VerticalStructure

KAIROS CASE STUDY
Ensuring the interactive platform for performance practitioners and players is safe.

THE CHALLENGE

NCSC research shows that sports clubs are a high value target for cyber attackers. They need to secure their digital footprint and protect their sensitive data by procuring technology from firms with solid cyber postures.

Data breaches can result in costly fines and Intellectual Property being exposed. They can also result in damage to reputation, which harms client and investor trust, erodes customer base and hinders sales.

We've worked in the sports tech sector before and have a deep understanding of Kairos' business model and the wider industry. We feel we can bring a human focus to security and help to protect them and their clients from an ever-evolving cyber threat.

Simon Whittaker
Co founder & CEO, Vertical Structure

OVERVIEW

Kairos exists to maximise elite sports performance through excellent team communication and operations. The digital platform adds efficiency to organisations, defines a culture of clarity, and supports a high performance environment.

Founded in early 2018 by former Irish and Ulster rugby professional Andrew Trimble and entrepreneur Gareth Quinn, the company helps elite sports teams and athletes better manage their schedules. The solution allows them to easily keep track of training sessions, meetings and physio/medical appointments, as well as providing communication channels.

The platform is currently used by clubs in every tier of English football, Premiership and PRO14 rugby sides, elite teams in top sports leagues across the USA & Australia and a number of international football and rugby sides.

Recently it has raised £1.5 million (€1.75 million) to support further expansion in to the US.

WHY KAIROS CHOOSE VERTICAL STRUCTURE

Andrew and Gareth are focused on developing the interactive platform, and navigating their expansion journey. The recognised the importance of making sure the platform and data were secure, but did not have the internal resource to test the cloud environment & the web application, and to navigate the complexities of information security.

Vertical Structure has experience of working with the sports sector - from Ireland's largest sporting organisation, to other startups and scaleups - so knows first hand how to address the challenges the industry faces.

THE SOLUTION

The Vertical Structure team completed penetration testing of the Kairos web and mobile application at every step of the Software/System Development Life Cycle (SDLC) to give assurance that security was an utmost priority. Assessing compliance with industry regulations & the client's specific security needs.

Cloud-based environments & infrastructure	Human Focused Security & Penetration Testing of web app	Assessing compliance with industry regulations & Kairos' needs
Good visibility into the security configurations of the cloud service environment, and to ensure vulnerabilities were not missed. The testing included examination of the configuration of accounts to provide clarity about issues including: IAM setup, Security Groups, Block storage, VPC configuration, Encryption & data at rest.	**To thoroughly evaluate the security posture of the applications with simulated real-life tactics.** All parts of the system were investigated. Vertical Structure highlighted areas for improvement in such a way that the Kairos team, at all levels, could understand the requirements and make cyber security part of their day-to-day role.	**Assessing compliance with industry regulations & the client's specific security needs.** 1. GDPR Gap Analysis, Investigation and Data Audit 2. Information Security Gap Analysis 3. Support and guidance to become ISO27001:2013 certified.

RESULTS

Vertical Structure provided credible findings and outlined clear improvements that Kairos was able to implement, and ensure its cyber security defences. Kairos also achieved ISO27001:2013 certification as evidence to internal and external stakeholders of its commitment to ensure that data is protected from misuse, corruption or loss.

Led by our world class engineering team, we have developed a cloud-based platform that helps athletes to focus on their own bespoke performance plans, while seamlessly providing valuable tools and insights to coaches and medical staff. We recognise that cyber security is everyone's responsibility, and working with Vertical Structure we've been able to prove that we are doing our part in keeping data safe.

Andrew Trimble
Co founder & CEO, Kairos

VerticalStructure

aws Select Consulting Partner