media **dpg**

Securing open source software through crowdsourced security

CHIEF INFORMATION
SECURITY OFFICER

Thomas Colyn

media **dpg**

Digital version?
Scan the QR code or go to
go.intigriti.com/dpgmedia-story

iNTiGRiTi

DPG Media
Uses Bug Bounty
Programs as
the Final Step
in its Security
Process

DPG Media is an international digital media network with more than 90 unique brands within its portfolio across The Netherlands, Belgium and Denmark. The media production conglomerate provides its 15 million viewers, listeners, visitors and mobile phone users with premium content and technologies that cover the full spectrum of interests of the modern consumer. In addition, DPG Media offers advertising opportunities to strategic business partners.

The challenge
Defend an extensive attack surface

DPG Media has more than 14,000 customer-facing domains and applications. Despite having a highly-skilled cybersecurity department, defending the network's enormous attack surface alone was a challenge.

Thomas Colyn, an ➤ award-nominated[1] security specialist and CISO of DPG Media, is responsible for the IT security and information management of all assets of the DGP Media group (The Netherlands, Belgium and Denmark). He created a process whereby each product, domain or application within the network undergoes a series of security testing steps, including penetration testing.

> "Our current IT strategy and information security strategy lies in the fact that we are trying to build a secure and agile ecosystem." - Thomas Colyn, CISO of DPG Media

To finalise this process, Colyn needed a solution that would apply continuous security testing thereafter.

1. https://www.computable.nl/artikel/informatie/awards-nieuws/7206208/1853296/thomas-colyn-dpg-media-scoort-nominatie.html

Crowdsourced security testing
as a final step in the process

To meet DPG Media's business goals, Colyn chose to lean on Intigriti's bug bounty platform for support. The platform meant he could tap into a network of security researchers (ethical hackers) whilst also leveraging customer support and a triage team.

The role of a triage team is to review and screen incoming vulnerability reports so that the client only receives relevant, valid and in-scope vulnerability reports. A triage team also replicates the reported findings to evaluate their impact and severity.

"

I can use the creativity of thousands of ethical hackers' minds through Intigriti — and that is far stronger than using automation or general algorithms to discover difficult to find vulnerabilities.

THOMAS COLYN
CISO OF DPG MEDIA

INDUSTRY	UNIQUE BRANDS	EMPLOYEES
Media production	**90**	**6,000**

Intertwining bug bounty programs into DPG Media's security testing process

When a project launches within DPG Media, the first layer of cybersecurity checks includes testing within a quality and assurance environment, followed by a penetration test. These steps bring the project to a level of maturity whereby Colyn's team are satisfied to launch it as a bug bounty program.

> "The bug bounty programs provide me with more assurance that even the most difficult to find vulnerabilities are discoverable so that we can mitigate them quickly. In return, we provide more assurance to our customers, our readers, and our listeners."

DPG Media has already launched public bug bounty programs for 14 of its brands, including ↖ VTM Go[2], ↖ HLN[3], ↖ De Volkskrant[4] and ↖ Algemeen Dagblad[5]. The network chose to launch the programs publicly to leverage the support of the entire ethical hacking community. Next to the public programs, DPG Media also chose to run a responsible disclosure program through Intigriti for any related domain that they own.

2. https://app.intigriti.com/programs/dpgm/vtmgo/detail

3. https://app.intigriti.com/programs/dpgm/hetlaatstenieuws/detail

4. https://app.intigriti.com/programs/dpgm/devolkskrant/detail

5. https://app.intigriti.com/programs/dpgm/algemeendagblad/detail

"

The result
Continuous dedication towards defending against cyber threats

Immediate results

" • "You will get immediate results the moment that you place
  • your assets and domains on Intigriti" Colyn explained.

Within one year of launching bug bounty programs on the Intigriti platform, DPG Media received more than 1,900 vulnerability submissions across 14 brands. The severity of vulnerabilities reported ranged from low to exceptional.

Increased visibility of hard-to-find security vulnerabilities

Colyn highlights how the bug bounty programs offer a significantly different benefit from the penetration tests:

" • "At each moment, someone is trying to find a vulnerability,
  • which is one of the biggest differences between pentesting
  • and bug bounty."

Pentests focus on one moment in time, whereas bug bounty programs are continuous. Whilst a business may receive a certificate to say it is secure at the end of a penetration test, that may not still be the case after it makes an update. This is where bug bounty programs work well as a follow-up.

Effective time allocation

Duplicates, out-of-scope and invalid vulnerability reports were rejected from the vulnerability management process by Intigriti's triage team. This meant the network's cybersecurity team only paid attention to genuine security risks in need of a patch.

The most impact we have experienced from working with Intigriti is the extra time that my security team gets back from not triaging reports. What I also appreciate about Intigriti is the feeling that the customer comes first — it is an open and collaborative relationship where we share a common goal to mitigate found vulnerabilities.

THOMAS COLYN
CISO, DPG MEDIA

▸ www.dpgmediagroup.com
▸ it.communicatie@dpgmedia.nl
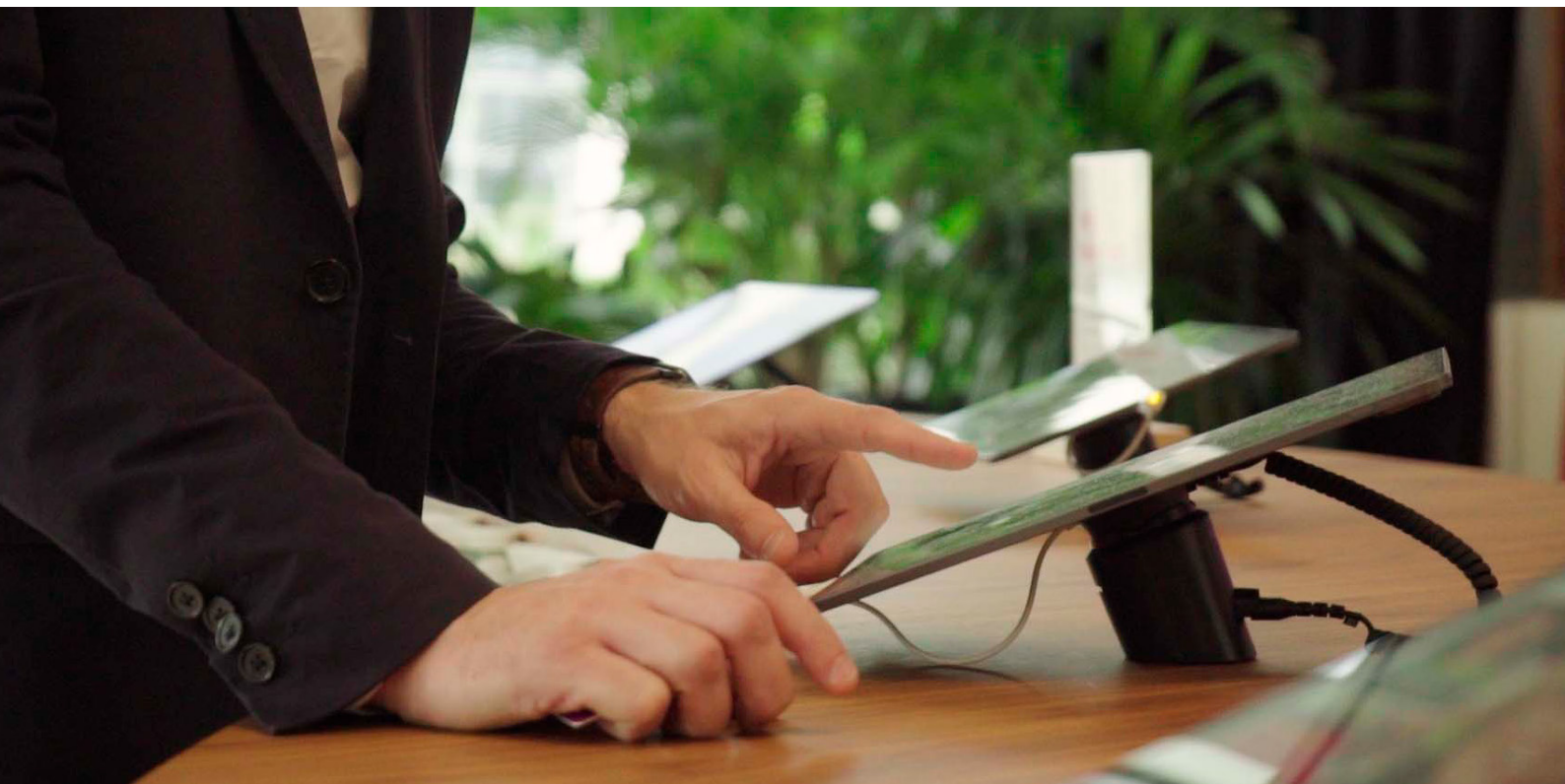
◥ **TAKE YOUR FIRST STEPS**

👁 Request a demo **intigriti.com/demo**

🌐 Visit the website **intigriti.com**

✉ Get in touch **hello@intigriti.com**

👥 **90,000+ researchers**

🔲 **400+ live bug bounty programs**

🔒 **GDPR compliant**

🌍 **Strong global presence**

🌸 **intigriti**

Information from Q1/2024. We are constantly growing, so please contact our sales department or see our website for an accurate number.