

Building a Secure Development Culture at Scale with CMD+CTRL

BACKGROUND

A leading commercial real estate finance and advisory firm headquartered in the U.S., this organization provides customized financial solutions for multifamily, industrial, office, retail, and hospitality property owners and operators. With a fast-growing, diverse technology organization composed of developers, SREs, QA professionals, data engineers, and contractors, the firm recognized an urgent need to standardize secure development practices while keeping training engaging and relevant across job roles.

THE CHALLENGE

As the company expanded its technology footprint, the leadership team faced increasing pressure to reduce risk, improve compliance, and foster a proactive security mindset across a dispersed workforce that included a diverse set of roles. Their existing security training approach lacked consistency or engagement, with insufficient training across teams and unstructured onboarding experience for contractors or technical hires.

The firm's top objectives were to:

- 1 Raise security awareness across roles**
- 2 Prevent software vulnerabilities**
- 3 Build a consistent, security-first culture**
- 4 Meet compliance mandates**
- 5 Upskill developers with hands-on, practical learning**
- 6 Enable secure cloud development practices**

To achieve these goals, they needed a training partner that offered role-specific content, interactive formats, and a scalable, easy-to-deploy solution.

THE SOLUTION

CMD+CTRL delivered a tailored solution aligned to the organization's secure development lifecycle goals. Unlike traditional passive training formats, the CMD+CTRL Base Camp platform offered learners the opportunity to explore and exploit real-world applications in a controlled environment – building practical skills they can apply in their daily work. This approach was especially effective at engaging varied roles, including developers, QA teams, data professionals, and contractors.

The training was seamlessly integrated into the company's onboarding programs and enforced through defined mandatory learning paths based on roles and responsibilities. The CMD+CTRL platform supported role-based training requirements, helping the organization standardize expectations across technical teams, and set a baseline for skills with digestible and relevant content.

WHY CMD+CTRL?

The organization selected CMD+CTRL for its ability to deliver:



**Immersive,
role-specific cyber
training that builds
real-world skills**



**High learner
engagement through
hands-on content**



**Scalable paths that
map to specific roles,
including contractors**



**Ongoing evolution of
training in response to
the shifting security
landscape**

RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

Implementation has been highly successful, achieving a 97% completion rate across the organization's mandatory training programs. This strong adoption rate reflects both the accessibility of the training and the effectiveness of the internal rollout strategy. Stakeholders report that team members see the training as a meaningful and engaging learning experience, rather than a cumbersome task.

Completion rates are the primary success metrics for the organization's training program, and the CMD+CTRL approach has exceeded expectations in that area. With ongoing support from CMD+CTRL, the security team continues to evolve its program to match organizational growth and prepare for changes in the threat landscape.

A MODEL FOR SECURE CULTURE ENABLEMENT

The firm's experience with CMD+CTRL illustrates the value of pairing targeted, high-quality training with strong internal enablement. By embedding security education into its technology culture with concise, relevant, and hands-on content, the company met compliance requirements, achieved their goals for skills development, and built a model for driving risk reduction at scale.

ABOUT CMD+CTRL SECURITY

CMD+CTRL Security is a pioneer in software security training. For over two decades, organizations of all sizes, from mid-sized to Global 100 companies, have relied on our training solutions to transform their software security. Our role-based modules, skill labs, and hands-on cyber ranges are designed to build skills that stick. Visit cmdntrlsecurity.com to learn how we can help you launch a best-in-class training program.

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