

# Smart Contracts Security Audit Report

FilFi

Final Audit Report: 25 September 2023

## Table of Contents

## **Overview Background Project Dates Review Team** Coverage **Target Code and Revision** Supporting Documentation **Areas of Concern Findings General Comments** System Design **Code Quality Documentation and Code Comments** Scope Specific Issues & Suggestions Issue A: startPreSeal Function Can Be Called After Fundraising Plan Has Been Successfully Ended Issue B: pushFinalProgress Function Can Be Called More Than Once Issue C: Missing Check for the CommonType.FileAddress Issue D: getBalance Withdraws All the Balance of a Miner Issue E: Lack of Input Validation for the CreateRaisePlan Function Issue F: Insufficient Project Documentation and Code Comments Issue G: Missing Test Suite Suggestions Suggestion 1: Move the Duplicate Code Into a Private Function Suggestion 2: Remove Redundant Functions Suggestion 3: Implement the Steps To Downsize the Contract Suggestion 4: Use Fit Data Types for Storage Variables Suggestion 5: Avoid Accessing Same Storage Multiple Times Suggestion 6: Adhere to Solidity and NatSpec Guidelines Suggestion 7: Remove Redundant Checks Suggestion 8: Make opsFundReward Function Return Zero When RaiseState Is Failure Suggestion 9: Optimize getBack Function

Suggestion 10: Return Early To Save Gas

Suggestion 11: Avoid Duplicated Calculations

Suggestion 12: Conduct Follow-up Security Audit

**About Least Authority** 

Our Methodology

## Overview

## Background

FilFi has requested that Least Authority perform a security audit of their smart contracts.

## **Project Dates**

- September 1, 2023 September 18, 2023: Initial Code Review (Completed)
- September 20, 2023: Delivery of Initial Audit Report (Completed)
- September 24, 2023: Verification Review (Completed)
- **September 25, 2023:** Delivery of Final Audit Report (*Completed*)

#### **Review Team**

- Mukesh Jaiswal, Security Researcher and Engineer
- · Ahmad Jawid Jamiulahmadi, Security Researcher and Engineer
- Steven Jung, Security Researcher and Engineer

## Coverage

## **Target Code and Revision**

For this audit, we performed research, investigation, and review of the FilFi smart contracts followed by issue reporting, along with mitigation and remediation instructions as outlined in this report.

The following code repositories are considered in scope for the review:

• zip file (FilFi0830.zip) (shared with Least Authority via email on 30 August 2023)

For the review, this repository was cloned for use during the audit and for reference in this report:

 FilFi Smart Contracts: https://github.com/LeastAuthority/filfi-smart-contracts-review

This repository was cloned and examined for the verification:

- zip file (FilfiContract\_01.zip) (shared with Least Authority via email on 23 September 2023)
- <a href="https://github.com/LeastAuthority/filfi-smart-contracts-review-verification">https://github.com/LeastAuthority/filfi-smart-contracts-review-verification</a>

All file references in this document use Unix-style paths relative to the project's root directory.

In addition, any dependency and third-party code, unless specifically mentioned as in scope, were considered out of scope for this review.

## **Supporting Documentation**

The following documentation was available to the review team:

Project website: <a href="https://filfi.io">https://filfi.io</a>

In addition, this audit report references the following documents:

 Downsizing Contracts To Fight the Contract Size Limit: <a href="https://ethereum.org/en/developers/tutorials/downsizing-contracts-to-fight-the-contract-size-limit/">https://ethereum.org/en/developers/tutorials/downsizing-contracts-to-fight-the-contract-size-limit/</a>

- Solidity Style Guide: https://docs.soliditylang.org/en/stable/style-guide.html
- NatSpec Guidelines: https://docs.soliditylang.org/en/v0.8.21/natspec-format.html
- Best Practices: <a href="https://docs.filecoin.io/smart-contracts/developing-contracts/best-practices#contracts-interacting-with-built-in-actors">https://docs.filecoin.io/smart-contracts/developing-contracts/best-practices#contracts-interacting-with-built-in-actors</a>

#### Areas of Concern

Our investigation focused on the following areas:

- Correctness of the implementation;
- Adversarial actions and other attacks on the network;
- Potential misuse and gaming of the smart contracts;
- Attacks that impact funds, such as the draining or manipulation of funds;
- Mismanagement of funds via transactions;
- Denial of Service (DoS) and other security exploits that would impact the intended use of the smart contracts or disrupt their execution;
- Vulnerabilities in the smart contracts' code;
- Protection against malicious attacks and other ways to exploit the smart contracts;
- Inappropriate permissions and excess authority;
- Data privacy, data leaking, and information integrity; and
- Anything else as identified during the initial analysis phase.

## **Findings**

#### General Comments

Our team performed a security audit of the FilFi smart contracts, which manage the storage node joint construction programs in the Filecoin network. The implementation can be described as a co-mining product that achieves its goal through different stages – the fundraising period, encapsulation progress, and distribution of rewards.

In addition to reviewing the security of the system and the areas of concern listed above, we reviewed the smart contracts for vulnerabilities and implementation errors and to assess adherence to best practice recommendations. We identified several issues and suggestions in the coded implementation relating to the deviation from recommended best practices, implementation errors, and input validation that could affect the security and the functionality of the contracts, as detailed below.

#### System Design

Our team examined the design of the FilFi smart contracts and found that security has generally been taken into consideration, as demonstrated by the implementation of proper access control. However, our team identified a pattern of lack of consideration for gas optimization as demonstrated by the usage of unnecessary conditions, redundant functions, and checks (<u>Suggestion 1</u>, <u>Suggestion 2</u>, <u>Suggestion 7</u>, <u>Suggestion 8</u>, <u>Suggestion 9</u>, <u>Suggestion 10</u>, <u>Suggestion 11</u>). We also identified a missing check for invalid addresses, which can lead to the loss of funds (<u>Issue C</u>).

In addition, our team found an instance where input is processed without any validation, which can result in unintended behavior (Issue E).

#### **Code Quality**

In our review of the codebase, we identified several instances of deviations from development best practices. We found that state variables and events are not properly named, and that functions are written with a level of abstraction that makes the code difficult to navigate and understand. We recommend adhering to a naming convention for variables and functions that is descriptive and accurate, and that is consistent with generally accepted best practices (<u>Suggestion 6</u>). We also found unused code, which reduces readability and can confuse reviewers and maintainers, possibly resulting in security vulnerabilities (<u>Suggestion 2</u>).

#### **Tests**

During our review, our team found no tests within the codebase. We recommend implementing a test suite, which helps identify implementation errors that could lead to security vulnerabilities (<u>Issue G</u>).

#### **Documentation and Code Comments**

The documentation consisted of an outdated paper, which lacks accuracy and insufficiently describes the system, each of its components, and the interaction between those components. Additionally, there were no code comments describing security-critical components and functions in the codebase. We recommend that the project documentation be improved and that the code comments in the repository be rewritten to comprehensively describe the intended behavior of each function and component, and how these components interact with each other (<u>Issue F</u>).

#### Scope

The scope of this review was sufficient and included all security-critical components. However, our team's ability to perform a comprehensive security analysis of the system was reduced due to the lack of documentation. Lack of access to appropriate resources inhibited our ability to comprehensively understand the business logic of the system and made it difficult to reason about the overall soundness of the implementation. Due to these limitations, we strongly recommend that a follow-up security audit of the smart contracts be conducted, once the Issues and suggestions in this report are addressed (Suggestion 12).

#### **Dependencies**

Our team did not identify any security issues in the use of dependencies. The FilFi team utilizes the upgraded version for the Filecoin Solidity library, in accordance with <u>best practices</u>.

## Specific Issues & Suggestions

We list the issues and suggestions found during the review, in the order we reported them. In most cases, remediation of an issue is preferable, but mitigation is suggested as another option for cases where a trade-off could be required.

ISSUE / SUGGESTION	STATUS
Issue A: startPreSeal Function Can Be Called After Fundraising Plan Has Been Successfully Ended	Resolved
Issue B: pushFinalProgress Function Can Be Called More Than Once	Resolved
Issue C: Missing Check for the CommonType.FileAddress	Resolved

Issue D: getBalance Withdraws All the Balance of a Miner	Resolved
Issue E: Lack of Input Validation for the CreateRaisePlan Function	Resolved
Issue F: Insufficient Project Documentation and Code Comments	Unresolved
Issue G: Missing Test Suite	Unresolved
Suggestion 1: Move the Duplicate Code Into a Private Function	Resolved
Suggestion 2: Remove Redundant Functions	Resolved
Suggestion 3: Implement the Steps To Downsize the Contract	Unresolved
Suggestion 4: Use Fit Data Types for Storage Variables	Unresolved
Suggestion 5: Avoid Accessing Same Storage Multiple Times	Unresolved
Suggestion 6: Adhere to Solidity and NatSpec Guidelines	Unresolved
Suggestion 7: Remove Redundant Checks	Resolved
Suggestion 8: Make opsFundReward Function Return Zero When RaiseState Is Failure	Resolved
Suggestion 9: Optimize getBack Function	Unresolved
Suggestion 10: Return Early To Save Gas	Unresolved
Suggestion 11: Avoid Duplicated Calculations	Resolved
Suggestion 12: Conduct Follow-up Security Audit	Unresolved

## Issue A: startPreSeal Function Can Be Called After Fundraising Plan Has Been Successfully Ended

#### Location

filfi/LetsFilProcess.sol#L366

#### Synopsis

When a fundraising plan is successfully ended by either one of the functions, closeRaisePlan or raiseExpire, or due to staking, the \_raiseSuc function is called to trigger the successful ending of the fundraising plan and start the sealing phase by changing the raiseState[planId] to RaiseState.Success. At this stage, the startPreSeal function calls for this fundraising plan should revert since the sealing period has started. However, an incorrect check at the start of the startPreSeal function allows the function to proceed.

#### **Impact**

Incorrect values for a fundraising plan may be set since the function assumes that it is the pre-sealing period.

#### **Preconditions**

For this Issue to occur, the fundraising plan must have been successfully ended.

#### **Technical Details**

```
require(raiseState[id] == RaiseState.Raising || raiseState[id] ==
RaiseState.Success, "Process: state err.");
```

#### Remediation

We recommend removing the check raiseState[id] == RaiseState.Success in the first require statement in the startPreSeal function.

#### Status

The FilFi team has removed the aforementioned check.

#### Verification

Resolved.

#### Issue B: pushFinalProgress Function Can Be Called More Than Once

#### Location

filfi/LetsFilProcess.sol#L401-L409

#### **Synopsis**

The pushFinalProgress function should be called one last time, two days after the sealing period ends for a particular fundraising plan. However, this function can be called more than once for the plan during the aforementioned period, resetting an already finalized sealing progress.

#### Impact

Already finalized states dependent on the sealing amount may be set to new values, resulting in unexpected behavior.

#### **Preconditions**

This Issue is likely if the pushFinalProgress function for a fundraising plan was already called once.

#### Remediation

We recommend preventing the function from being called more than once for a fundraising plan by adding the following check at the start of the function:

```
require(!progressEnd[id], "Final progress already pushed");
```

#### Status

The FilFi team has added the recommended check.

#### Verification

Resolved.

#### Issue C: Missing Check for the CommonType.FileAddress

#### Location

filfi/LetsFilMiner.sol#L42

#### **Synopsis**

The function changeOwner(uint64 minerId, CommonTypes.FilAddress memory addr) lacks input validation for the address, due to which an address of arbitrary length can be passed.

#### **Impact**

An invalid address can be passed to FilAddress, which will set the invalid address for the owner and result in the loss of funds.

#### Remediation

We recommend using the validate function from <u>utils/FilAddresses.sol#L63</u> to validate the address.

#### Status

The FilFi team has implemented the remediation as recommended.

#### Verification

Resolved.

#### Issue D: getBalance Withdraws All the Balance of a Miner

#### Location

filfi/LetsFilMiner.sol#L50

#### **Synopsis**

The function getbalance, which should be used to get the balance of a miner, withdraws all the available balance of a miner and moves it to the contract <a href="here">here</a>.

#### **Impact**

When a miner attempts to verify their balance, they would inadvertently initiate a withdrawal of the available amount, which was not their intended action.

#### Remediation

We recommend removing the MinerAPI.withdrawBalance call from the function so that it only fetches the available balance.

#### Status

The FilFi team has removed the getBalance function.

#### Verification

Resolved.

### Issue E: Lack of Input Validation for the CreateRaisePlan Function

#### Location

filfi/LetsFilRaiseFactory.sol#L67

#### **Synopsis**

There is no input validation for the function createRaisePlan, which can result in \_raiseInfo.targetAmount or \_nodeInfo.opsSecurityFund being zero.

#### **Impact**

1. If \_raiseInfo.targetAmount is zero, then the security deposit <a href="here">here</a> will be zero as well, and raiser will be able to deposit zero as a security fund amount, as follows:

function paySecurityFund(uint256 id) public payable onlyRaiser

 If msg.value is not zero and nodeInfo.opsSecurityFund is zero then the storage provider (SP) will only have to pay spSafeSealFund. Additionally, if msg.value is zero and nodeInfo.opsSecurityFund is not zero, then the entire condition in the <u>require</u> function will not be true, which can trigger a revert.

#### Remediation

We recommend adding input validation for all the parameters present in the createRaisePlan function and implementing a check to verify that msg.value is not zero.

#### **Status**

The FilFi team has added zero checks for \_raiseInfo.targetAmount, \_raiseInfo.securityFund, \_nodeInfo.opsSecurityFund and added the check to verify that msg.value is not zero.

#### Verification

Resolved.

#### **Issue F: Insufficient Project Documentation and Code Comments**

#### **Synopsis**

The general documentation provided by the FilFi team was minimal. Robust and comprehensive documentation allows a security team to assess the in-scope components and understand the expected behavior of the system being audited. In addition, clear and concise user documentation provides users with a guide to utilize the application according to security best practices.

Additionally, the codebase lacks explanation in some areas. This reduces the readability of the code and, as a result, makes reasoning about the security of the system more difficult. Comprehensive in-line documentation explaining, for example, expected function behavior and usage, input arguments, variables, and code branches can greatly benefit the readability, maintainability, and auditability of the codebase. This allows both maintainers and reviewers of the codebase to comprehensively understand the intended functionality of the implementation and system design, which increases the likelihood for identifying potential errors that may lead to security vulnerabilities.

#### Remediation

We recommend that the FilFi team improve the project's general documentation by creating a high-level description of the system, each of the components, and the interactions between those components. This

can include developer documentation and architectural diagrams. We additionally recommend expanding and improving the code comments within the components to facilitate reasoning about the security properties of the system.

#### **Status**

The FilFi team has decided not to improve the documentation and code comments at the current stage due to time limitations.

#### Verification

Unresolved.

#### **Issue G: Missing Test Suite**

#### **Synopsis**

Our team found no tests in the repository in scope. Sufficient test coverage should include tests for success and failure cases, which helps identify potential edge cases, and protect against errors and bugs that may lead to vulnerabilities or exploits. A test suite that includes a minimum of unit tests and integration tests adheres to development best practices. In addition, end-to-end testing is also recommended to assess if the implementation behaves as intended.

#### **Mitigation**

We recommend that the FilFi team create a test suite for the FilFi smart contracts to facilitate identifying implementation errors and potential security vulnerabilities by developers and security researchers.

#### **Status**

The FilFi team has decided not to add a test suite at the current stage due to time limitations.

#### Verification

Unresolved.

## Suggestions

#### Suggestion 1: Move the Duplicate Code Into a Private Function

#### Location

filfi/LetsFilControler.sol#L543-L547

filfi/LetsFilControler.sol#L560-L564

filfi/LetsFilControler.sol#L577-L581

#### **Synopsis**

The functions availableRewardOf, totalRewardOf, and willReleaseOf in LetsFilControler share the same if/else statements, which can be moved to a private function to save gas and improve readability.

#### Mitigation

We recommend creating a private function, moving the referenced if/else statements to this function, and calling it appropriately.

#### Status

The FilFi team has implemented the remediation as recommended.

#### Verification

Resolved.

#### **Suggestion 2: Remove Redundant Functions**

#### Location

filfi/LetsFilProcessSecond.sol#L194-L202

filfi/LetsFilControler.sol#L293-L296

#### **Synopsis**

The functions \_raiseSuc, setSealTime, and setSectorPackage referenced above are redundant in the smart contracts and should be removed.

#### Mitigation

We recommend removing the aforementioned functions to save gas and improve readability.

#### **Status**

The FilFi team has removed the aforementioned functions.

#### Verification

Resolved.

#### **Suggestion 3: Implement the Steps To Downsize the Contract**

#### Location

filfi/LetsFilControler.sol#L31

<u>LetsFilProcess.sol#L33</u>

LetsFilProcessSecond.sol#L33

#### **Synopsis**

The LetsFilControler contract code size is 37284 bytes, the LetsFileProcess contract code size is 36517 bytes, and the LetsFileProcessSecond contract code size is 25270 bytes. All of these contracts exceed the standard contract size limit of 24576 bytes, due to which the contracts may not be deployable on the mainnet.

#### Mitigation

We recommend <u>implementing steps</u> to decrease the size of the contracts.

#### Status

The FilFi team has acknowledged this suggestion and stated that they do not intend to implement these changes at the present time.

#### Verification

Unresolved.

#### **Suggestion 4: Use Fit Data Types for Storage Variables**

#### Location

filfi/interfaces/ILetsFilPackInfo.sol#L4

#### **Synopsis**

This interface defines structs. However, the variables in the struct could fit into smaller data types and be packed together, along with other variables, into fewer slots for gas optimization.

#### **Mitigation**

We recommend using fit data types for storage variables.

#### **Status**

The FilFi Team has acknowledged this suggestion and stated that they do not intend to implement these changes at the present time.

#### Verification

Unresolved.

### **Suggestion 5: Avoid Accessing Same Storage Multiple Times**

#### Location

Examples (non-exhaustive):

filfi/LetsFilControler.sol#L256-L259

filfi/LetsFilProcess.sol#L210-L212

#### **Synopsis**

Our team confirmed that multiple read access attempts were made to the same storage variables in many parts in the contracts. Reading from the storage variable incurs much more cost than using memory variables.

#### Mitigation

We recommend using temporary memory variables, instead of storage variables that may be accessed multiple times, to ensure that they are accessed only once.

#### Status

The FilFi Team has acknowledged this suggestion and stated that they do not intend to implement these changes at the present time.

#### Verification

Unresolved.

## **Suggestion 6: Adhere to Solidity and NatSpec Guidelines**

#### Location

Examples (non-exhaustive):

filfi/LetsFilProcess.sol#L96-L108

#### **Synopsis**

The codebase does not adhere to the <u>Solidity style guide</u>. For example, constant variables in the aforementioned location are written in camelCase, which makes it difficult to distinguish between variables and constants. Additionally, the codebase does not follow <u>NatSpec guidelines</u> for code comments.

#### **Mitigation**

We recommend utilizing UPPERCASE and following the style guide for building Solidity smart contracts.

#### Status

The FilFi Team has acknowledged this suggestion and stated that they do not intend to implement these changes at the present time.

#### Verification

Unresolved.

#### **Suggestion 7: Remove Redundant Checks**

#### Location

filfi/LetsFilProcess.sol#L377-L378

filfi/LetsFilProcess.sol#L429-L433

filfi/LetsFilProcess.sol#L286-L292

#### **Synopsis**

Our team found some instances of redundant checks:

- 1. The referenced checks in the startPreSeal function are redundant and should be removed;
- 2. The second check in the referenced if statement in the \_pushFinalProgress function is redundant because before the code execution flow reaches this statement, a check is implemented at the start of the pushFinalProgress function to ensure that block.timestamp >= sealEndTime[id] + 2 days; and
- 3. The referenced if condition in the staking function will always be true if msg.value is greater than zero. Therefore, it is redundant since the execution would revert due to other checks in the function if msg.value is zero.

#### **Mitigation**

We recommend optimizing how startSealTime[id] and sealEndTime[id] are set in the startPreSeal function to avoid redundancy. We also recommend removing the unnecessary checks to save gas and improve readability.

#### **Status**

The FilFi team has removed the aforementioned checks.

#### Verification

Resolved.

## Suggestion 8: Make opsFundReward Function Return Zero When RaiseState Is Failure

#### Location

filfi/LetsFilControler.sol#L339

#### **Synopsis**

The function opsFundReward is called from withdrawOpsSecurityFund in the LetsFilControler smart contract to calculate the operations fund reward. However, when the value of RaiseState is Failure, there is no reward to calculate. Therefore, this calculation is unnecessary.

#### Mitigation

We recommend adding a check in the opsFundReward function to return zero if RaiseState is Failure to improve gas efficiency and readability.

#### **Status**

The FilFi team has implemented the remediation as recommended.

#### Verification

Resolved.

#### **Suggestion 9: Optimize getBack Function**

#### Location

filfi/LetsFilControler.sol#L376-L412

#### Synopsis

The function getBack in the LetsFilControler smart contract can be optimized by removing unnecessary or duplicate checks.

#### **Mitigation**

We recommend optimizing the aforementioned function to save gas and improve readability.

#### Status

The FilFi Team has acknowledged this suggestion and stated that they do not intend to implement these changes at the present time.

#### Verification

Unresolved.

#### **Suggestion 10: Return Early To Save Gas**

#### Location

filfi/LetsFilProcess.sol#L539

#### **Synopsis**

The function \_pushSpFine in the LetsFilProcess smart contract can return early when fineRemain is zero.

#### **Mitigation**

We recommend returning the function call early when fineRemain is zero to save gas and improve readability. Necessary states can be set to zero before returning.

#### Status

The FilFi team has acknowledged this suggestion and stated that they do not intend to implement these changes at the present time.

#### Verification

Unresolved.

#### **Suggestion 11: Avoid Duplicated Calculations**

#### Location

Examples (non-exhaustive):

filfi/LetsFilControler.sol#L272-L274

filfi/LetsFilControler.sol#L281-L283

#### **Synopsis**

Duplicated calculations in the codebase spend unnecessary gas to get the same results.

#### Mitigation

We recommend using a variable to store a value from the duplicated calculations.

#### Status

The FilFi team has implemented the remediation as recommended.

#### Verification

Resolved.

#### **Suggestion 12: Conduct Follow-up Security Audit**

#### **Synopsis**

For complex implementations, comprehensive documentation and code comment coverage is imperative to reason about the functionality and security characteristics of the system. The lack of code comments

and implementation documentation evokes security by obfuscation, which is not a valid approach to securing systems potentially controlling large amounts of value.

During this review, our ability to perform a comprehensive security analysis of the system was reduced due to the lack of documentation and code comments. Consequently, this inhibited our ability to accurately reason about the business logic of the implementation.

#### Mitigation

We strongly recommend performing a comprehensive, follow-up security audit by an independent third-party team once the Issues and suggestions in this report have been adequately addressed.

#### Status

At the time of this verification, the FilFi smart contracts have not undergone a separate security review. We recommend that the FilFi team continue to consider a follow up audit of the smart contracts.

#### Verification

Unresolved.

## **About Least Authority**

We believe that people have a fundamental right to privacy and that the use of secure solutions enables people to more freely use the Internet and other connected technologies. We provide security consulting services to help others make their solutions more resistant to unauthorized access to data and unintended manipulation of the system. We support teams from the design phase through the production launch and after.

The Least Authority team has skills for reviewing code in multiple Languages, such as C, C++, Python, Haskell, Rust, Node.js, Solidity, Go, JavaScript, ZoKrates, and circom, for common security vulnerabilities and specific attack vectors. The team has reviewed implementations of cryptographic protocols and

distributed system architecture in cryptocurrency, blockchains, payments, smart contracts, zero-knowledge protocols, and consensus protocols. Additionally, the team can utilize various tools to scan code and networks and build custom tools as necessary.

Least Authority was formed in 2011 to create and further empower freedom-compatible technologies. We moved the company to Berlin in 2016 and continue to expand our efforts. We are an international team that believes we can have a significant impact on the world by being transparent and open about the work we do.

For more information about our security consulting, please visit <a href="https://leastauthority.com/security-consulting/">https://leastauthority.com/security-consulting/</a>.

## Our Methodology

We like to work with a transparent process and make our reviews a collaborative effort. The goals of our security audits are to improve the quality of systems we review and aim for sufficient remediation to help protect users. The following is the methodology we use in our security audit process.

#### Manual Code Review

In manually reviewing all of the code, we look for any potential issues with code logic, error handling, protocol and header parsing, cryptographic errors, and random number generators. We also watch for areas where more defensive programming could reduce the risk of future mistakes and speed up future audits. Although our primary focus is on the in-scope code, we examine dependency code and behavior when it is relevant to a particular line of investigation.

## **Vulnerability Analysis**

Our audit techniques include manual code analysis, user interface interaction, and whitebox penetration testing. We look at the project's website to get a high level understanding of what functionality the software under review provides. We then meet with the developers to gain an appreciation of their vision of the software. We install and use the relevant software, exploring the user interactions and roles. As we do this, we brainstorm threat models and attack surfaces. We read design documentation, review other audit results, search for similar projects, examine source code dependencies, skim open issue tickets, and generally investigate details other than the implementation. We hypothesize what vulnerabilities may be present and possibly resulting in Issue entries, then for each, we follow the following Issue Investigation and Remediation process.

## **Documenting Results**

We follow a conservative and transparent process for analyzing potential security vulnerabilities and seeing them through successful remediation. Whenever a potential issue is discovered, we immediately create an Issue entry for it in this document, even before having verified the feasibility and impact of the issue. This process is conservative because we document our suspicions early even if they are later shown to not represent exploitable vulnerabilities. We generally follow a process of first documenting the suspicion with unresolved questions, then confirming the issue through code analysis, live experimentation, or automated tests. Code analysis is the most tentative, and we strive to provide test code, log captures, or screenshots demonstrating our confirmation. After this, we analyze the feasibility of an attack in a live system.

## Suggested Solutions

We search for immediate and comprehensive mitigations that live deployments can take, and finally, we suggest the requirements for remediation engineering for future releases. The mitigation and remediation recommendations should be scrutinized by the developers and deployment engineers, and successful mitigation and remediation is an ongoing collaborative process after we deliver our Initial Audit Report, and before we perform a verification review.

Before our report, including any details about our findings and the solutions are shared, we like to work with your team to find reasonable outcomes that can be addressed as soon as possible without an overly negative impact on pre-existing plans. Although the handling of issues must be done on a case-by-case basis, we always like to agree on a timeline for a resolution that balances the impact on the users and the needs of your project team.

## **Resolutions & Publishing**

Once the findings are comprehensively addressed, we complete a verification review to assess that the issues and suggestions are sufficiently addressed. When this analysis is completed, we update the report and provide a Final Audit Report that can be published in whole. If there are critical unaddressed issues, we suggest the report not be published and the users and other stakeholders be alerted of the impact. We encourage that all findings be dealt with and the Final Audit Report be shared publicly for the transparency of efforts and the advancement of security learnings within the industry.