How a Retail Organization Became 12x Faster at Assessing Security Controls with Cymulate

CASE STUDY

Manual Testing Proves Insufficient for a Global Enterprise

This retail organization has a presence in 34 countries and over 5,800 stores. Its security team uses various controls to protect customer and employee data because it's a large retail organization with many devices and an extensive infrastructure. However, each entity uses different control vendors, making it difficult for the small security team to ensure all its controls are configured correctly. Initially, the team conducted manual pen tests to validate its controls, which were time-consuming and unscalable.

The team wanted more visibility into how all its controls were performing globally and whether they would protect the company in case of an attack. The team began to explore breach and attack simulation (BAS) tools that would automatically validate its controls' efficacy.

The Cymulate Solution

After researching BAS platforms and consulting with its partners, the organization decided that Cymulate Exposure Validation was a perfect fit for its validation needs. The company's CISO reflected, "**When I was first introduced to Cymulate, I was blown away by the breadth and depth of its assessments. It far exceeded my expectations.**" He added, "**One of the first assessments we ran with Cymulate was on our web application firewall. We started with a score around 30, and after identifying and fixing a key misconfiguration, it dropped to 1. That quick win showed me just how immediate and impactful Cymulate's value could be.**"

The CISO explained that Cymulate empowers the organization to strengthen its security posture by continuously testing defenses, enhancing visibility and enabling smarter decision-making.

Validate and optimize controls across the organization

"Before Cymulate, assessing and hardening just one security control across all our regions could take up to a year. Now, with Cymulate, it takes about a month. The platform lets me drill down into specific countries, identify underperforming controls, and focus our efforts on strengthening and optimizing them."

Overview

Industry	Retail Apparel and Fashion
HQ	Switzerland
Company Size	10,001+ employees

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Bringing in Cymulate was a game changer. It helped us uncover gaps in top-tier solutions and showed real ROI by improving processes, configurations and overall security posture."

– CISO

Solution

- Exposure Validation

Results

- 12 times faster at assessing security controls
- 97% reduction in WAF risk
- 75% reduction in reporting time

Make data-driven decisions

"Before Cymulate, gathering all our security data took months. Now, it's all at my fingertips with minimal effort. I love how the Cymulate dashboard gives me a clear view of our security posture by country, region and solution. I have full visibility into which controls are performing well and which need attention, enabling me to confidently plan our security strategy for the coming months and even years."

Prioritize vulnerabilities

"Dealing with vulnerabilities used to be a lot more time-consuming. With Cymulate, I can quickly see which vulnerabilities will impact the organization and prioritize patching and mitigation."

Increase security visibility

"Instead of assessing my security controls once a year, Cymulate provides me with continuous visibility of my defenses. It's a game changer."

Report to leadership

"With Cymulate reporting, I can easily show leadership the status of our security tools and their trends."

Benefits

- **Increased efficiency in reporting** – Cymulate automates data collection and reporting processes, dramatically reducing the time and effort required from the organization's security team.
- **Enhanced visibility and assurance** – Cymulate provides the team with continuous security control validation, offering real-time insight into whether defenses perform as expected. This constant validation ensures that gaps are identified proactively, giving the team confidence in the effectiveness of its security posture across all regions.
- **Improved security decision-making** – Cymulate empowers the team with actionable insights from real-time data, enabling more informed and strategic security decisions. This ensures that security initiatives are aligned with actual risk, making the organization's overall strategy more effective and targeted.
- **Simplified testing and reduced manual work** – Instead of relying on manual pen testing across different countries, Cymulate's automated platform significantly reduces the need for manual intervention, streamlining the entire security validation process globally.

About Cymulate

Cymulate, the leader in exposure management and security validation, provides the single source of truth for threat exposure and the actions required to close security gaps before attackers can exploit them. More than 500 customers worldwide rely on the Cymulate platform to baseline their security posture and strengthen cyber resilience with continuous discovery, validation, prioritization, and guided remediation of security weaknesses. Cymulate automates advanced offensive security testing to validate controls, threats, and attack paths. As an open platform, Cymulate integrates with existing security and IT infrastructure and drives the workflows of the exposure management process. For more information, visit www.cymulate.com.

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