

Druva's Journey to Seamless Secure Software Development with ActiveState



ActiveState is so transparent and makes our work seamless that sometimes we forget it's there.

druva

Industry: SaaS

Challenges:

- Engineers had to work on both continuous updates to third-party components and feature development in parallel work streams
- Dedicated resources were needed to monitor third-party software

Results:

- Rapid remediation of vulnerabilities as and when they arose, decreasing both risk and Mean Time To Remediation (MTTR)
- Freed up vital engineering resources, accelerating time to market



The Challenge

Druva has always been committed to security for its customers and has embedded secure-by-default processes directly within its corporate policies and internal processes.

As a result, Druva engineers were actively monitoring all third-party components incorporated within the platform. This process ensured that Druva was using the latest and most secure version of the component. They were up to date on any new vulnerabilities, and all available security fixes and patches were applied immediately.

As Druva's platform rapidly grew, the team realized that engineers were constantly juggling the need to develop new features with monitoring and managing existing third-party components. Soon it became evident that engineers' time was best utilized building and developing features that met customer needs, rather than maintaining third-party software.

The Approach

In 2019, Druva was looking for a way to ensure security at scale for their third-party components while working through scheduled upgrades for a few of those components. The Druva engineering team had their work cut out for them with long-term research and analysis of the complexities of the upgrade. The transition included the need to determine all of the potential compatibility issues the team faced.

Druva needed a boost to help scale their efforts, gain greater visibility into the upgrade issues, and speed up the remediation of security vulnerabilities, if any. At the same time, the company needed to balance the need for innovation, process improvement, and productivity as Druva continued delivering innovative features to its customers. This meant engineers had to work on two different, high-priority projects in parallel — and context switch between feature development and component upgrades.

Simply throwing time and resources at the problem was a non-starter for management, so Druva went looking for a vendor to partner with and quickly found ActiveState.

ActiveState provided Druva access to a centralized repository of secure third-party components that could scale to support all of their development teams. If new vulnerabilities were found in any third-party component, ActiveState provided Druva's team with the fixes that they could simply apply, thus freeing up their resources to focus on customer needs and delivering on the high-value business goals the executive team wanted to see progress on.





The Result

It wasn't long before the development teams seamlessly integrated the ActiveState solution into their development processes because of the benefits ActiveState provided:

- Observability into third-party components so they no longer had to track it themselves.
- Scalability by freeing up their resources to focus on more value-added tasks, such as speeding up the upgrade process.
- Rapid remediation of vulnerabilities as and when they arose, decreasing both risk and Mean Time To Remediation (MTTR).

New engineers who join the team don't need to familiarize themselves with managing third-party components or how ActiveState works behind the scenes. Instead, they can focus squarely on business requirements and their functional implementation. ActiveState seamlessly integrates into their workflow, making sure the lights stay on and everyone can keep adding value without worrying about maintaining third-party code.

New engineers don't even know about ActiveState, the team is focused on business and the functional parts. ActiveState is so seamless that the business can function even with turnover and little training. The lights stay on and engineers don't have to worry about what language they are using to add value. That is the beauty of the partnership.

> Ashish Saxena, Director of Engineering, Druva

ActiveState simplified the process to such a degree that new developers can dive right in, tackling the problems customers face and moving the business forward without skipping a beat.



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