

Empower Teams, Enhance Security.

4 Steps for building a Security Champion Program

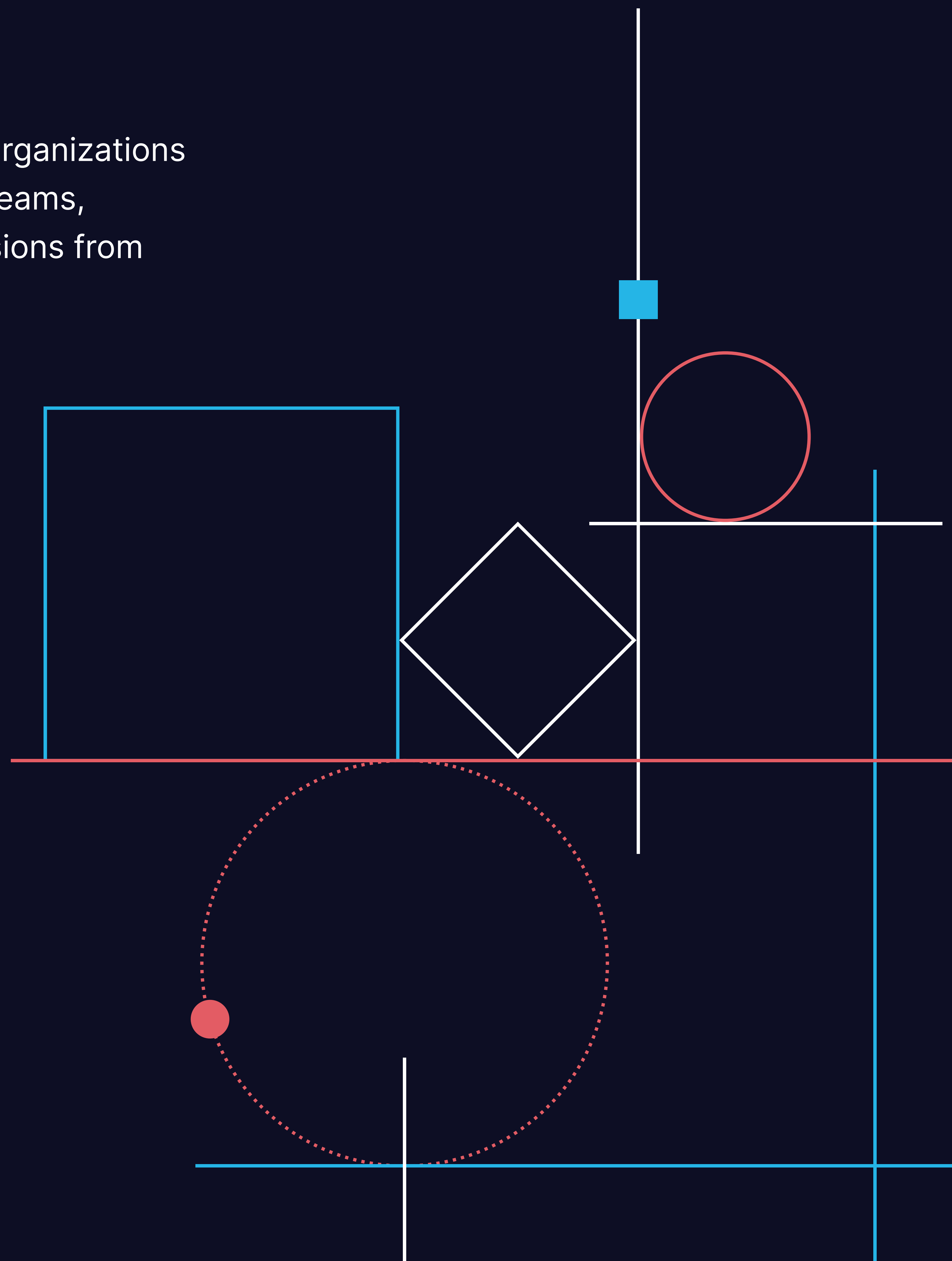
From the constant threat of cyberattacks to the pressure to deliver innovative products at breakneck speed, the stakes have never been higher for software development. However, despite these challenges, a concerning trend persists: a significant gap exists between the security practices organizations employ and the level of security readiness needed to combat modern threats.

The problem:

Recent studies have shed light on the alarming state of security within development teams. Shockingly, 67%¹ of developers admit to shipping code with known vulnerabilities, underscoring the urgent need for improved security practices. Furthermore, only 37%² of developers feel that their organization provides them with the tools and training they need to write secure code. This lack of support leaves development teams ill-equipped to address security concerns effectively.

The Solution:

By implementing a robust Security Champion Program, organizations can bridge the gap between security and development teams, empowering developers to make informed security decisions from the project's inception.



Here's how :

1 Define Success

Establish clear objectives and success criteria for your Security Champions Program. Consider factors such as organizational security maturity, cultural perception of security, and executive buy-in. Metrics should be risk-based, focusing on the business impact of vulnerabilities rather than vanity metrics.

2 Identify Security Champions

Select individuals with the right blend of technical expertise, enthusiasm, and commitment to serve as Security Champions. Look beyond traditional engineering roles and consider individuals in various roles who can contribute to the program's success. Monitor and evaluate the impact of individual champions to identify areas for improvement.

3 Provide continuous training

Security is a dynamic field, constantly evolving with new threats and vulnerabilities. Ensure that your Security Champions are equipped with the latest knowledge and skills through continuous training. Offer both team-based and individualized training programs tailored to the needs of your organization.

4 Empower your champions

Empower your Security Champions to affect meaningful change within your organization. Provide them with the authority and resources needed to voice and resolve security concerns effectively. Foster a culture where security is viewed as a shared responsibility and integral part of the development process.

Benefits of a Security Champion Program:

- ◆ **Accelerated Delivery:**
Foster collaboration between security and development teams, expediting product delivery while ensuring secure digital transformation.
- ◆ **Developer Empowerment:**
Equip your development teams with the knowledge and context to make informed security decisions from the project's inception, fostering a culture of security-consciousness.
- ◆ **Enhanced Security:**
Detect and address security vulnerabilities earlier in the development process, minimizing risks and reducing costs associated with rework.

Ready to revolutionize your application security strategy?

Download our [Security Champions eBook](#) now and embark on the journey toward a more secure and empowered future for your organization.