TRACEABLE | ASPEN LABS

API Security Checklist

The Basics

- [ ] **Know your attack surface**
  - [ ] Know the number of APIs you have
  - [ ] Know which APIs are publicly accessible
  - [ ] Know which public APIs should be internal only
- [ ] **Review access control**
  - [ ] Check for authentication on every API point
  - [ ] Ensure permission levels of each account is be minimized
- [ ] **Ensure the API never trusts client input**
  - [ ] Review request and response data
  - [ ] Check that database queries are using prepared statements
- [ ] **Remove unnecessary API keys and endpoints**
  - [ ] Remove source maps if not necessary

API Security Programs

- [ ] **Design a vulnerability management process**
  - [ ] Accept vulnerability reports into tracking software
  - [ ] Prioritize by severity and business impact
  - [ ] Build into existing developer pipelines and processes
  - [ ] Test after fix is deployed to ensure vulnerability has been resolved
- [ ] **Inventory your APIs on a continual basis**
  - [ ] Flag any newly discovered APIs
  - [ ] Test for access control, encryption and authentication
- [ ] **Deploy a continuous API protection solution**
  - [ ] Block and investigate malicious requests and attacks
- [ ] **Regularly run automated API security testing**
  - [ ] Monitor live traffic for data exfiltration, fraud and business logic abuse
  - [ ] Ensure the output enters the vulnerability management and remediation process
- [ ] **Invest talent and time into threat hunting for a proactive approach to handling threats**
  - [ ] Spot suspicious API activity that may be indicative of an attack
  - [ ] Read recent API breaches and technical analysis