

## REPORT REPRINT

# Cloud access and entitlement management startup Ermetic raises \$17m

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**By Garrett Bekker**

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In our recently published report on Ermetic, we outlined how one of the biggest issues with securing public cloud (IaaS and PaaS) resources is excessive permissions for users, applications and resources, which can lead to common problems like AWS S3 buckets exposed to the public internet. Ermetic was created to help organizations enforce tighter, least-privilege access policies across both user and machine identities to help prevent data breaches in AWS, Azure and GCP.

Tel Aviv-based Ermetic was founded in 2019 by CEO Shai Morag, chief business officer Arick Goomanovsky, chief product officer Sivan Krigsman and CTO Michael Dolinski. Morag was cofounder and CEO of SecDo (acquired by Palo Alto Networks for \$100m), and served in the elite 8200 unit of the Israeli Defense Forces along with Goomanovsky. Dolinsky founded Aorato (acquired by Microsoft for \$200m), and Krigsman was the first employee. Ermetic emerged from stealth mode in May, and has roughly 20 employees.

Ermetic's platform essentially automates the permission management that has historically been done manually in on-prem environments to help enforce least privilege. Ermetic begins by performing a discovery process to locate all human and machine identities and data and compute resources, as well as all related policies and permissions. The next step is to perform analytics, to map out which entities can access each resource, and analyze log activity of actual access patterns, to identify which permissions are actively used, make predictions about which will be used or not, and ultimately determine which are either excessive or inactive and can be revoked. Ermetic will provide recommendations for which permissions can be removed and guidelines for how to do so, perhaps by deleting an old policy rule or uploading a new one. Ermetic also monitors access activity to detect anomalies in real time and alert on potentially suspicious events, such as unusual privilege escalation, data deletion or actual access to a sensitive dataset that may look suspicious.