BARBRI Selects Pentoma® As An Alternative To Manual Pen Testing

"We need innovative tools that save time and money", says Mark Kaplan, Senior IT Director at BARBRI, of the company's choice of Pentoma® over its prior practice of using human penetration services to test online training platform for software vulnerabilities.

BARBRI is synonymous with bar exam success. The company became the leader in preparation for the bar exam by combining cutting-edge technology with a proven, systematic preparation program and expertise to help students learn exactly what they need to know to pass the bar exam — the first time. More law students have passed the bar exam using BARBRI than all other courses combined.

BARBRI's lifeblood is its online training platform, which is updated and enhanced periodically throughout the year. With a small IT team and users leveraging BARBRI's online education around the globe seven-days-a-week, 24 hours per day, Mark and his team needed a penetration testing solution that uncovers any weaknesses and exploits in their web platform quickly and simply; and guided remediation, enabling the development team to meet the deadline for the new release. The time window for Mark's team to test and roll out new releases is short, so Pentoma® was an obvious choice for testing the online training platform before the official release.

Pentoma® from SEWORKS provided the team at BARBRI with a less expensive alternative to the human penetration testing services they have used in the past. Pentoma®'s automated capabilities led to concluding the test within 8 days. During the test period, Pentoma® utilized GAMAN (Generative Adversarial Model Agnostic Networks), a model uniquely developed for offensive security purposes. With GAMAN, Pentoma® created classification datasets for each target environment and generated attack payloads fit for the target environment.

It is an everyday practice for organizations to test their applications for vulnerabilities in the software code. Pen-testers may be part of the internal cybersecurity team, or they may be hired as 3rd-party ethical hackers to find flaws in the application such as SQL Injection or Cross-Site Scripting. Once security weaknesses are identified and reported, the application must be repaired before a general availability release, or the organization runs the risk of attackers manipulating the code and extracting data such as credit card account numbers, customer names, and other protected information.

The inspiration for Pentoma® came from SEWORK's founder and CEO, Min P. Hong, a renowned ethical hacker in the cybersecurity community. Having performed hundreds of

penetration tests for clients, he had first-hand knowledge of the shortcomings of human pen testers including:

- Expensive
- Not done frequently enough
- Not uniform
- Not consistent
- Require too much time to scope, test and compile results
- Not comprehensive
- Hard to find talented pen-testers
- The test is only as good as the skills of the tester

Armed with this first-hand knowledge, and his skills as an ethical hacker and leader of the 6-time DEFCON Capture-the-Flag finalist team, Hong set about to create an automated web application penetration testing solution. The end-result is Pentoma®, a SaaS solution that provides many advantages over human pen-testing including:

• Less expensive than human pen tests
• Easier to manage & orchestrate
• Consistent in its results
• Faster than humans
• Public or Private Cloud Available
• Unlimited Re-Tests for code fixes
• Can be integrated with CI/CD life cycle

Kaplan further noted, "We recommend SEWORKS and Pentoma® as an alternative to human penetration of your web applications."

Pentoma® from SEWORKS is the solution when you need speed, accuracy, and consistency in testing your web site, applications, and APIs on a reasonable budget.