

Configuration Manual

MSc Research Project
Cyber Security

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MSc Project Submission Sheet



School of Computing

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CYBER SECURITY 2024
Programme: **Year:**
Msc Cyber security Practicum 2
Module:
Joel Aleburu
Lecturer:
Submission Due Date: 12-12-2024
Enhancing Security in Node.js Applications to Prevent SQL Injection
Project Title:
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Configuration Manual

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1 System Requirements

1.1 Hardware Requirements:

- Minimum 4 GB RAM.
- At least 2 GHz CPU.
- 10 GB minimum of free disk space.


1.2 Software Requirements:

- Operating System: Windows 10/11, macOS, or Linux.
- Node.js: Version 16.0.0 or higher.
- MySQL Server: Version 8.0 or higher.
- OWASP ZAP: Latest stable version.
- IDE: Visual Studio Code or any equivalent code editor.
- Xampp Server

2 Application Setup

Installing Node.js:

- Download Node.js from [Node.js Official Website](https://nodejs.org/en/).
- Install Node.js and npm (Node Package Manager).


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```

1 // server.mjs
2 import { createServer } from 'node:http';
3
4 const server = createServer((req, res) => {
5   res.writeHead(200, { 'Content-Type': 'text/plain' });
6   res.end('Hello World!\n');
7 });
8
9 // starts a simple http server locally on port 3000
10 server.listen(3000, '127.0.0.1', () => {
11   console.log('Listening on 127.0.0.1:3000');
12 });
13
14 // run with 'node server.mjs'
    
```

JavaScript
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Installing MySQL:

- Download MySQL Server from [MySQL Official Website](#).
- Configure the root user with a secure password.

MySQL Community Downloads

MySQL Installer

[General Availability \(GA\) Releases](#)[Archives](#)[Info](#)

MySQL Installer 8.0.40

Note: MySQL 8.0 is the final series with MySQL Installer. As of MySQL 8.1, use a MySQL product's MSI or Zip archive for installation. MySQL Server 8.1 and higher also bundle MySQL Configurator, a tool that helps configure MySQL Server.

Select Version:

8.0.40

Select Operating System:

Microsoft Windows

Windows (x86, 32-bit), MSI Installer (mysql-installer-web-community-8.0.40.0.msi)	8.0.40	2.1M	Download
		MD5: e3b10c3cd4be4bbdf4f8a23afe375917 Signature	
Windows (x86, 32-bit), MSI Installer (mysql-installer-community-8.0.40.0.msi)	8.0.40	306.5M	Download
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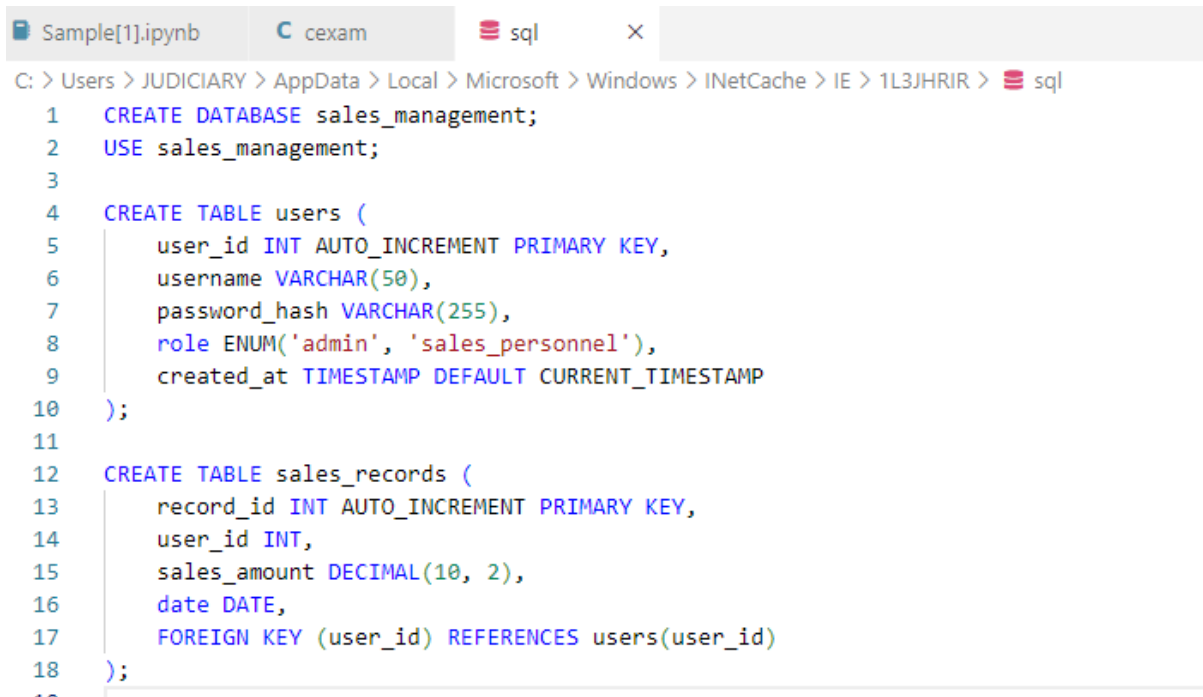
We suggest that you use the MD5 checksums and GnuPG signatures to verify the integrity of the packages you download.

Installing Dependencies:

- Open the terminal/command prompt in your project directory.
- Run npm install to download all dependencies from package.json.

Setting Up the Database:

- Use the provided SQL script to create the required tables



The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook interface with a file named 'Sample[1].ipynb' open. The notebook is running on a terminal window titled 'cexam'. The terminal shows the command 'C: > Users > JUDICIARY > AppData > Local > Microsoft > Windows > INetCache > IE > 1L3JHRIR > sql' followed by a SQL script. The script creates a database named 'sales_management', uses it, and then creates two tables: 'users' and 'sales_records'. The 'users' table has columns for 'user_id' (auto-incrementing primary key), 'username' (VARCHAR(50)), 'password_hash' (VARCHAR(255)), 'role' (ENUM with values 'admin' and 'sales_personnel'), and 'created_at' (TIMESTAMP defaulting to CURRENT_TIMESTAMP). The 'sales_records' table has columns for 'record_id' (auto-incrementing primary key), 'user_id' (foreign key to 'users'), 'sales_amount' (DECIMAL(10, 2)), and 'date' (DATE). A foreign key constraint is also defined for 'user_id' in 'sales_records' to reference 'users'.

```
1 CREATE DATABASE sales_management;
2 USE sales_management;
3
4 CREATE TABLE users (
5     user_id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
6     username VARCHAR(50),
7     password_hash VARCHAR(255),
8     role ENUM('admin', 'sales_personnel'),
9     created_at TIMESTAMP DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP
10 );
11
12 CREATE TABLE sales_records (
13     record_id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
14     user_id INT,
15     sales_amount DECIMAL(10, 2),
16     date DATE,
17     FOREIGN KEY (user_id) REFERENCES users(user_id)
18 );
```

3 Testing Procedures

3.1 Manual Testing:

- Test for SQL injection vulnerabilities using crafted payloads.
- Verify functionality of user authentication and sales record submission.

3.2 Automated Testing:

- Run OWASP ZAP scans to identify security vulnerabilities.
- Validate the absence of SQL injection vulnerabilities in the test results.

3.3 Performance Testing:

- Monitor application response times after applying security measures.

4 Deployment Instructions

4.1 Local Deployment

Conversely for the testing and running the application locally then the XAMPP was used to create the related server environment. And last but not least, XAMPP offers Apache, MySQL, PHP, and Perl integrated pack allowing to easily install local development environment. Once the installation of XAMPP is complete and once the application has been started the MySQL

server has to be set up to host the application database. For purpose of creating and populating the required tables, the SQL script developed in the project is run through the XAMPP MySQL console or phpMyAdmin.

When the database is set the Node.js application can be initiated by typing the command `npm start` in the terminal from project directory. By default, the application will run on `http://localhost:3000`, that is, through any browser on the Internet, one can enter a system. As such, this kind of structure provides a proper local environment for testing new features such as user login, submission of sales records, and protection against SQL injection attacks.

4.2 Production Deployment

Production deployment can be made on hosting platforms like AWS, Heroku, or any other cloud services for scalability and reliability. In deploying to production, HTTPS should be set up so as to secure communication and protect sensitive data, such as user credentials and/or financial records. Besides, the `.env` file holding sensitive configurations.

The same is the case with the production environment, which should adhere to strict security guidelines as laid down by the database for parameterized queries and access control to prevent unauthorized access. Regular backups and replication setups can further safeguard the data.

4.3 Continuous Monitoring

It is highly recommended that continuous monitoring tools be integrated to ensure the integrity and performance of the application in real time. These tools monitor server performance metrics, identify anomalies, and detect potential security threats. For instance, monitoring tools such as New Relic or Datadog can provide insight into server health and application performance, while vulnerability-scan testing tools like OWASP ZAP can be run periodically in production.

The combination of XAMPP for local testing with a robust production deployment strategy and continuous monitoring will guarantee both secure and highly reliable operations of the Node.js app when used in real-world environments.