

# Leader Bank

*Leader Bank Stays a Step Ahead by Automating and Orchestrating Application Security*

## Interview with Chief Technology Officer, Leader Bank

### How is Leader Bank leveraging technology innovation to serve your customers?

As a community bank we're focused on serving the mortgage needs of consumers and small businesses. We are one of the top five banks in Massachusetts in loan originations but our customer population is largely remote, so most of those transactions are done online. Our vision is to stay "a step ahead" of the needs of our customers. To that end we have developed products for our mobile customers — that will simplify the handling of apartment security deposits and escrow payments for both tenants and landlords. In addition to addressing the needs of our local customers, we are licensing these and other technology products we developed in-house to other banks nationwide..

### As CTO, what is your responsibility in terms of security?

My responsibility first and foremost

is a focus on security and ensuring that all customer data is protected. Secondly, it's aligning with the business to make sure constituents have the services they need. It's crucial that any critical, exploitable code vulnerability is identified before a product is released to customers, either via our website or the products we license to other banks. We require visibility into potential risks, such as software vulnerabilities, to best protect our customers and the bank. Additionally, as a banking institution, we have security and privacy regulations with which we must comply.

### How are you implementing security to align with Leader Bank's innovation velocity?

Our security strategy is comprised of many layers of protection. The ZeroNorth platform is one of those layers, automating and orchestrating vulnerability and penetration testing of our applications and infrastructure. Many organizations perform vulnerability testing on an annual or semi-annual basis. But with increasing and continuous cyber threats, this periodic testing is not sufficient. We could be exposed for many months and not know it. The ZeroNorth platform

## At-a-Glance

### Goals

- Gain complete visibility across the entire application stack; modernize processes and shift security to the left in the SDLC to gain this visibility.
- Continuous security testing versus once or twice per year.
- Managing multiple security tools more easily.
- A more cost-effective, efficient process to ensuring regulatory compliance.

### Results with ZeroNorth

- Consolidated existing, disparate security testing tools; automated and scheduled routine scans; improved prioritization of vulnerabilities.
- Reinforced confidence in the security of the products being released to consumers and other banks.
- Able to meet compliance requirements cost-effectively.

integrates into our continuous threat monitoring program and lets us automatically run scans, every day, every week, every month, whatever we choose. As we accelerate innovation, we wanted to shift security earlier into our development cycle so that we can identify and remediate vulnerabilities as soon as possible. The ZeroNorth platform gives me confidence in knowing what our security posture is on a continuous basis, not just once or twice a year, and that we stay secure. It also helps us meet compliance requirements in a very cost-effective manner.

### **How does ZeroNorth help you optimize your resources?**

When we had different security tools to run and manage, we had to collect and correlate all of the data coming from them, and then manually assess which vulnerabilities to prioritize for the development team. This was very inefficient. Because the ZeroNorth platform integrates with the tools we already had in place, our threat information is consolidated and we can manage and orchestrate all of our tools from a single pane of glass. The ZeroNorth platform does all of the correlation of disparate data for us as well, prioritizing vulnerabilities based on our internal risk profile. Additionally, to fulfill our mission and vision of servicing our regional and national

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customers, it’s important that we work with vendors we can consider as partners. ZeroNorth has truly become a trusted security partner to us and it’s a partnership we value highly.

### **Find Out More**

To learn more about how the ZeroNorth platform can provide continuous visibility into your security posture, or to request a demo, reach out to us at [secure@ZeroNorth.io](mailto:secure@ZeroNorth.io).



### **Background**

With assets over \$1.3 billion, Leader Bank is a nationally chartered bank founded in 2002 with seven full-service branches in Arlington, Belmont, Boston, Burlington, and Cambridge. Leader Bank offers a full range of personal and business banking products including free personal and business checking accounts, commercial and residential lending products, home equity lines of credit, deposit products with highly competitive rates and free online banking and

bill payment services. Visit Leader Bank’s website at [www.leaderbank.com](http://www.leaderbank.com) or any one of the Bank’s convenient branch locations for more information.