SLSA SPECIFICATION

TECHNICAL PATH TO OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY

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Open Source Software Security Landscape



of organizations affected by software supply chain attacks



[Source: Sonatype, Anchore 2021 Report on Supply Chain Security]

Notable Attacks



Top 4 open source ecosystems represent 37 million+ component versions 2.2 trillion 3rd party OS packages borrowed by Developers

Source: Sonatype, 2021 SSCS Report, Anchore 2021 Report on Supply Chain Security, Atlantic Council Breaking Trust Dataset

The Supply Chain Threat



DEPENDENCY THREATS

D Use compromised dependency

SOURCE THREATS

- A Submit unauthorized change
- B Compromise source repo
- C Build from modified source

BUILD THREATS

- E Compromise build process
- F Upload modified package
- G Compromise package repo
- H Use compromised package

Known Examples of Attacks

- SushiSwap: Contractor with repository access pushed a malicious commit redirecting cryptocurrency to themself.
- B PHP: Attacker compromised PHP's self-hosted git server and injected two malicious commits.
- Webmin: Attacker modified the build infrastructure to use source files not matching source control.
- D event-stream: Attacker added an innocuous dependency and then later updated the dependency to add malicious behavior. The update did not match the code submitted to GitHub (i.e. attack F).
- E SolarWinds: Attacker compromised the build platform and installed an implant that injected malicious behavior during each build.
- F CodeCov: Attacker used leaked credentials to upload a malicious artifact to a GCS bucket, from which users download directly.
- G Attacks on Package Mirrors: Researcher ran mirrors for several popular package repositories, which could have been used to serve malicious packages.
- H Browserify typosquatting: Attacker uploaded a malicious package with a similar name as the original.

SLSA Specification

SLSA (Supply Chain Levels for Software Artifacts) is a specification for describing and incrementally improving supply chain security, established by industry consensus. It is organized into a series of levels that describe increasing security guarantees.

