Secure Coding: Storing Secrets In Your Salesforce Instance

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No Photos Required….

Slides and demos will be made available after the talk!
Primary Topic Today: Secrets

• We will be covering developer-oriented topics on secret storage for the Salesforce Platform

• Specific features to cover include:
  – Secrets in custom fields
  – Secrets in encrypted custom fields
  – Secrets in custom settings

• Useful for anyone in the following areas:
  – Salesforce Developers (primarily)
  – Salesforce Administrators
  – Prospective Partners
What is a secret?

- Simple Definition: A piece of data that requires higher than normal protection
- For Our Purposes: A secret will be a piece of data that nobody should see, like a password or encryption key
Who do we secure secrets from?

- Attackers
- Regular Users
- Partners
- **Administrators (Biggest Challenge)**

Basically everyone… Why?

- Theft of data
- Impersonation
- Privilege escalation
Secret Storage: Custom Field
Custom Field – Storage Method

1. Create an object with a custom field to store secret
2. Make object private
3. Remove CRUD/FLS from all profiles
4. Only access secret field through Apex
Custom Field – Breakdown

**Pros**
- Simple
- Easily updated
- CRUD is used to prevent most users from seeing the object
- FLS is used to prevent users from seeing the field

**Cons**
- CRUD is included in many privileged permissions
- FLS can be updated by admins, potentially exposing the secret
- Anyone who can deploy Apex code can discover the secret
Demo: Secrets in Custom Fields
Trivia!

Which permissions bypass the FLS protections safeguarding a secret stored in a custom field? Please choose from the following list:

a) Modify All Data  
b) View All Data (Profile)  
c) Customize Application  
d) Deploy Apex  
e) View All Data (Object Specific)
Trivia (answered)!

Which permissions bypass the FLS protections safeguarding a secret stored in a custom field? Please choose from the following list:

a) Modify All Data  
b) View All Data (Profile)  
c) Customize Application  
d) Deploy Apex  
e) View All Data (Object Specific)
Secret Storage – Encrypted Custom Field
Encrypted Custom Field – Storage Method

1. Create a new field of type “Text (Encrypted)”
2. Choose a mask type (depending on the secret type)
3. Configure the FLS of the new field such that zero profiles have read access
4. Use Apex to store and access the secret

Note: Some may consider FLS to be optional since the contents of the field are obscured, but “View Encrypted Data” is a global permission, so any user with this permission could view any public encrypted field. Employing FLS results in the most secure iteration of this storage method.
Encrypted Custom Field – Breakdown

**Pros**
- Simple
- Encryption is managed by the platform
- Field is obscured from users without FLS and CRUD being needed

**Cons**
- View Encrypted Fields profile permission is global, not field specific, and reveals the secret
- Anyone who can deploy Apex code can discover the secret
Demo: Secrets in Encrypted Custom Fields
Trivia!

The following list contains possible ways of viewing the contents of encrypted custom fields. Please tell us which options would show the contents in clear text (no obfuscation) and explain!

a) Stack trace viewer in the developer console
b) Debug log output from `system.debug(object.encryptedField__c);`
c) Workflow field update copying encrypted field to unencrypted field
d) Trigger field update copying encrypted field to unencrypted field
e) Webservice that returns secret as a string
Trivia (answered)!

The following list contains possible ways of viewing the contents of encrypted custom fields. Please tell us which options would show the contents in clear text (no obfuscation) and explain!

a) Stack trace viewer in the developer console
b) Debug log output from `system.debug(object.encryptedField__c);`

c) Workflow field update copying encrypted field to unencrypted field
d) Trigger field update copying encrypted field to unencrypted field
e) Webservice that returns secret as a string
Secret Storage – Managed Protected Custom Setting
Managed Protected Custom Settings – Storage Method

1. Create a managed package
2. Create a protected custom setting inside the package
3. Create a Visualforce page inside the package to create/update the secret
   - (transient string, should not return secret to the view state)
4. Access and use the secret inside the managed package
Custom Settings Overview

Custom settings are stripped down sObjects exposed to the application cache, enabling efficient access for developers.

Managed Protected versus Unmanaged Protected: What is the difference?

Protected Custom Settings can only be accessed from the namespace they exist in.

• In a managed package, the namespace is that of the package
• In an unmanaged package, the namespace is the local namespace

What does this mean? Managed protected custom settings offer security benefits, while unmanaged protected custom settings are worse than regular sObjects (because they lack FLS and CRUD settings).
Custom Setting Diagram

Salesforce Instance - Local Namespace

Protected Custom Setting

Apex

Managed Package - Package Namespace

Apex Global Method

Protected Custom Setting

APEX
Managed Protected Custom Setting – Breakdown

**Pros**
- Secret only available to Apex code within managed package namespace
- Can store encryption key to scale

**Cons**
- Requires a managed package!
- Methods must be well-coded to prevent secret exposure
Demo: Secrets in Custom Settings
Managed Package Architecture

Salesforce Instance - Local Namespace

- Scheduled Job
- Trigger
- Dev Console

Managed Package Namespace

- Global Invoker
- VF Component
  - Enter Secret
- Apex Controller
  - Transient String
- Apex Webservice

Protected Custom Setting

CALL OUT

VF Page
Trivia!

“Can you see any problems with how the following implementation that uses a managed protected custom setting to store the password for an external callout?”

```java
1  global void basicAuthCallout(string url){
2     HttpRequest req = new HttpRequest();
3     req.setEndpoint(url);
4     String pw = customSetting.getAll().values()[0];
5     String authorizationHeader = 'BASIC ' +EncodingUtil.base64Encode(Blob.valueOf('admin :'+pw));
6     req.setHeader('Authorization', authorizationHeader);
7     Http http = new Http();
8     HTTPResponse res = http.send(req);
9  }
```
Trivia (answered)!
Accepting a URL from outside the managed package permits leakage of the secret!
The URL should originate from within the package or be tied to the secret.

```java
public void basicAuthCallout()
{
    HttpRequest req = new HttpRequest();
    req.setEndpoint('https://api.somewhere.com');
    String pw = customSetting.getAll().values()[0];
    String authorizationHeader = 'BASIC ' + EncodingUtil.base64Encode(Blob.valueOf('admin :'+pw));
    req.setHeader('Authorization', authorizationHeader);
    Http http = new Http();
    HTTPResponse res = http.send(req);
}
```
Recap

Here are the forms of secret storage that we covered:

1. Custom Field
   - Pro – Simple. FLS & CRUD prevents most user access
   - Con – Can be bypassed by users with elevated permissions (Modify All Data, Author Apex)
     ❖ Works well with: Sensitive data with no encryption requirements

2. Encrypted Custom Field
   - Pro – More secure than basic custom fields. Prevents most user access. Supports masking options
   - Con – Can be bypassed by users with elevated permissions (Modify All Data, Author Apex)
     ❖ Works well with: Sensitive data with masking or encryption requirements

3. Managed Protected Custom Setting (Secret Storage Best Practice)
   - Pro – Most secure option. Protects against users with elevated permissions such as Modify all Data
   - Con – Requires a managed package. Requires careful attention to code
     ❖ Works well with: Passwords, OAuth Tokens, Encryption Keys
Additional Resources

- Intro to Managed Packages - https://developer.salesforce.com/page/An_Introduction_to_Packaging
- Security Office Hours (Partners) - http://security.force.com/security/contact/ohours
Slides + Demo

• Get Slides Here:
  – DF Chatter Group – [Link Here](#)
  – @kylekyle Twitter – [https://www.twitter.com/kylekyle](https://www.twitter.com/kylekyle)

• Want to play with our demo code?
  – Dreamforce Demo Trial Signup: [https://security.secure.force.com/DFtrialssignup](https://security.secure.force.com/DFtrialssignup)
Secure Development Sessions

Secure Coding: Field-level Security, CRUD, and Sharing
Monday, October 13 @ 11:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.

Secure Coding: Storing Secrets in Your Salesforce Instance
Monday, October 13 @ 2:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.

Building Secure Mobile Apps
Monday, October 13 @ 5:00 p.m. - 5:40 p.m.

Protect Your Data Against Malicious Scripts
Tuesday, October 14 @ 11:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.

Secure Coding: External App Integration
Wednesday, October 15 @ 9:00 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.

Secure Coding: SSL, SOAP, and REST
Thursday, October 16 @ 10:30 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.

Announcements:


Live security office hours are available in the Partner Zone.
Q&A
Thank You