



WHITE OAK SECURITY

CASE STUDY



THE CLIENT

Our client is a global outdoor recreational manufacturer focused on outdoor lifestyle products. Their international presence & well-known brand mean that security testing & monitoring is critical as they continue to grow their organization. They are currently in a multi-year partnership with White Oak Security.

STEM METHODOLOGY, EDUCATION & VISIBILITY

THEIR CHALLENGE

Our client has worked very hard to improve and mature their security program - making investments in people and technology, as well as bringing in outside experts (like White Oak Security) to provide in-depth penetration testing and threat emulation services.

This improvement also means a lot of investment; and this client needed to test the efficacy of those investments - including the integrity of their tools, the effectiveness of their internal processes, and the training of their security team.

Did the tools work as expected? Did the process hold up under real-world conditions? Did the team know what BAD really looked like?

They wanted real visibility, real education that can make a difference, and overall a process that would bring consistency to their maturing security program.

They needed a trusted methodology.

CASE STUDY

WHITE OAK SECURITY SOLUTIONS

In the past, the client had worked with vendors that performed 'pentests', but now they needed a partner that utilized a strong methodology and could perform testing, not only to identify and validate vulnerabilities, but that could also show, systematically, where their tools, their people, and their internal process worked... and where they didn't.

White Oak Security's S.T.E.M. Methodology is designed to answer these questions.

White Oak performed a full external and internal penetration test, while incorporating our S.T.E.M. process (which focuses on testing the effectiveness of defensive tools and systems in real-world situations.) We then involved the entire client security team during the final phase of testing - providing not just the results of the testing and remediation guidance, but also a live test of the active tools and processes. This threat emulation activity included Blue Team vs. Red Team scenarios to test not just their tools, but to also challenge their team members and their existing processes.

Not only was this fun, educational, and team building - it was extremely helpful to the client's upper management in understanding where additional investments would be most effective in supporting their security efforts.

"We appreciate the S.T.E.M. methodology - knowing all the vulnerabilities is important, but also understanding where our controls work and where they don't... that gives us the ability to go to the executive team and say, 'look these attacks our tools would have stopped, but these they would not...' That really gives them insight into what 'bad' really looks like. Having White Oak Security educate our team - not just on how to prevent attacks, but on how we could improve our detection... that education piece was huge."

SENIOR SECURITY MANAGER,
Outdoor Recreational Manufacturer

RESULTS

TRUE VISIBILITY INTO VULNERABILITIES & PRIORITIZATION

S.T.E.M. is a methodology that White Oak Security layers on top of their already robust penetration testing approach. It gives a better understanding of which vulnerabilities should be the highest remediation priority and where the gaps lie in your defense-in-depth strategy.

IMPROVED EXECUTIVE SUPPORT

Not only does their cybersecurity team understand their environment and tools better; upper management better understands their current security posture and where additional investments will be needed.

SECURITY TEAM GROWTH & EDUCATION

The S.T.E.M. methodology and threat emulation activities both provide our clients' teams with insight into how to improve their processes and training, as well as how to maximize tool effectiveness.