



# Guild Education

## CASE STUDY

Guild Education provides a Career Opportunity Platform. Guild partners with employers to design training and education programs that align with each company's corporate strategy and create career advancement opportunities through personal and professional learning programs, career development, and one-on-one coaching. Companies can leverage Guild to curate an education marketplace that includes degree programs and stackable certificates that increase the employees' qualifications, fund educational opportunities for current and former employees, track progress in participating in programs, post jobs, and search for job candidates.

Guild also provides tuition reimbursement, education benefits programs, career discovery, career assessment, job placement, academic and career coaching, and more. Users access Guild services, information, data, and content through websites and mobile apps.

Julie Chickillo, VP and head of information security and privacy at Guild Education, explains the importance of APIs in the company's data exchange to users and educational institutions: "We're sending a lot of data back and forth to students and schools, and these individuals and institutions are not always super technical. APIs make information more accessible, and that's an important cornerstone at Guild – accessibility."

She continues, "We have always recognized the importance of API security when it comes to personal information from both our partnering companies and our end users, but when we expanded into student loan reimbursement and the financial details involved in those processes, we immediately started looking for ways to harden API security across the board."

Chickillo mobilized a team spanning engineering architects, DevOps, and security to get ahead of the services roadmap. The team engaged with Salt Security for an initial proof of concept and penetration test. "The results we saw from Salt were simply more actionable than other solutions we were considering," says Chickillo.

## GUILD

Guild provides an education platform and partners with leading employers in the U.S. to design programs that create opportunities for their workforce, with the goal of enabling career pathways for every employee, improving retention, and driving talent development while supporting critical diversity, equity, and inclusion (DE&I) efforts.

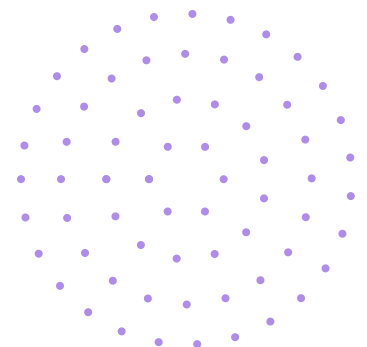
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**Headquarters**  
Denver, Colorado

**Founded** 2015

**Infrastructure** AWS

[www.guildeducation.com](http://www.guildeducation.com)



Further strengthening their confidence in Salt, the Guild team – in the midst of the Salt evaluation – was alerted that the CircleCI breach may have affected data security at Guild.<sup>1</sup> The team leveraged Salt to assess the threat and recognize that their data had not been compromised.

Guild Education plans to continue to increase API security using Salt as the team expands the back-end data infrastructure including data pipelines, ETL, infrastructure as code, data warehouses, and data APIs.

Top use cases for Guild Education:

- **API discovery:** Guild uses the continuous API discovery capabilities of the Salt platform to understand changes to APIs running in its expansive network of customer environments, ensuring a complete API inventory and avoiding shadow APIs.
- **Attack prevention:** Guild recognizes that every API is unique and so are the attacks against them. They leverage the Salt cloud-scale big data platform to detect bad actors who may be probing APIs in search of business logic flaws over minutes, days, or weeks.
- **DevOps feedback loop:** Guild provides its DevOps teams with Salt insights on API security gaps, learned in runtime, providing recommendations for hardening their APIs.

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<sup>1</sup>On December 12, 2022, an unauthorized third party leveraged malware deployed to a CircleCI engineer's laptop to steal a valid, [two-factor authentication] 2FA-backed SSO [single sign-on] session. <https://circleci.com/blog/jan-4-2023-incident-report/>

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We are building API security into every new project from the outset. The team is thrilled with every new release from Salt – it keeps getting better. It's one of the few security tools that just works.”

– Julie Chickillo, VP and head of information security and privacy



Salt Security protects the APIs that form the core of every modern application. Its patented API Protection Platform is the only API security solution that combines the power of cloud-scale big data and time-tested ML/AI to detect and prevent API attacks. By correlating activities across millions of APIs and users over time, Salt delivers deep context with real-time analysis and continuous insights for API discovery, attack prevention, and shift-left practices. Deployed in minutes and seamlessly integrated within existing systems, the Salt platform gives customers immediate value and protection, so they can innovate with confidence and accelerate their digital transformation initiatives.

Request a demo today!

[info@salt.security](mailto:info@salt.security)  
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