

# Web Application Security Assessment Executive Summary Report August 26, 2022 (v1.0)

Prepared for: Kagi Inc.

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# **Table of Contents**

Summary	.4
Assessment Components	.4
Conclusion	.4
Methodology	.5
About Illumant	.7



August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Vladimir Prelovac CEO, Founder Kagi Inc. Palo Alto, CA

Dear Vladimir,

In August of 2022, Illumant completed a comprehensive web application security assessment of a search application developed by Kagi Inc. ("Kagi"). The purpose of the assessment was to attempt to identify vulnerabilities and weaknesses, to assess their criticality through attempted exploitation, and to provide recommendations for remediation where applicable.

The assessment component performed can be summarized as follows:

• Credentialed and uncredentialed penetration testing of Kagi's web-based application

Based on the results of our assessment, while we found some security issues that deserve consideration, as we do for just about every organization and application we assess, the findings we identified were very low severity, and we believe that overall Kagi's application and underlying data are highly secure. Highly secure means that, the security issues discovered present a very low risk, and it would require a hacker with rare skills and sophisticated tools, and/or the identification of new, as yet undiscovered vulnerabilities to compromise the security of the assessed application.

In comparison with other applications from organizations of similar size and profile, we find Kagi's application to be more secure than average, which is not to say that it could not become the target of a successful security breach before others, but that the information security risk to the application is much lower than that of applications from comparable organizations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with this assessment. Some additional summary information is provided on the following pages. Full details are provided in separate assessment reports.

Sincerely,

Matija Siljak

**Director of Advisory Services** 

Melija Afla

Illumant



#### Summary

In August of 2022, Illumant completed a web application security assessment primary product application belonging to Kagi. The scope included a technical security assessment from an external (or hacker's) perspective with and without credentials. This report summarizes our findings.

#### **Assessment Components**

Based on the findings we arrived at a security rating for Kagi's application as "Highly Secure". The definitions of each classification rating are as follows:

Assessr	ment Component	Description	Rating
	pplication Security ment (WASA)	Vulnerability analysis and penetration testing of applications with and without credentials (including comparison with OWASP's application security top 10)	Highly Secure

#### Conclusion

Based on the security assessment components above, we assess Kagi's application security rating as "Highly Secure." The definitions of each classification rating are as follows:

Rating	Definition	
Highly Secure	There were no findings of material significance. This indicates that the organization's applications, systems, networks and data are well protected.	
Reasonably Secure	While there may be recommendations for improving the security of the applications, systems, networks and data under review, appropriate action has been taken in the past to ensure the security of the organization	
Marginally Secure  The security findings identified are significant enough to suggest a heightened risk of a successful intrusion if remediation actions are not taken.		
Not Reasonably Secure	Appropriate actions necessary to secure the applications, systems, networks, applications and data have not been taken	

A **highly secure** rating implies that the organization has done a very good job securing applications and associated information, relative to organizations of similar size and profile. Kagi is above average in comparison with other organizations we have reviewed.

This does not mean, however, that the organization is not exposed to some risk of successful cyber-attack. Vulnerabilities we may not have identified, and potential future vulnerabilities, separately or in combination, could be exploited to successfully compromise the security of the application and/or other systems. The likelihood of this, however, is much lower than average compared to similar organizations (same industry vertical, similar size and complexity).

Still, it behooves Kagi to continue to improve its security posture by addressing the lower risk issues described in the detailed reports to further improve its security posture.



#### Methodology

#### Web Application Security Assessment (WASA)

#### Description

Credentialed and non-credentialed vulnerability assessment and penetration testing of web-based and intranet applications to validate security and protection against outside attackers, malware, privilege escalation and account hijacking.

#### **Highlights**

# Web service/application testing

With and/or without credentials

Testing with cross section of **best-of-breed tools**Manual validation and penetration testing using expert,
state-of-the art techniques and methodologies

#### Vulnerability targets:

- Logic flaws
- o Lateral and vertical privilege escalation
- o Injection (SQL, LDAP, URL ...)
- Authentication
- Session management (Session Hijacking)
- o XSS/CSRF
- o Misconfigurations
- o Vulnerable components
- o Forged forward and redirects
- Malware
- o more

Test against **OWASP Top 10**Remediation **recommendations** 

#### **Targets**

# Web applications

- Users from all permissions categories
- Registration processes
- o Login pages
- o All links/URLs
- All input fields
- All application workflows

Privileged objects and functionality

# Methodology

#### Scoping:

- Client provides in-scope target applications/URLs
- Testing may be performed on production systems, or in a sandbox/development environment
- For production systems, testing is performed outside of peak hours and tests are limited to non-destructive testing
- Credentials/test accounts to be provided if credentialed testing is required. Accounts should represent sample of all user accounts/permissions types/privilege levels.

## Vulnerability Analysis/Harvesting:

- Automated scanning of in scope target applications using best-of-breed commercial and open-source application security analysis tools
- Multiple tools are used to provide a maximally broad initial baseline for subsequent analysis
- Vulnerabilities identified in the following areas: Injection, authentication, session management, XSS/CSRF, misconfigurations, vulnerable components, forged forwards and redirects



Automated testing performed with and without credentials to baseline public- and private-side app functionality.
 Tests for unauthorized access, lateral and vertical privilege escalation, session hijacking and lateral account traversal

### Manual validation and manual testing:

- Manual validation of results of automated testing to discard false positives and test the severity of confirmed vulnerabilities
- For confirmed vulnerabilities, Illumant runs known and custom designed exploits and attempts to propagate attacks to retrieve sensitive information or verify possibility of pivoting to other targets
- Illumant follows a separate thorough manual testing plan to test each application for vulnerabilities. This step is performed to uncover vulnerabilities missed by automated tools. This happens frequently particularly with custom or internally developed apps.
- Illumant's manual testing plan draws from best-practices standards (e.g. OWASP) as well as years of experience.
- Manual testing includes walkthrough of all workflows, including registration and login, and other application specific workflows
- All links, URLs, input fields are tested for logic flaws that could expose sensitive information, or allow for lateral or vertical escalation of privileges.

# Reporting:

- Findings are described in the report including full technical details of each vulnerability and exploit.
- Findings are summarized to provide a high-level overview of the security posture and security rating of the target systems. Ratings are benchmarked against thousands of previous assessments.

#### **Standards**

OWASP, WAHH

#### **Tools**

Nessus, Qualys Web Application Scanner, ZAP, Nikto, Nexpose, Metasploit, internal tools

#### Notes

Testing assesses against OWASP Top 10 and beyond to ensure baseline coverage and more. For production systems, Illumant takes care not to run potentially destructive exploits.



#### **About Illumant**

We're one of the best – We are not just making this up. Our clients often tell us that we're the best pen-testing firm they've worked with. And we have some great clients.

Hall of fame bug hunters – Became 1st ranked on Alibaba's Bug Bounty Hall of Fame for 2018 after only a month.

Awesome deliverables – We take a lot of pride in our reporting. Our reports are super informative and look great – and following our recommendations improves your security.

Zero-days – We don't just find the vulnerabilities that everyone already knows about, we find new and undiscovered vulnerabilities as well - meaning with us you are ahead of the hackers. Check out our latest, here: www.owndigo.com.

Friendly, expert hackers – We have some of the top hacking talent around, with the best skills and certifications, as well (OSCE, OSCP, GPEN, etc.) But we're not just great at hacking, our people our great at presenting and discussing, too.

**Great clients** – here are a few:

























































# About Illumant

Delivering confidence in all aspects of information security through assessment and penetration testing.

Illumant is a trusted strategic and tactical information security risk management advisor to companies of all sizes across all industry verticals. We partner with our clients to help them navigate the security and threat landscape to become more secure, less of a target, and more compliant.