

mit



Der Zero-Trust-Aspekt – Wie APEX-Apps sicher in der Cloud betrieben werden.

Timo Herwix, Senior Consultant
APEX Connect Conference 2023

Who am I?

Timo Herwix

Senior Consultant at MT GmbH since 2019

Previously worked as a Data Warehouse Developer

Oracle APEX since 2016

Oracle Databases since 2008

Blog author, conference speaker

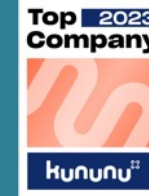
Born in 1983, two children and living in Germany



 Oracle ACE Associate

Facts and figures.

Your partner for digital transformation.
Individual IT solutions from one single source.



Foundation 1994



Headquarter

Ratingen

Branches

Frankfurt am Main,
Köln, München, Hamburg



> 360 Employees



approx. 48 Mio. €
Turnover in 2021



> 125 Customers
Cross-sector



Manufacturer-neutral



Certified partner
leading technology
manufacturer



Training company,
Partner in dual studies

Agenda.



Zero Trust Security Overview



Quick Start



Wrap-up



Zero-Trust is a **security model** based on the principle of maintaining strict access controls and **not trusting anyone by default**, even those already inside the network perimeter.

2022

2021

2020

2019

2018

CDEK
19,000,000

Contact tracing data
38,000,000

Epik

Digital Ocean

Facebook
533,000,000

Experian Brazil
220,000,000

EasyJet
9,000,000

Experian SA

db8151dd
22,000,000

Drizly

Dutch Government

DigitalGlobe

Gab
100,000

Ho Mobile

Marriott Hotels

Tencent Government

MGM Hotels
10,000,000

Microsoft
250,000,000

MacDonalds

Meet Meifu

Pandora Papers

Plex

Neiman Marcus

Park Mobile

Shanghai Police

Relaton

Rohand

T-Mobile

Thailand visitors
100,000,000

Twitch

Twitter

Ubiquiti

VW

Syniverse

Pakistani mobile operators
115,000,000

SolarWinds

Canva
19,000,000

Dubsmash
162,000,000

Facebook
420,000,000

Indian citizens
275,000,000

OxyData
380,000,000

Suprema

Toyota

Whitepages

WTF Probe

Wawa
30,000,000

YouNow

8fit

Armor Games

BriansClub
26,000,000

DooDash
4,000,000

Chtrbox

Capital One
100,000,000

Apollo
200,000,000

Chinese resume leak
202,000,000

EyeEm

Facebook

Fotolog

Hautelook

Houzz

Ixigo

MyFitnessPal
150,000,000

Quest Diagnostics

Stronghold Transform

ShareThis

SKY Brasil

Quora
100,000,000

Texas voter records

Twitter
330,000,000

Blank Media Games

Careem

Dixons Carphone

Facebook
50,000,000

Firestore
100,000,000

GoPayNow.com

LocalBlox

Grindr

MyHeritage

Panerabread

TicketFly

Roll20

Wawa

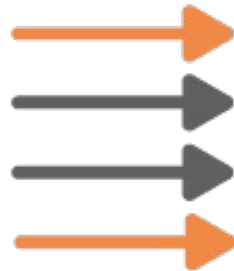
YouNow

Never trust ...



... always verify

Never trust ...



... always verify



Zero-Trust Security is **not** a product or a checkbox within an application.

Zero-Trust is a security concept that requires all users, **even those inside the organizations enterprise network**, to be **authenticated, authorized, and continuously validating** security configuration and posture, before being granted or keeping **access to applications and data.**

This approach leverages advanced technologies such as

- ✓ Multifactor-Authentication
- ✓ Identity and Access Management (IAM)
- ✓ Endpoint security technology

to verify the users identity and maintain system security.

Shared Security Responsibility.

Shared Security Responsibility Model.

| On-premise | IaaS Infrastructure as a service | PaaS Platform as a service | SaaS Software as a service |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| User Access/Identity | User Access/Identity | User Access/Identity | User Access/Identity |
| Data | Data | Data | Data |
| Application | Application | Application | Application |
| Guest OS | Guest OS | Guest OS | Guest OS |
| Virtualization | Virtualization | Virtualization | Virtualization |
| Network | Network | Network | Network |
| Infrastructure | Infrastructure | Infrastructure | Infrastructure |
| Physical | Physical | Physical | Physical |

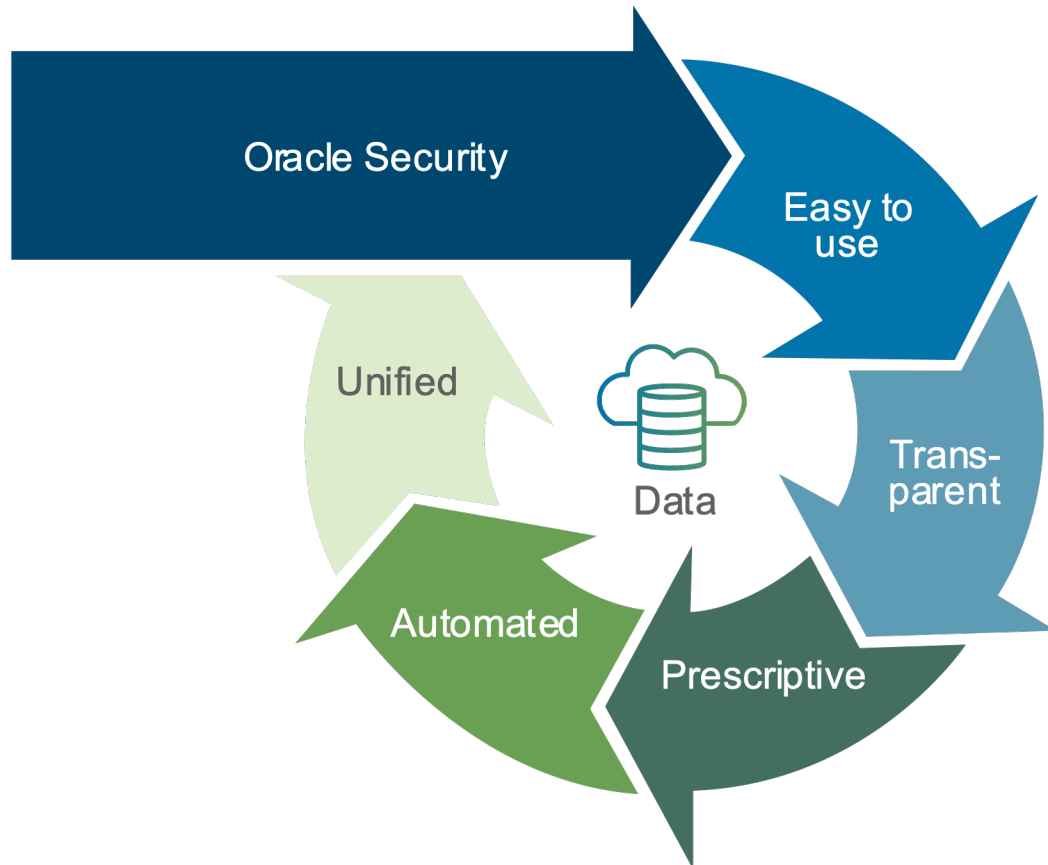


Service consumer responsibility



Service provider assistance

Shared Security Responsibility Model.



Security principles and customer benefits

- **Simple:** Reduces learning curve
- **Transparent:** Always on security posture
- **Prescriptive:** Guardrails minimize errors
- **Automated:** Reduces workload and human error
- **Unified:** Full stack view across platform tool

Results

- Shifts the security burden from the customer
- Eliminates cost versus security trade-offs

What are the **benefits/challenges**
of Zero-Trust Security?

Benefits of Zero-Trust Security.



Security extended beyond single network locations



Simple collaboration with an environment-agnostic model



Efficient threat detection and containment



Improved user experience and employee productivity



Long-term network security cost savings



Greater visibility and simplified compliance



Flexibility and adaptation

Challenges of Zero-Trust Security.



Configuration issues
with legacy tools



Excessive disruption



Mitigating insider
threats



Security gaps from
poor planning

The 8 design principles of a Zero-Trust Architecture.



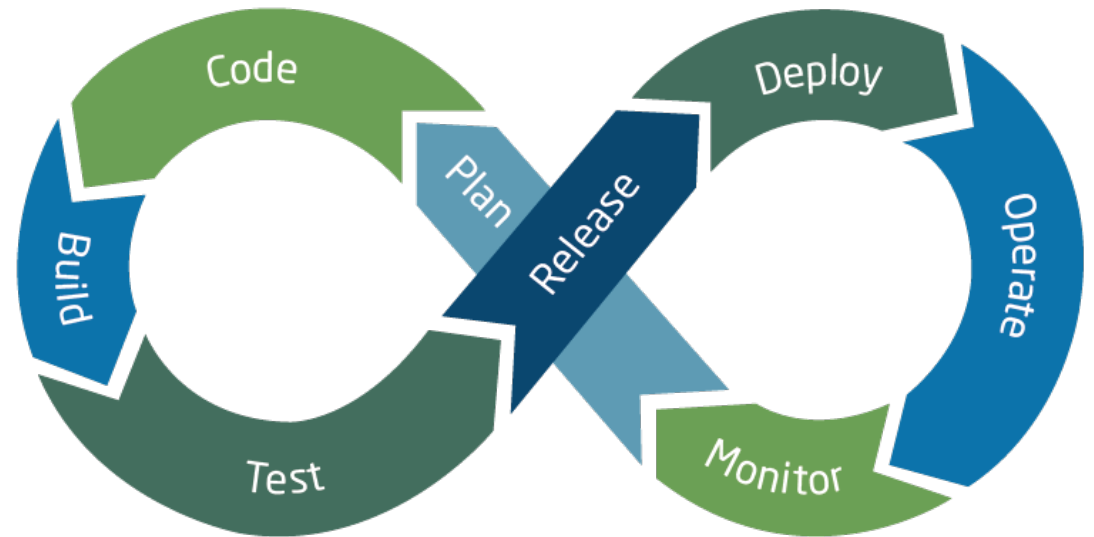
1.

**Know your
architecture,
including users,
devices, services
and data.**

Know your architecture, including users, devices, services and data.

To get the benefits from Zero-Trust, you need to have a clear understanding about each component of your architecture so that you can identify:

- Where your key resources are
- The main risks to your architecture
- How to avoid integrating legacy services that do not support Zero-Trust



Discover your assets.



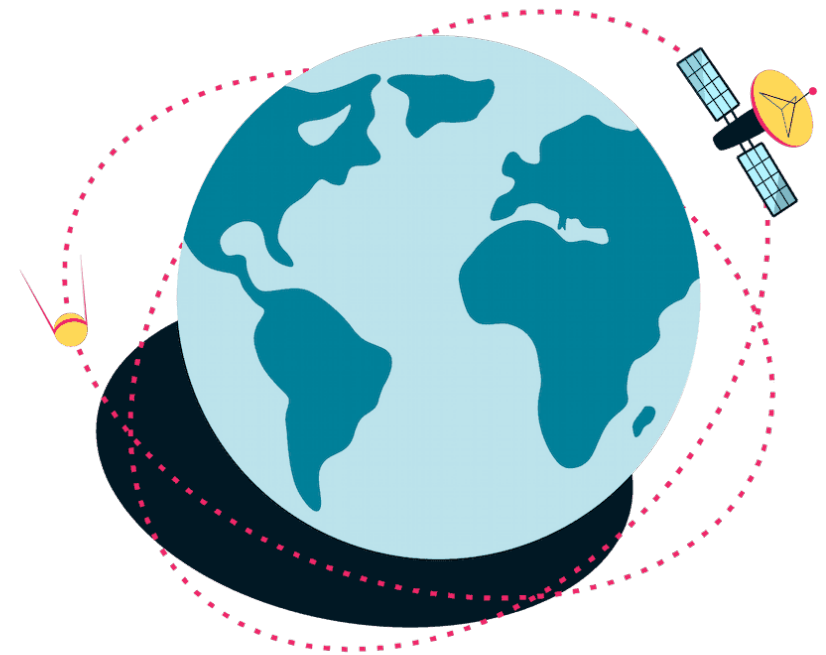
REST API/CLI/SDK: Enumeration through programmatic access to OCI tenancy, tagging



Auditing: Understand the calls to all supported OCI public API endpoints giving visibility into what, who, when, how



Terraform: Build Infrastructure-as-Code scripts based on the existing deployed footprint





2.

**Know your user,
service and device
identities.**

Know your user, service and device identities.



Each identity should be uniquely identifiable in a Zero-Trust architecture!

An identity can represent a:

- User (human)
- Service (Software Process)
- Device

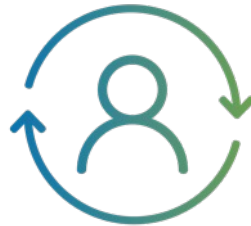


Identity is the core tenet of this principle!

Identity Key Capabilities.



Cloud Directory



Identity Lifecycle Management



API Security



MFA



Adaptive Authentication



Single Sign On



3.

**Assess user
behaviour,
service and
device health.**

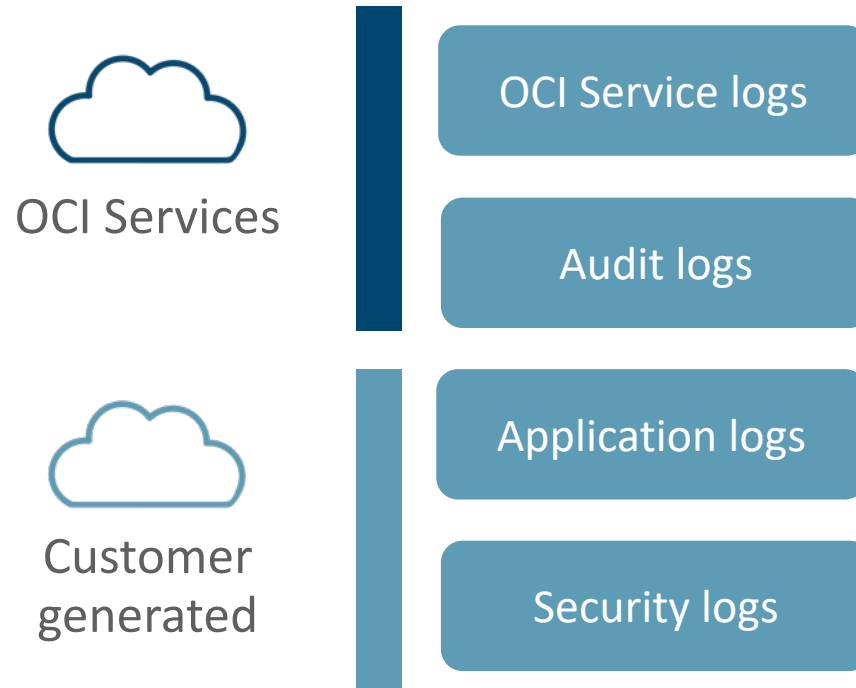
Assess user behaviour, service and device health.

The most important indicators when looking to establish confidence in the security of your systems are:

- User health
- Service health
- Device health

Zero-Trust policy engines need to be able to measure user health, device health and service health.

Collect and Manage





4.

Use policies to
authorise
requests.

Coarse-grained authorization.

Does the user have access to this application?

Fine-grained authorization.

What a user is authorised to do within an application or service?

Use policies to authorise requests.



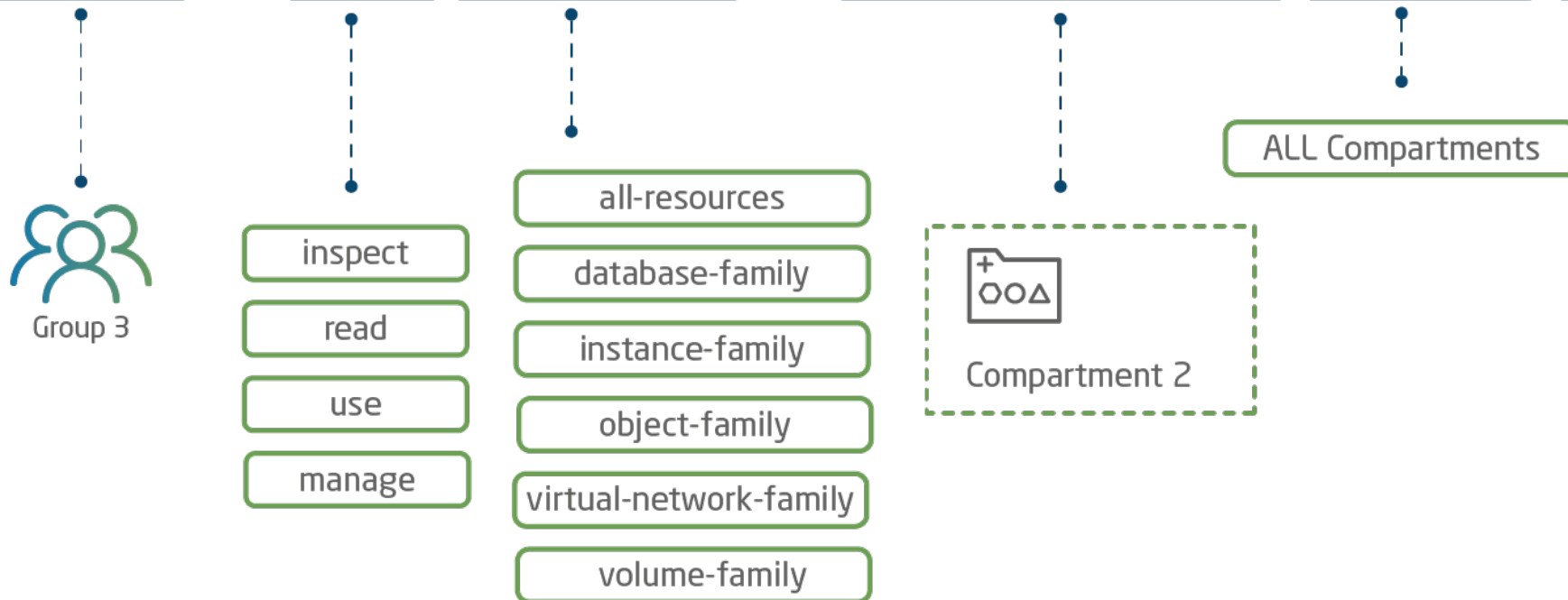
The power of a Zero-Trust architecture lies in the defined access policies. Each request for services or data should be authorised against a specific security policy.

The key characteristics of a policy engine in a zero trust architecture:

- Uses multiple signals
- Provides a secure and flexible access control mechanism
- Adapts to the resources being requested

Use policies to authorise requests.

allow subject to verb resource in compartment/tenancy conditions





5.

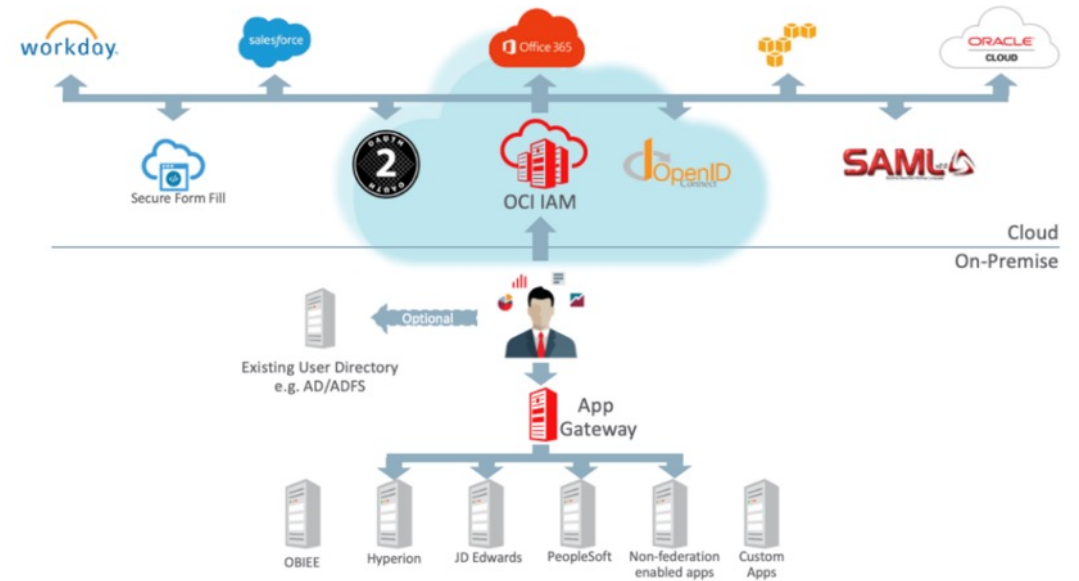
**Authenticate
and authorise
everywhere.**

Authenticate and authorise everywhere.

Network is hostile

- **Authenticate** all connections that access data or services.
- Requests between services also need to be authenticated

Adaptive and strong authentication must not hinder the usability of a service

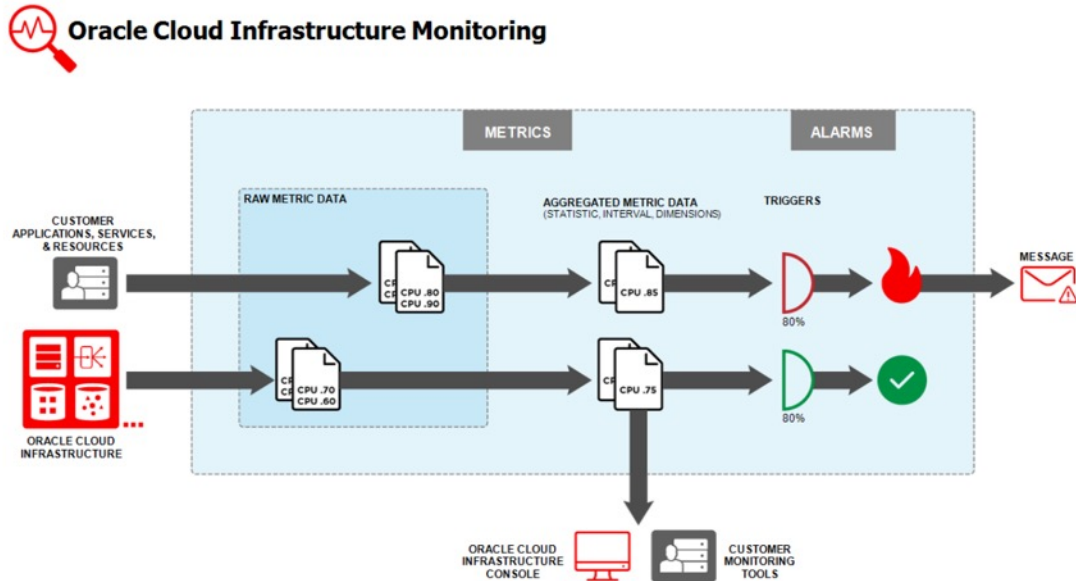




6.

**Focus your
monitoring on
users, devices
and services.**

Focus your monitoring on users, devices and services.



Comprehensive and continuous monitoring is a good cyber hygiene to identify indicators of compromise.

- Logging and monitoring to identify patterns of activity on your networks – “Who did what and when?”
- Continuously collect key metrics from various resources
- Trigger automated alarms and remediations when some abnormal activities happen



7.

**Don't trust any
network, including
your own.**

One of the OCI core design principles is a security-first approach, ensuring that security is **built into** the platform from the ground up and not bolted on as an afterthought.

Security Design Principles.

| Principle highlights | Security Features |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Security-first architecture | Hardware-based Root of Trust – mitigate server attacks and backdoor attacks Isolated Network Virtualization (INV) – mitigate hypervisor attacks Hyper Segmentation, WAN encryption, TLS public endpoints, DDoS Protection –mitigate network threats Supply Chain Security to enhance governance |
| Networking Controls | OCI DNS – Global anycast DNS Service with built-in layer 3 and 4 DDoS protection Security Lists & Network Security Groups – Limit traffic flow through configurable rules & policies Gateways – Internet, NAT, Dynamic routing, Service, Local peering OCI IAM – Prevents unauthorized users from viewing and/or changing any network configuration Private & Public subnets – Segregation of resources Private endpoints – Control how traffic is routed from your VCNs subnet to destinations outside the VCN. |
| Monitoring Controls | Cloud Guard, Web Application Firewall, Maximum Security Zones as discussed in the earlier principles |

8.

**Choose services
that have been
designed for zero
trust.**

Choose services that have been designed for zero trust.

- Do not **reinvent the wheel**
- Look for **standards**
- Managed services in the cloud



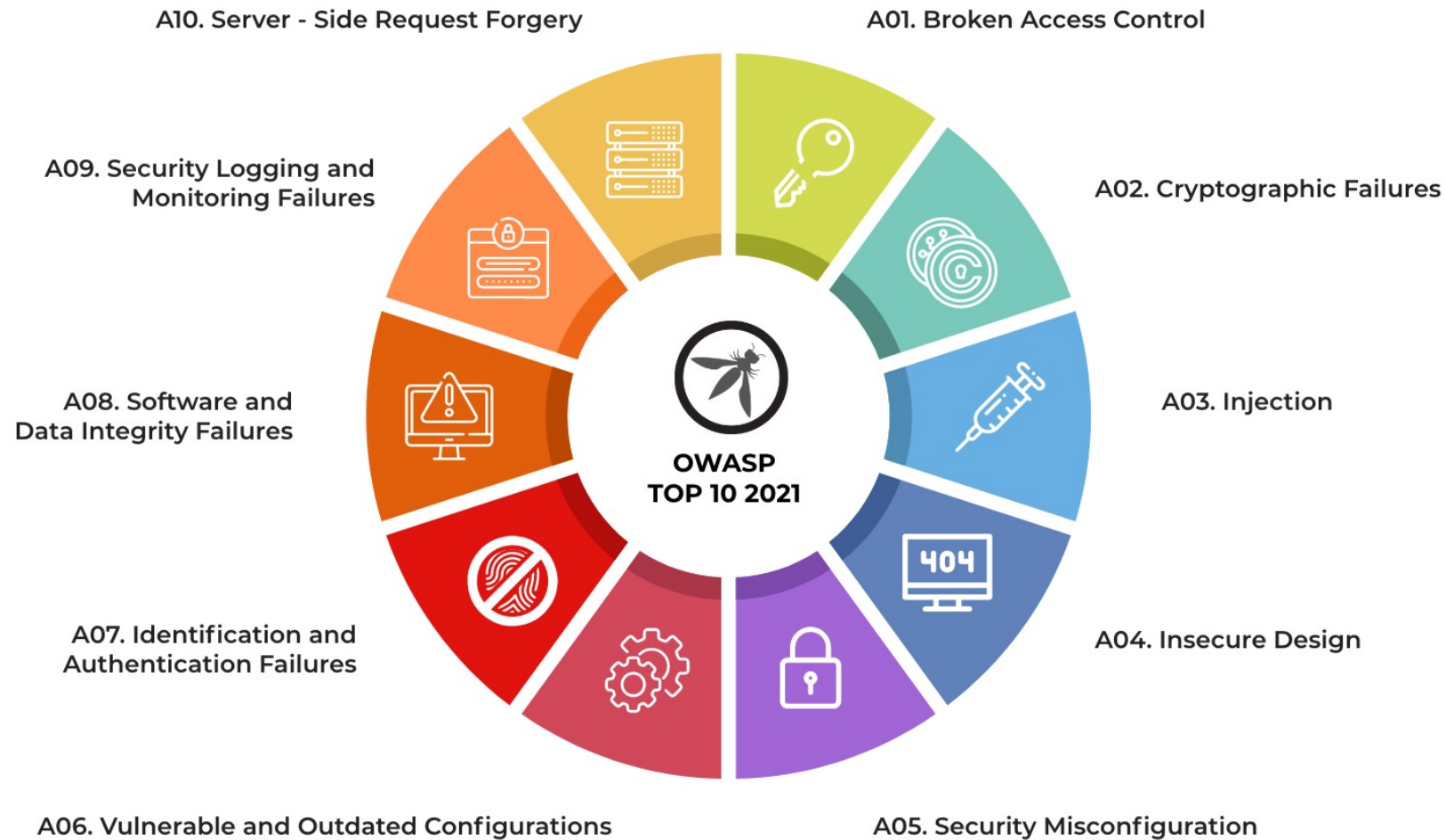
What about APEX?

Write good quality Code!

“Quality is more important than quantity”

Steve Jobs

Top 10 Web application security risks.





Social sign-in!

Use OCI to access APEX.



Single sign-on for everybody!

- Use the same username/password credentials as OCI
- OCI allows multi-factor authentication



Get the most out of it!

- OCI has inbuilt reports auditing sign-on
- OCI can link to one or more third-party identity providers (e.g. Azure AD etc.) without additional code



By providing an extra barrier and layer of security that makes it incredibly difficult for attackers to get past, MFA can block over 99.9 percent of account compromise attacks.

With MFA, knowing or cracking the password won't be enough to gain access.



Sign-on policy!

Define your own sign-on rules.



The **identity providers** that will be used to authenticate



The **groups** that will be used to authenticate



The **frequency** that will be used to authenticate

Passwordless authentication!

Passwordless authentication.



Something
You **Know**



Something
You **Have**



Something
You **Are**

Passwordless authentication.



Advantages

- Improved user experience and productivity
- Better or greater security
- Reduced helpdesk costs



Disadvantages

- Dependency on the device or authenticator apps where you get your one-time password.
- Single point of failure if a user has only "mobile" factor configured. You can't login into applications if you do NOT have access to your mobile device where you get/see OTP and do push notifications (ex: device switch off, poor cell reception, lost or stolen).

Securing Your REST-Service!

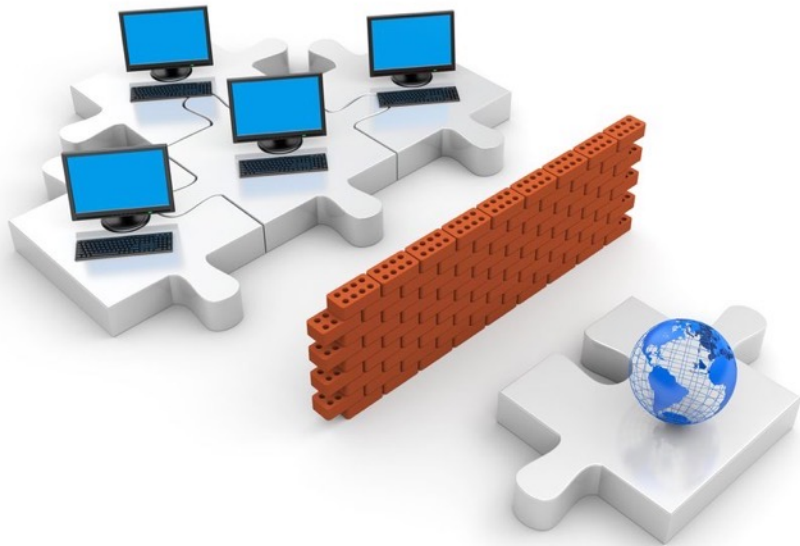
Securing Your-REST Service!

The screenshot displays the Oracle REST Data Services (ORDS) interface. At the top, a navigation bar includes 'ORACLE Database Actions | REST', 'Overview', 'Modules', 'AutoREST', and 'Security'. A search bar and a 'DEMO' dropdown are also present. Below the navigation, the breadcrumb 'REST > AutoREST' is shown. The main content area is divided into two sections: 'Objects' and 'AutoREST'. The 'Objects' section shows a 'Protected' status with '1/1' objects that require authorization. The 'AutoREST' section shows '1 TABLES / VIEWS'. A red-bordered browser window is overlaid on the interface, displaying a '401 Unauthorized' error. The error message reads: 'Access to this resource is protected. Please sign in to access this resource.' The browser's address bar shows the URL 'gfc4fe40cd2a327-apex1.adb.eu-frankfurt-1.oraclecloudapps.com/ords/demo/employees/'. Below the error message, there are links for 'About Oracle', 'Contact Us', 'Legal Notices', 'Terms Of Use', and 'Your Privacy Rights'. At the bottom of the interface, there is a search bar, a 'Filter by' dropdown, a 'Sort by' dropdown, and a 'Page Size: 20' dropdown. A table of objects is visible at the bottom, with the first entry being 'EMPLOYEES' (Table), which is protected (indicated by a lock icon) and has a role of 'oracle.dbtools.role.autorest.DEMO.E...'. The table also shows 'employees' and '1+'.



Network-Access-Control!

Specify IP-addresses that are allowed to access.



Network Perimeter!

If you or your VPN has a static IP-address, you can configure OCI to reject all connections from unknown IP-addresses.

Please note that there is a significant risk that you will be logged out if your static IP-address changes!!!

Specify IP-addresses that are allowed to access.

Access Control List!

The network access rules you create for an access control list provide protection for your autonomous database by allowing only the public and VCN IP-addresses in the list to connect to the database.

This adds an additional layer of security to your autonomous database.

ORACLE Cloud

Error code: 403

❌ IP Address Rejected

Your client needs to be part of this database's Access Control List to access this page.

[How to configure network access with Access Control Rules \(ACLs\)](#)

Request ID: 8849547c27daaebcbe55e773c9958aa0



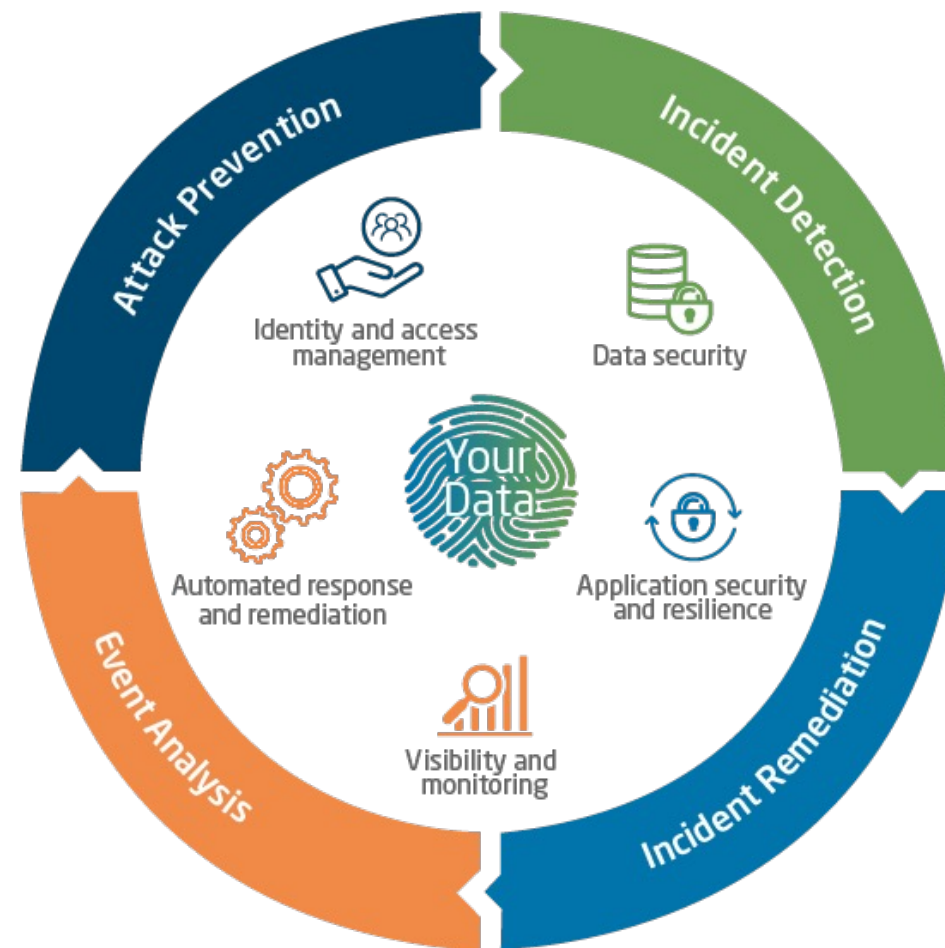
Wrap-up.

Zero-Trust **is not a product to buy** or a checkbox to enable within an application.

Instead, Zero Trust **is an approach** that takes time, effort, and investment to adopt.

Wrap-up.

- OCI has security **architected-in** from the ground up using security-first design principles
- OCI provides **always-on** security to help secure our customers data
- Oracle shifts the security burden from the customers through **automated** services and embedded expertise
- OCI simplifies customers exercise of shared security responsibilities, leading to a **Zero-Trust Security** outcome.



Zero-Trust comes without additional costs.

Are you interested?



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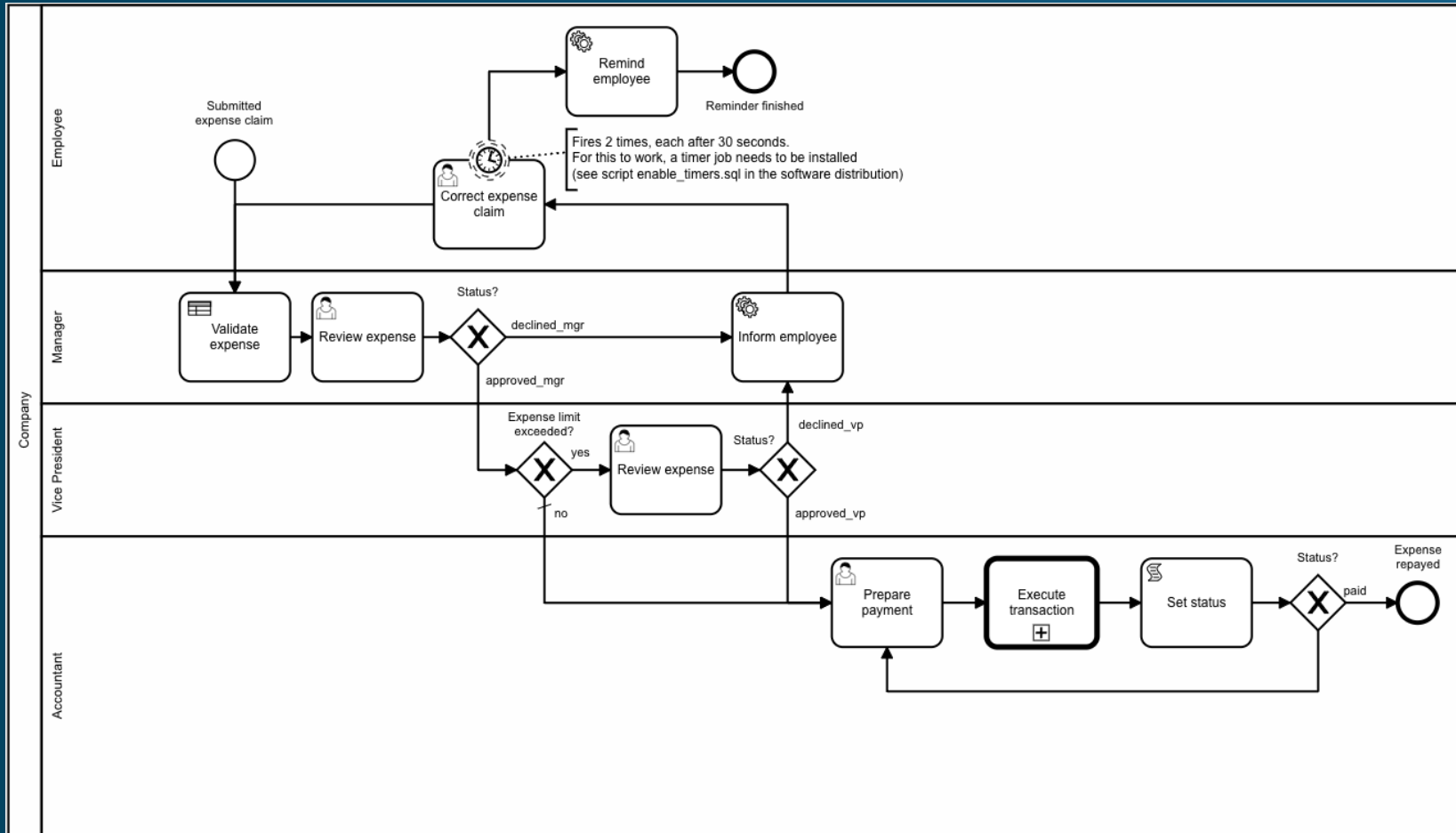
@Therwix



tm-apex.hashnode.dev

Flows for APEX.

BPMN 2.0 Workflows for APEX



- Open Source
- Community Driven
- Support available



Testing APEX Apps is now as easy as creating them.

- Tailored to APEX
- Save a lot of time on regression tests
- Use our intuitive LCT-App and don't write any test code
- Testing on multiple platforms simultaneously



Quellen.

- Seite 6: <https://www.informationisbeautiful.net/visualizations/worlds-biggest-data-breaches-hacks/>
- Seite 32: Whitepaper „Approaching Zero Trust Security with Oracle Cloud Infrastructure“ von Oracle
- Seite 34: Whitepaper „Approaching Zero Trust Security with Oracle Cloud Infrastructure“ von Oracle
- Seite 42: <https://owasp.org/www-project-top-ten/>
- Seite 54: <https://ndisac.org/dibsc/implementation-and-assessment/top-10-high-value-controls/perimeter-hardening/>