication

With Cobalt, Sentara was able to get testing up and running when they needed it with real-time communication, allowing them to keep pace with the rollout process.



Direct Integration

Cobalt's Jira integration made getting findings to developers extremely easy, which helped streamline remediation efforts for Sentara.



In-depth Security Testing

Sentara found a pentest solution to keep customer data fully protected with in-depth manual testing.

“Cobalt has been the easiest for us to work with. In prior cases, we've had to engage a company, go through a lot of paperwork, and it would take many days to even get testing started with our systems.”



ROBERT GEORGE
Principal Cybersecurity Architect
Sentara Healthcare

Key Benefits



Pentesting Without Delays



Ease of Communication



Seamless Handoff to Developers



Around-the-Clock Availability

The importance of keeping customer healthcare data secure is a top priority for Sentara. To have a secure environment, organizations should have in-depth security testing, and that's where pentesting comes in.

George noted, "If we get delayed on the testing process, we don't get a lot of time to fix the issues before the rollout, and a lot of times that actually delays our rollout process. Then, this effectively costs us more money because we have certain expectations from our customers, both internal and external, that an application is going to be available."

Cobalt is available before, during, and after the pentesting process and to communicate in real-time if any additional security testing is needed. Sentara was able to request testing for a new system, and within a couple of days they were ready to go. Cobalt notified immediately about any critical findings, and the flow of communication was open for Sentara to go ahead and respond in real time.

With Cobalt as a partner, Sentara can do direct integrations between the Cobalt system and their Jira ticketing system. This makes it easier to get findings out to developers quickly so they can be remediated earlier.

"One of the things that we've liked about working with Cobalt is their ease of communication."

ROBERT GEORGE - Principal Cybersecurity Architect, Sentara Healthcare

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