Key Data

Project Title:

EU-SEC: The European Security Certification Framework

Project duration:

1 January 2017 to 31 December 2019

Partners:

The consortium consists of research & industrial partners with expertise in cloud, auditing & certification.

Caixa Bank, Spain

CSA, UK

FabasoftCloud, Austria

Fraunhofer, Germany

Ministry of Finance, Slovakia

Ministry of Public Administration, Slovenia

NIXU, Finland

PwC,Germany

SIxSq, Switzerland

Get in touch



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EU-SEC: EU Security Certification

What are the benefits?

- Increased monitoring and detection
- Improved user trust
- Greater transparency & reduced complexity
- Raises confidence in security certification
- Complements traditional auditing & certification method

Who is it for?

- Cloud Service Providers
- Cloud Users
- Consultants & Auditors
- Regulators



This project has received funding from the European Union's HORIZON Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grantagreementno 731845.



The Project

The European Security Certification Framework (EU-SEC) strives to address the security, privacy and transparency challenges associated with the greater adoption of **Cloud services**.

The EU-SEC Consortium is developing a framework that innovates the existing compliance and assurance landscape by creating and testing:

- 1. a multiparty recognition approach between existing cloud security certification and attestation schemes
- 2. a **continuous auditing** based certification scheme.

The framework will provide ICT-stakeholders with a validated governance structure, a tailored architecture, and the corresponding set of tools to improve the **efficiency** and **effectiveness** of their current approach to security governance, risk management, assurance and compliance in the Cloud.

Putting it to the test

In order to validate the results, as well as to assess the technology-readiness level of the solution, two large-scale **pilots** for the components of the EU-SEC Framework are underway. These pilots are being carried out by EU-SEC Consortium Partners.

Continuous Auditing Pilot

Motivation: Industry gap analysis has identified a lack of continuous auditing service which verifies that cloud providers running an information sharing service are actually compliant with regulatory requirements.

Goals: Continuous auditing of security requirements in a Financial Information SHaring (FISH) application with the EU-SEC platform. Reduce manual checks to a minimum.

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Financial institutions, like EU-SEC partner CaixaBank, are required to share sensitive information with regulatory authorities and other financial institutions. However, they are currently reluctant to use cloud services for these purposes, concerned about data management good practices by cloud providers.

The pilot performs continuous auditing of a Financial Information Sharing application in the Cloud, which offers a service for the exchange of information between financial institutions and regulators with continuous control of the service requirements via an independent and autonomous audit system.

The technical architecture for the pilot is depicted in the figure below.

EU-SEC industrial partners are contributing their expertise of the cloud, auditing & financial sectors to ensure this pilot is tested in real-life scenarios.

The EU-SEC Framework aims to remove many of the compliance-related problems that prevent companies working with sensitive information and under stringent regulations from moving data and computing services to the Cloud.

This outcomes will benefit cloud users, cloud services providers and regulators.

Active in the cloud certification field?

Get in touch to find out how EU-SEC activities can benefit your organization.

