

## Security Updates and Enhancements

DireXions 2025 — Pathways to Progress

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To maintain continued compliance, compatibility, and protection against known vulnerabilities, the following core security modules have been updated:

- OpenSSL 3.5.0 Provides the cryptographic library used for secure communications (TLS/SSL)
  - Importance: Updates address security vulnerabilities, adds support for stronger ciphers, and maintains compliance with modern security standards
- Curl 8.13.0 Handles secure data transfer over multiple protocols (HTTPS, FTP, etc.)
  - <u>Importance</u>: Updating Curl ensures compatibility with the latest server-side requirements, improves performance, and patches security flaws
- Plink 0.83 Command-line connection tool for SSH, that supports secure remote connections and tunneling
  - Importance: The update enhances SSH security, fixes protocol issues, and ensures stronger authentication support
- CA Root Certificates (Latest Set) Provides the trusted certificate authorities used to validate SSL/TLS connections
  - <u>Importance</u>: Ensures that encrypted connections remain trusted and secure by including newly recognized authorities and removing expired ones

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Updated **PxPlus SQL ODBC Driver** and **PxPlus SQL Server** to utilize OpenSSL 3.5.0 for enhanced security and compliance. Now at 8.10.0000

• <u>Importance</u>: Ensures compatibility with the latest cryptographic standards, addressing known vulnerabilities, improving TLS performance, and maintaining alignment with current industry security practices

Added OAuth2 authorization support to the SMTP and Web Email utilities to replace legacy username/password authentication

- <u>Security</u>: OAuth2 removes reliance on less secure basic authentication, mitigating risks of phishing, credential stuffing, and password leaks
- <u>Compliance</u>: Many providers (Google, Microsoft, etc.) have deprecated or are deprecating basic authorization in favor of OAuth2
- <u>User Experience</u>: Tokens can be refreshed automatically without forcing users to repeatedly enter credentials
- Future Proofing: Keeps the utilities compatible with evolving email standards and cloud-hosted providers