cymulate

Retail Organization Tests Security Controls 12x Faster with Cymulate

CASE STUDY

Slow, Manual Security Validation

With operations spanning 34 countries and more than 5,800 stores, this global retail organization relies on a diverse set of security controls to protect customer and employee data across a vast and complex infrastructure. However, different business entities used different security vendors, creating significant challenges for a small security team tasked with ensuring controls were consistently configured and performing as intended.

To validate its defenses, the team initially relied on manual penetration testing. While effective for point-in-time assessments, the process was time-consuming, resource-intensive and difficult to scale across the organization's global environment.

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 exposure validation tools that would automatically validate the effectiveness of its controls.

The Cymulate Solution

After researching exposure validation platforms and consulting with its partners, the organization decided that Cymulate 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. With Mitigation Hub, we can take that a step further by turning validated exposures into prioritized, actionable mitigation tasks that are easier to execute and track."

Overview

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

> 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

- Threat Validation
- Control Optimization
- Exposure Prioritization & Mitigation

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 I can use Vero AI to create dashboards in minutes to give 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

"Cymulate Vero AI makes it simple to create dashboards for my executive team. I can easily show leadership the status of our security tools and their trends."

Benefits

- **Increased efficiency in reporting.** With Vero AI, 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.** Vero AI helps Cymulate adapt validation to the organization's unique environment and the latest threat landscape. By analyzing results and translating them into prioritized next steps and security control updates, Cymulate gives the team clearer direction on where to focus resources, reduce risk and strengthen its overall security strategy.
- **Simplified testing and reduced manual work.** Instead of relying on manual pen testing across different countries, the AI-powered automated platform significantly reduces the need for manual intervention, streamlining the entire security validation process globally.

About Cymulate

Cymulate is the leader in proactive, AI-powered security that continuously proves, prioritizes and adapts against real attacker behavior – before incidents occur. More than 1,000 enterprise security teams rely on Cymulate for autonomous threat validation and cyber defense engineering. Founded and led by experienced red teamers who know that testing alone does not deliver better security, Cymulate goes beyond threat validation to build threat- and exposure-informed cyber defenses. For more information, visit www.cymulate.com.