



Security Assessment

Studyum

Jun 5th, 2021



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About

Summary

This report has been prepared for Studyum smart contracts, to discover issues and vulnerabilities in the source code of their Smart Contract as well as any contract dependencies that were not part of an officially recognized library. A comprehensive examination has been performed, utilizing Static Analysis and Manual Review techniques.

The auditing process pays special attention to the following considerations:

- Testing the smart contracts against both common and uncommon attack vectors.
- Assessing the codebase to ensure compliance with current best practices and industry standards.
- Ensuring contract logic meets the specifications and intentions of the client.
- Cross referencing contract structure and implementation against similar smart contracts produced by industry leaders.
- Thorough line-by-line manual review of the entire codebase by industry experts.

The security assessment resulted in findings that ranged from critical to informational. We recommend addressing these findings to ensure a high level of security standards and industry practices. We suggest recommendations that could better serve the project from the security perspective:

- Enhance general coding practices for better structures of source codes;
- Add enough unit tests to cover the possible use cases given they are currently missing in the repository;
- Provide more comments per each function for readability, especially contracts are verified in public;
- Provide more transparency on privileged activities once the protocol is live.

Overview

Project Summary

Project Name	Studyum
Platform	Ethereum
Language	Solidity
Codebase	https://github.com/STUDYUM/Studyum-Smart-Contracts
Commits	8be103b82943753ef7faefcccc827e6b354ff26e

Audit Summary

Delivery Date	Jun 05, 2021
Audit Methodology	Static Analysis, Manual Review
Key Components	

Vulnerability Summary

Total Issues	13
● Critical	0
● Major	2
● Medium	0
● Minor	8
● Informational	3
● Discussion	0

Audit Scope

ID	file	SHA256 Checksum
BTS	BurnableToken.sol	ef2bb744749dfd865e4a0ec4bd50943b61086afac0e672f3b2f8583646b9d34a
ERC	ERC20.sol	16e9b66b7295676f7ac0d946e0816aa64ed0283c52ea181fbf161f87db6a559f
ERD	ERC20Detailed.sol	69cfc00b9dd07b5abcb87668f6741fdb70600dd1368a2aeaa40e7efa17e5fb6a
IER	IERC20.sol	c2a5b5503217256a446ff461a45a8b1c12d9c42bb95c916f4320e7ad780b7449
OSS	Ownable.sol	05782e95e69d7c1837b8debdc6be5122ba63b27fa8de71aa375e31d3e209520c
STU	STUDTeamVesting.sol	7b0b1a360d6194c4d3b456e4129cdca30b7eb44de9852540fc61bac727aceb04
STD	STUDToken.sol	764e86c09a0ac49563918f5870d883d151753010210a72a7647729e920d2cb28
SMS	SafeMath.sol	431545171867d22f08db8feb2a468026d30fcfb14c7cec730ae65acbb464c173

Decentralization Efforts

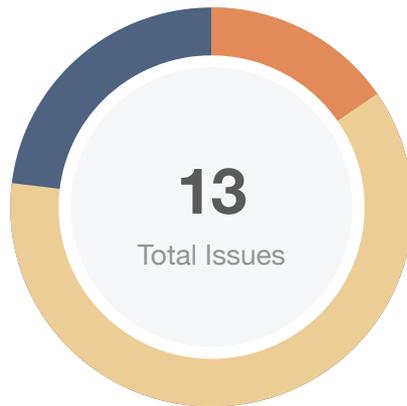
To improve the trustworthiness and transparency of the project, Studyum team deploys the Gnosis Safe Multi-Sig wallet to improve the decentralization of the Studyum project to resolve the STD-02, STU-03 and STU-04 Centralized Risk findings.

The owner role in deployment of contract STUDToken.sol at address 0x8f48e457b4b0708c999a1e088c005e977cfd707 and in deployment of contract `STUDTeamVesting.sol at address 0xc18f55718260bb5a60eb5d99ec03576ae976c777 are transferred to the Multi-Sig wallet at address 0xBb672314E9BEaDBD1D83cb55272c722B0AFc7C21 through transaction 0xd87f0a268789a5d5435fd89664f1a9e22ad0d36e95dfed0d67d80168e3eb9464 and 0xff7e569ddc5fa5a7f7e5fe3a4a93df7a8a5ece2a9ca6e3c4b77ace68f2b9d1a5

Governance is distributed internally between CEO, COO and CTO of Studyum team with 2/3 consensus. The addresses of cosigners of Multi-Sig wallet are:

- 0x6bC59227b8eC8bb27b996C17D1f9277f061154F5
- 0x16b59dFBD119C7F7559613a219a7D86350FB4715
- 0x1DB392c9eEf175617AFf641155fFe88A3c8f7749

Findings



■ Critical	0 (0.00%)
■ Major	2 (15.38%)
■ Medium	0 (0.00%)
■ Minor	8 (61.54%)
■ Informational	3 (23.08%)
■ Discussion	0 (0.00%)

ID	Title	Category	Severity	Status
STD-01	Unknown Implementation of <code>token.balanceOf</code> and <code>token.transfer</code>	Centralization / Privilege	Minor	ⓘ Acknowledged
STD-02	Centralized Risk	Centralization / Privilege	Major	☑ Resolved
STD-03	SafeMath Not Used	Mathematical Operations	Minor	ⓘ Acknowledged
STD-04	Implementation Logic of <code>claimTokens</code>	Logical Issue	Minor	ⓘ Acknowledged
STD-05	Unhandled Return Value	Volatile Code	Informational	ⓘ Acknowledged
STU-01	Unknown Implementation of <code>_token.transfer</code>	Centralization / Privilege	Minor	ⓘ Acknowledged
STU-02	Unknown Implementation of <code>token.balanceOf</code> and <code>token.transfer</code>	Centralization / Privilege	Minor	ⓘ Acknowledged
STU-03	Centralized Risk	Centralization / Privilege	Major	☑ Resolved
STU-04	Centralized Risk	Centralization / Privilege	Minor	☑ Resolved
STU-05	SafeMath Not Used	Mathematical Operations	Minor	ⓘ Acknowledged
STU-06	Missing Emitting Events	Data Flow	Informational	ⓘ Acknowledged
STU-07	Implementation Logic of <code>claimTokens</code>	Logical Issue	Minor	ⓘ Acknowledged

ID	Title	Category	Severity	Status
STU-08	Unhandled Return Value	Volatile Code	● Informational	① Acknowledged

STD-01 | Unknown Implementation of `token.balanceOf` and `token.transfer`

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Centralization / Privilege	● Minor	STUDToken.sol: 68~70	📄 Acknowledged

Description

On L68, `_tokenAddress` can be any contract address where the `IERC20` interface is implemented. As a result, the invocations of `token.balanceOf` on L69 and `token.transfer` on L70 may bring dangerous effects as the implementation of the functions `balanceOf` and `transfer` for `_token` is unknown to the user.

Recommendation

We advise the client to check that the contract at address `_tokenAddress` on L68 is a standard smart contract that follows the `IERC20` interface with correct implementation logic.

Alleviation

[Studyum]: The function `claimTokens()` was implemented to address the specific requirement to extract mistakenly sent ERC20 tokens or Ether to the contract address. The issue which was addressed here is the frequent locked tokens situation that has happened in other ICO/IEO/UTOs. The `_tokenAddress` was created to extract any kind of ERC20 tokens.

STD-02 | Centralized Risk

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Centralization / Privilege	● Major	STUDToken.sol: 62~72	✓ Resolved

Description

In function `claimTokens`, the owner of the contract `owner` could transfer `token.balanceOf(address(this))` amount of tokens from `_tokenAddress` to itself.

Recommendation

We advise the client to carefully manage the `owner` account's private key and avoid any potential risks of being hacked. In general, we strongly recommend centralized privileges or roles in the protocol to be improved via a decentralized mechanism or via smart-contract based accounts with enhanced security practices, f.e. Multisignature wallets.

Indicatively, here are some feasible solutions that would also mitigate the potential risk:

- Time-lock with reasonable latency, i.e. 48 hours, for awareness on privileged operations;
- Assignment of privileged roles to multi-signature wallets to prevent single point of failure due to the private key;
- Introduction of a DAO / governance / voting module to increase transparency and user involvement.

Alleviation

[Studyum]: As already mentioned `claimTokens()` was implemented based on the requirement presented. The requirement was that the owner should be a single person in the company responsible for the management of smart contracts. Creating a multi-sig wallet or DAO, in this case, would be an overkill, especially taking into consideration that `claimTokens()` function is a "special case" functionality.

[Studyum]: The client heeded the recommendation and deployed the Gnosis Safe Multi-Sig wallet at address `0xBb672314E9BEaDBD1D83cb55272c722B0AFc7C21` through transaction `0x45e61c87fbe22f1e4932eef87e3d272f12207140f0f329c144d69f14c07e2130`. 3 decentralized governance addresses are added as cosigners: `0x6bC59227b8eC8bb27b996C17D1f9277f061154F5`, `0x16b59dFBD119C7F7559613a219a7D86350FB4715` and `0x1DB392c9eEf175617AFf641155fFe88A3c8f7749`. Governance is distributed internally between CEO, COO and CTO of Studyum with 2/3 consensus.

The owner of both STUD token and Team vesting have been both transferred to Multi-Sig wallet through transaction `0xd87f0a268789a5d5435fd89664f1a9e22ad0d36e95dfed0d67d80168e3eb9464` and `0xff7e569ddc5fa5a7f7e5fe3a4a93df7a8a5ece2a9ca6e3c4b77ace68f2b9d1a5`

STD-03 | SafeMath Not Used

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Mathematical Operations	● Minor	STUDToken.sol: 41	ⓘ Acknowledged

Description

The SafeMath library is not used in the expression `amountSum += amounts[i]`, which makes it possible for overflows and incorrect results.

Recommendation

We advise the client to adopt the SafeMath library for that expression.

Alleviation

[Studyum]: The function `bulkTransfer()` was created to distribute the tokens more easily (and spend less Gas) in the case of Airdrop which eventually did not happen. This function is obviously not a part of ERC20 standard interface. Any external user can utilize this function by providing beneficiaries and amounts. In this case it is his responsibility to provide correct data (addresses and amounts). We consider this as a minor issue that should not be fixed in order for contract to function properly.

STD-04 | Implementation Logic of `claimTokens`

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Logical Issue	● Minor	STUDToken.sol: 64	ⓘ Acknowledged

Description

In the function `claimTokens` on L62, when `_tokenAddress` is address zero, the `balance` associated with `address(this)` is transferred to the owner of the contract. While when `_tokenAddress` is not address zero, the `token.balanceOf(address(this))` amount of tokens are transferred to the owner of the contract.

Recommendation

We advise the client to check if the implementation logic is correct for the function `claimTokens`.

Alleviation

[Studyum]: If the `_tokenAddress` is address zero, the `claimTokens()` extracts mistakenly sent Ether to the token address. That was stated as a special requirement in this case, and the function was implemented in that way. We consider this function implementation logic to be implemented as intended.

STD-05 | Unhandled Return Value

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Volatile Code	● Informational	STUDToken.sol: 45, 70	ⓘ Acknowledged

Description

Return value of function `transfer` based on interface `IERC20` is ignored in function `bulkTransfer` and `claimTokens`.

Recommendation

We advise the client to handle the return value of `transfer` to check if its implementation is executed without any error.

Alleviation

[Studyum]: This is informational. These are not a standard functions (ERC20). We acknowledge your statement to have the return value, but we consider that it is not needed.

STU-01 | Unknown Implementation of `_token.transfer`

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Centralization / Privilege	● Minor	STUDTeamVesting.sol: 57, 85	ⓘ Acknowledged

Description

On L57, `token` can be any contract address where the `IERC20` interface is implemented. As a result, the invocation of `_token.transfer` on L85 may bring dangerous effects as the implementation of the function `transfer` for `_token` is unknown to the user.

Recommendation

We advise the client to check that the contract at address `token` on L57 is a standard smart contract that follows the `IERC20` interface with correct implementation logic.

Alleviation

[Studyum]: We have already deployed the TeamVesting contract, where we have provided the ERC20 token address to it. We acknowledge that this can be an issue if somebody does not pay attention during the smart contract deployment, but that is obviously not the case here.

STU-02 | Unknown Implementation of `token.balanceOf` and `token.transfer`

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Centralization / Privilege	● Minor	STUDTeamVesting.sol: 150~152	ⓘ Acknowledged

Description

On L150, `_tokenAddress` can be any contract address where the `IERC20` interface is implemented. As a result, the invocations of `token.balanceOf` on L151 and `token.transfer` on L152 may bring dangerous effects as the implementation of the functions `balanceOf` and `transfer` for `_token` is unknown to the user.

Recommendation

We advise the client to check that the contract at address `_tokenAddress` on L150 is a standard smart contract that follows the `IERC20` interface with correct implementation logic.

Alleviation

[Studyum]: This function `claimTokens()` was implemented as a special requirement as already stated. This function will be called by owner who has an appropriate knowledge in this area. We acknowledge that interface was not checked, but the option for this to go wrong in any case basically does not exist.

STU-03 | Centralized Risk

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Centralization / Privilege	● Major	STUDTeamVesting.sol: 144~154	✓ Resolved

Description

In function `claimTokens`, the owner of the contract `owner` could transfer `token.balanceOf(address(this))` amount of tokens from `_tokenAddress` to itself.

Recommendation

We advise the client to carefully manage the `owner` account's private key and avoid any potential risks of being hacked. In general, we strongly recommend centralized privileges or roles in the protocol to be improved via a decentralized mechanism or via smart-contract based accounts with enhanced security practices, f.e. Multisignature wallets.

Indicatively, here are some feasible solutions that would also mitigate the potential risk:

- Time-lock with reasonable latency, i.e. 48 hours, for awareness on privileged operations;
- Assignment of privileged roles to multi-signature wallets to prevent single point of failure due to the private key;
- Introduction of a DAO / governance / voting module to increase transparency and user involvement.

Alleviation

[Studyum]: As already mentioned `claimTokens()` was implemented based on the requirement presented. The requirement was that the owner should be a single person in the company responsible for the management of smart contracts. Creating a multi-sig wallet or DAO, in this case, would be an overkill, especially taking into consideration that `claimTokens()` function is a “special case” functionality

[Studyum]: The client heeded the recommendation and deployed the Gnosis Safe Multi-Sig wallet at address `0xBb672314E9BEaDBD1D83cb55272c722B0AFc7C21` through transaction `0x45e61c87fbe22f1e4932eef87e3d272f12207140f0f329c144d69f14c07e2130`. 3 decentralized governance addresses are added as cosigners: `0x6bC59227b8eC8bb27b996C17D1f9277f061154F5`, `0x16b59dFBD119C7F7559613a219a7D86350FB4715` and `0x1DB392c9eEf175617AFf641155fFe88A3c8f7749`. Governance is distributed internally between CEO, COO and CTO of Studyum with 2/3 consensus.

The owner of both STUD token and Team vesting have been both transferred to Multi-Sig wallet through transaction `0xd87f0a268789a5d5435fd89664f1a9e22ad0d36e95dfed0d67d80168e3eb9464` and `0xff7e569ddc5fa5a7f7e5fe3a4a93df7a8a5ece2a9ca6e3c4b77ace68f2b9d1a5`

STU-04 | Centralized Risk

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Centralization / Privilege	● Minor	STUDTeamVesting.sol: 127~131	✓ Resolved

Description

In function `changeBeneficiary`, the owner of the contract `owner` could change the beneficiary of the contract to an arbitrary payable address `_newBeneficiary`.

Recommendation

We advise the client to carefully manage the `owner` account's private key and avoid any potential risks of being hacked. In general, we strongly recommend centralized privileges or roles in the protocol to be improved via a decentralized mechanism or via smart-contract based accounts with enhanced security practices, f.e. Multisignature wallets.

Indicatively, here are some feasible solutions that would also mitigate the potential risk:

- Time-lock with reasonable latency, i.e. 48 hours, for awareness on privileged operations;
- Assignment of privileged roles to multi-signature wallets to prevent single point of failure due to the private key;
- Introduction of a DAO / governance / voting module to increase transparency and user involvement.

Alleviation

[Studyum]: Even though is a centralized risk, this function `changeBeneficiary()` is implemented as intended based on specifications provided. A single person in the company should be able to change the team's beneficiary address if he decides to do so. Creating a multi-sig wallet or DAO in this case would be an overkill, especially taking into consideration that `changeBeneficiary()` function is a "special case" functionality.

[Studyum]: The client heeded the recommendation and deployed the Gnosis Safe Multi-Sig wallet at address `0xBb672314E9BEaDBD1D83cb55272c722B0AFc7C21` through transaction `0x45e61c87fbe22f1e4932eef87e3d272f12207140f0f329c144d69f14c07e2130`. 3 decentralized governance addresses are added as cosigners: `0x6bC59227b8eC8bb27b996C17D1f9277f061154F5`, `0x16b59dFBD119C7F7559613a219a7D86350FB4715` and `0x1DB392c9eEf175617AFf641155fFe88A3c8f7749`. Governance is distributed internally between CEO, COO and CTO of Studyum with 2/3 consensus.

The owner of both STUD token and Team vesting have been both transferred to Multi-Sig wallet through transaction `0xd87f0a268789a5d5435fd89664f1a9e22ad0d36e95dfed0d67d80168e3eb9464` and `0xff7e569ddc5fa5a7f7e5fe3a4a93df7a8a5ece2a9ca6e3c4b77ace68f2b9d1a5`

STU-05 | SafeMath Not Used

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Mathematical Operations	● Minor	STUDTeamVesting.sol: 70, 75, 83, 96	ⓘ Acknowledged

Description

The SafeMath library is not used in the aforementioned lines, which makes it possible for overflows and incorrect results.

Recommendation

We advise the client to adopt the SafeMath library for that expression.

Alleviation

[Studyum]: Withdraw option is a “special case” option for the team to extract STUD tokens for the team. We acknowledge these aforementioned lines where SafeMath is not used. Since this is a minor issue and TeamVesting is only for internal use, we think that this does not bring any of potential threats.

STU-06 | Missing Emitting Events

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Data Flow	● Informational	STUDTeamVesting.sol: 50~62	ⓘ Acknowledged

Description

The constructor of the `STUDTeamVesting` contract does not emit an event when `_beneficiary` is set and `transferOwnership(owner)` is invoked.

Recommendation

We advise the client to consider adding a `BeneficiaryChanged` event for `_beneficiary` and another event for transferring ownership.

Alleviation

[Studyum]: We acknowledge that we should have added the event when `_beneficiary` is set. However, event for transferring ownership will be triggered as `STUDTeamVesting` contract inherits `Ownable` contract.

STU-07 | Implementation Logic of `claimTokens`

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Logical Issue	● Minor	STUDTeamVesting.sol: 146	ⓘ Acknowledged

Description

In the function `claimTokens` on L144, when `_tokenAddress` is address zero, the `balance` associated with `address(this)` is transferred to the owner of the contract. While when `_tokenAddress` is not address zero, the `token.balanceOf(address(this))` amount of tokens are transferred to the owner of the contract.

Recommendation

We advise the client to check if the implementation logic is correct for the function `claimTokens`.

Alleviation

[Studyum]: If the `_tokenAddress` is address zero, the `claimTokens()` extracts mistakenly sent Ether to the token address. That was stated as a special requirement in this case, and the function was implemented in that way. We consider this function implementation logic to be implemented as intended.

STU-08 | Unhandled Return Value

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Volatile Code	● Informational	STUDTeamVesting.sol: 85, 152	ⓘ Acknowledged

Description

Return value of function `transfer` based on interface `IERC20` is ignored in function `withdraw` and `claimTokens`.

Recommendation

We advise the client to handle the return value of `transfer` to check if its implementation is executed without any error.

Alleviation

[Studyum]: This is informational. These are not standard function (ERC20). We acknowledge your statement to have the return value, but we consider that it is not needed.

Appendix

Finding Categories

Centralization / Privilege

Centralization / Privilege findings refer to either feature logic or implementation of components that act against the nature of decentralization, such as explicit ownership or specialized access roles in combination with a mechanism to relocate funds.

Mathematical Operations

Mathematical Operation findings relate to mishandling of math formulas, such as overflows, incorrect operations etc.

Logical Issue

Logical Issue findings detail a fault in the logic of the linked code, such as an incorrect notion on how `block.timestamp` works.

Volatile Code

Volatile Code findings refer to segments of code that behave unexpectedly on certain edge cases that may result in a vulnerability.

Data Flow

Data Flow findings describe faults in the way data is handled at rest and in memory, such as the result of a struct assignment operation affecting an in-memory struct rather than an in-storage one.

Checksum Calculation Method

The "Checksum" field in the "Audit Scope" section is calculated as the SHA-256 (Secure Hash Algorithm 2 with digest size of 256 bits) digest of the content of each file hosted in the listed source repository under the specified commit.

The result is hexadecimal encoded and is the same as the output of the Linux `"sha256sum"` command against the target file.

Disclaimer

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Blockchain technology and cryptographic assets present a high level of ongoing risk. CertiK's position is that each company and individual are responsible for their own due diligence and continuous security. CertiK's goal is to help reduce the attack vectors and the high level of variance associated with utilizing new and consistently changing technologies, and in no way claims any guarantee of security or functionality of the technology we agree to analyze.

About

Founded in 2017 by leading academics in the field of Computer Science from both Yale and Columbia University, CertiK is a leading blockchain security company that serves to verify the security and correctness of smart contracts and blockchain-based protocols. Through the utilization of our world-class technical expertise, alongside our proprietary, innovative tech, we're able to support the success of our clients with best-in-class security, all whilst realizing our overarching vision; provable trust for all throughout all facets of blockchain.

