Renowned Australian Bank Achieves Strong Mobile App Security with Guardsquare

Major financial services company leverages code obfuscation solutions to prevent decompiling and repackaging.

The Company

This financial services organization is one of the 30 largest commercial banks in the Asia-Pacific region. They offer consumer, business, and institutional banking as well as wealth management services–serving almost 14 million customers.

80% of all the bank's activities are executed through mobile apps. They have between 3-3.5 million banking sessions per day both on iOS and Android, a 40% increase from 2021. Their mobile app development team grew from seven members in 2018 to around 70 in 2022.

COMPANY DETAILS

Industry
Financial Services

Privately / Publicly Owned
Public

Employees
10,000+

Customer Since
2016

Challenges
- Improve app security and resiliency
- Maintain the best user experience for their customers
- Meet delivery timelines without degrading the app's security

Solutions
- ProGuard | DexGuard | iXGuard

> **"Everyone in the team, from DevOps all the way to developers, are impressed with the support Guardsquare provides. It's good to know that you work with a partner that always has your back."**
>
> — **Principal Technical Lead,** Renowned Australian Bank
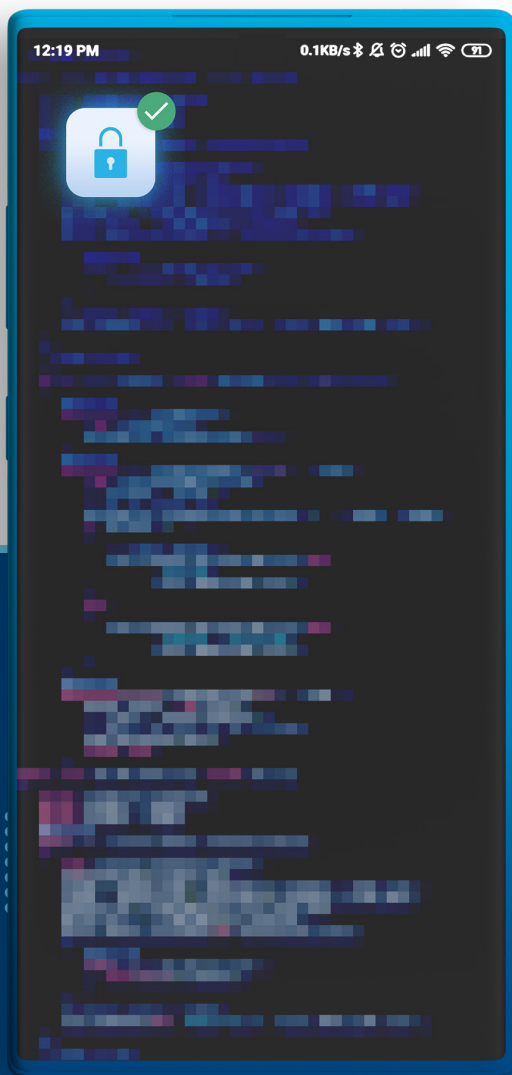
GUARDSQUARE
Mobile application protection

The Challenge

The need to support all customers' banking activities online, particularly in an increasingly mobile-first world, pushed the bank to redesign and redevelop their applications. The bank understood that malicious actors were able to decompile and repackage their apps.

The development team needed to deliver new iOS and Android applications that had been pre-announced to the market, meet strict regulatory and compliance requirements, on a very tight delivery deadline. They aim to provide the most secure banking apps in Australia, New Zealand, and beyond.

> **"Knowing that malicious actors were able to gain insights into our apps, modify and repackage them, we knew we had to improve our apps' security and resiliency before our customers were impacted - without sacrificing user experience. Thankfully, Guardsquare solutions were able to help us achieve both."**
>
> — **Principal Technical Lead,** Renowned Australian bank

The Solution

Having leveraged Guardsquare's open-source code optimizer, ProGuard, the bank seamlessly transitioned to Guardsquare's DexGuard and iXGuard code protection solutions. The security team found the advanced code hardening capabilities to be exactly what they needed to support their overall security strategy. DexGuard and iXGuard's multi-layered obfuscation, encryption and RASP capabilities have made it significantly harder for attackers to decompile, reverse engineer, modify, or access IP inside the app. Most importantly, it prevents attackers from repackaging and distributing the modded applications.

"The Guardsquare solutions are integral to enabling our apps to pass the penetration testing requirements set by the security team." - Principal Technical Lead

Guardsquare enabled the development team to deliver apps with a high level of security without taking focus and resources away from the functional development and launch their apps on time.

GUARDSQUARE
Mobile application protection

The Result

The bank now has full confidence in the security of the mobile banking apps being supplied to their customers. Guardsquare's ease of use and automation features have resulted in little to no additional overhead on the development team, enabling them to focus on delivering award winning mobile applications.

"Guardsquare's advanced protection solutions are complemented by their intuitiveness and ease of use, comprehensive documentation, and the responsiveness of the support team, which was critical for our development team's adoption," explained the principal technical lead.

Guardsquare's support team was able to further improve their overall security posture by providing critical insights into the apps' threat profiles. They were able to leverage this information with the bank's risk analysis and management system, resulting in more accurate, security-related decision-making.

Next, the development team will be looking to further improve the apps' security by leveraging Guardsquare's RASP features more extensively and incorporating ThreatCast, Guardsquare's real-time threat monitoring solution, into their apps' Software Development Lifecycle (SDLC).

PROTECT ········ TEST ········ MONITOR

Curious to see how
Guardsquare can protect your
banking mobile apps against
common attacks?

Request a Demo

GUARDSQUARE

Mobile application protection

Developer friendly **mobile app sec tools** that:

| PROTECT | TEST | MONITOR |

Guardsquare offers the most complete approach to mobile application security on the market. Built on the open source **ProGuard**® technology, Guardsquare's software integrates seamlessly across the development cycle. From app security testing to code hardening to real-time visibility into the threat landscape, Guardsquare solutions provide enhanced mobile application security from early in the development process through publication.

More than 900 customers worldwide across all major industries rely on Guardsquare to help them identify security risks and protect their mobile applications against reverse engineering and tampering.

The creators of **ProGuard**® | www.guardsquare.com