

## Linux Plumbers Conference 2025



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### Exciting new compiler flags for kernel security

I'd like to share some toolchain experiences encountered as part of my work on hardening the kernel running on Google's production servers.

I'll discuss "profile guided hardening" (aka "selective sanitization") on how to make kernel cold paths extra hardened using `-lower-allow-check-percentile-cutoff-hot` and `-fsanitize-ignorelist`

I'll also share my excitement around the recent Clang developments on the topic of slab isolation using properties of the allocated types to help make memory safety exploitation harder. (eg: the `-fsanitize=alloc-partition` RFC)

Further topics related to kernel security could be opened up to discussion as well like the recent `-fbounds-safety` flag and strategies to progressively use it across the kernel.

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