



# Mend SCA vs. Mend Renovate

## Automated Security Debt Reduction for Developers and Organizations

### The Challenge

As organizations use more open source software, they accumulate security debt in the form of outdated dependencies. As open source components age, more vulnerabilities are discovered, and these vulnerabilities become easier to exploit. A proactive approach could significantly reduce the attack surface – but it is not practical for organizations to make updates manually every time a patch or new version is released for every library in every application.

### The Solution

Mend.io offers two ways to identify and update out-of-date open source software components. One is our free developer tool, Mend Renovate. With over 1 billion Docker pulls, Renovate is trusted by developers worldwide to identify which dependencies are out of date and create automatic pull requests to update to new versions fast.

The other is Mend SCA with Renovate – our software composition analysis tool. Designed with Renovate features baked in, Mend SCA works to reduce security debt at an organization-wide level, using tools that make it easy to automate and accelerate dependency updates.

### Head To Head: Mend SCA vs. Mend Renovate

	Mend SCA with Renovate	Mend Renovate
Automatic identification of out-of-date components	Yes	Yes
Automatic pull requests for suggested updates	Yes	Yes
Visibility over organizational security debt and out-of-date components	Yes	No
Smart Merge Control for smart, non-breaking automated updates	Yes	No
Deploys in	Repository, Pipeline, Artifact Registry	Package managers
Best for	Entire organizations	Individual developers
Automated vulnerability fixes	Yes	No
Malicious package detection in existing code	Yes	No
Open source license risk detection	Yes	No
Due diligence reporting	Yes	No
SBOM creation	Yes	No
Cost	Paid per contributing developer	Free

## The Quick Check For Individual Developers: Mend Renovate

Mend Renovate automatically detects available updates and opens a pull request for the developer. The pull request automatically includes changelogs and commit histories to give developers information on what has changed.

Before choosing an update, the developer can see information about adoption by their peers in the form of a “Merge Confidence” score: this score is based on package adoption and test passing rates, using Renovate’s aggregated data from over 25 million dependency updates. Developers can identify which updates are likely to break their build and make update decisions based on contextual information.

## The Enterprise-Ready Solution: Mend SCA with Renovate

Mend SCA brings the power of Renovate to organizations that want to reduce security debt at scale. Dashboards and reporting make it easy to understand your organization’s security debt, while Mend’s powerful repository integrations give security teams and developers powerful tools to group, automate, and accelerate dependency updates.

With Smart Merge Control – available only with Mend SCA – Renovate’s Merge Confidence scores can be used to automatically group and even auto-merge high confidence updates that have passed a large number of tests and seen consistent adoption, allowing organizations to put high-confidence patching on autopilot.

Designed to maximize security teams’ visibility over open source risks with minimal risk to developers, Mend SCA also makes it possible to set policies for open source licensing and vulnerability risks, allowing security teams to enforce these policies at the development gates of their choosing (pull request, push, commit, build), as well as offering features including SBOM creation, malicious package blocking, and vulnerability remediation.

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## About Mend.io

Mend.io, formerly known as WhiteSource, has over a decade of experience helping global organizations build world-class AppSec programs that reduce risk and accelerate development—using tools built into the technologies that software and security teams already love. Our automated technology protects organizations from supply chain and malicious package attacks, vulnerabilities in open source and custom code, and open-source license risks. With a proven track record of successfully meeting complex and large-scale application security needs, Mend.io is the go-to technology for the world’s most demanding development and security teams. The company has more than 1,000 customers, including 25 percent of the Fortune 100, and manages Renovate, the open source automated dependency update project. For more information, visit [www.mend.io](https://www.mend.io), the Mend blog, and Mend on LinkedIn and Twitter.