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Admin Security Alerts

USER MANUAL · Version 1.0.0 · PrestaShop 1.7.8 – 9.x

1. What this module does

Admin Security Alerts e-mails you when someone changes what matters for the security of your Back Office: a new or changed employee account, a new permission, a module installed or disabled, another theme, a webservice key or a critical setting. A hijacked account or a backdoor module is then noticed as soon as the Back Office is used, not weeks later. The module only reports; it does not block anything.

Works with **PrestaShop 1.7.8, 8.x and 9.x** (PHP 7.2.5 or newer), with the Classic and Hummingbird themes and with multistore.

2. Installation

1. Download the module from **My account** → **Order history** at addonspresta.com.
2. In your Back Office, open **Modules** → **Module Manager** and click **Upload a module**.
3. Drop the `ap_adminsecurity_v1.0.0.zip` file and wait for the confirmation.
4. Click **Configure** on the module card.

If you have shell access, you can also unpack the zip into `modules/` and run `php bin/console prestashop:module install ap_adminsecurity` from the shop folder.

The installation records the current state of your Back Office and sends no alert. Your shop's e-mail address becomes the first recipient and the shop's default language the alert language. Click **Send a test alert** on the configuration page to check that the e-mails arrive.

3. How it works

The module keeps a copy of the watched data: employee accounts, profiles and their permissions, installed modules, the theme of each shop, webservice keys and a few critical settings. At the end of every Back Office page, it compares that copy with the current data. Every difference is a change; all the changes found at once go out in one e-mail to each recipient, and the copy is updated.

The module reports:

- **employee accounts** added or deleted, and a changed e-mail address, password, profile, enabled / disabled status or shop access;

- **profiles** added or deleted, and new permissions given to a profile (up to 5 of them are named);
- **modules** installed, uninstalled, enabled, disabled or updated;
- **themes** — another theme in a shop;
- **webservice keys** added, deleted, enabled, disabled, replaced or with other permissions;
- **critical settings** — the e-mail sending method and the SMTP server, user, password, port and encryption, the webservice switch, SSL, debug mode and "Disable non built-in modules";
- **the alerts themselves** — the module disabled or uninstalled, unhooked or one of its hooks switched off in **Design → Positions**, hook exceptions added to it, or its settings changed.

Because the module compares data instead of watching buttons, it also finds changes made outside the Back Office: directly in the database or by a script. They are reported on the next Back Office page someone opens. Files are not watched: a file uploaded to your server is not reported, a module only once it is installed.

Every line of an alert says who made the change:

- "Made by" the employee, with the e-mail address and the IP — when the change is the one that employee just saved;
- "Found on a Back Office page opened by" the employee, with the note that the author is not known — for changes PrestaShop makes without telling modules (for example enabling a module on PrestaShop 1.7.8, a profile's permissions, a setting) and for changes made outside the Back Office;
- "Made from the command line or by a script" — when nobody was signed in.

The e-mail also gives the time of the check and a short advice. It never contains passwords, full webservice keys, the SMTP password or the address of your Back Office. Alerts use your shop's own e-mail settings (**Advanced Parameters → E-mail**), with the name and logo of your default shop. The module does not connect to addonspresta.com or any other server.

4. Features and settings

Open **Modules → Module Manager → Admin Security Alerts → Configure**. The **Help** box at the top links this manual, the module page at addonspresta.com and our support address, and shows the installed version.

Only a SuperAdmin sees and saves the settings; other employees see a notice instead. This way an employee who may configure modules cannot silence the alerts.

Recipients

Up to 5 e-mail addresses, one per line or separated by commas. Every alert goes to each of them. When you change the recipients, the alert about that change goes to the old and the new addresses.

Alert language

The language of the e-mails, from the languages installed in your shop. The module has e-mails in English, Polish, French, German, Spanish and Italian; for another language the e-mail is in English.

Groups of alerts

One switch per group: **Employee accounts**, **Profiles and permissions**, **Modules**, **Themes**, **Webservice keys**, **Critical settings**. A group switched off sends no alerts, but the module still records its data, so switching it back on does not report everything that changed in between. A change made in the same save that switches its group off is still reported. The alerts about the module itself cannot be switched off.

Send a test alert

Sends a test e-mail to the saved recipients and tells you how many e-mails were sent. If it fails, check the recipients and **Advanced Parameters → E-mail**.

Warning about switched-off e-mails

When **Advanced Parameters → E-mail** is set to never send e-mails, the configuration page shows a warning: no alert can be sent until you turn e-mails back on.

5. Multistore

The settings are the same for the whole installation, whatever shop is selected in the Back Office header; the page says so in multistore. The module watches every shop: an alert names the shops concerned when a change applies to some of them only (a module disabled in one shop, an employee with access to some shops, another theme). The e-mails use the name, logo and sender of the default shop. One licence covers every shop of the installation.

6. Uninstall

Module Manager → Admin Security Alerts → Uninstall first e-mails an alert that the module was uninstalled, then removes its data and settings. **Disable** keeps them, and sends an alert too.

7. FAQ and troubleshooting

The test alert works, but I received no alert after a change. The module checks only while the Back Office is in use: a change made in the database at night is reported when someone opens the next Back Office page. That page must be opened by an employee whose profile may view the module (on PrestaShop 9 for the check on every page, on 1.7.8 and 8 for every check): check **Advanced Parameters → Team → Permissions**, in the **Modules** part. SuperAdmins always can.

The alert says the author is not known. PrestaShop makes some changes without telling modules, and changes made in the database have no author in the Back Office. The alert then names the employee on whose page the change was found — not necessarily the one who made it.

I switched e-mails off (or changed the SMTP server) and got no alert about it. With e-mails switched off nothing can be sent: the alert is only written to **Advanced Parameters → Logs**, in lines starting with `ap_adminsecurity:`. An alert about a new SMTP server is sent through that new server.

Can someone remove the alerts without me knowing? Disabling, uninstalling, unhooking the module and changing its settings are all reported. One way is not: an employee who may edit **Design → Positions** can remove the module from its hooks with a single request, and then nothing more is reported. Give the edit permission on Positions only to administrators you trust. Someone with direct access to your database can also rewrite the data the module compares with: the module detects changes, it does not protect against a database administrator.

The IP in the alert is the one of my proxy or CDN. The module takes the IP from PrestaShop, which uses the address sent by the proxy (the `X-Forwarded-For` header). Behind a proxy or a CDN the IP may therefore be the proxy's, or one set by the visitor.

After switching the theme I got alerts about modules with an unknown author. Switching the theme can enable the modules the theme needs; PrestaShop does it without telling modules, so they are reported next to the theme change with an unknown author.

I uploaded or deleted a theme and got no alert. The module watches which theme each shop uses, not the themes stored in your shop.

I got an alert that the saved state was recorded again. The module's data was missing (for example its table was emptied). It has been recorded again; changes made before that moment cannot be reported.

8. Updates and support

Updates are free for life: download new versions from **My account → Order history** at addonspresta.com and upload them like a new module. Your settings are kept. The module's code passes our AI-assisted security audit.

Support is included for 12 months from your order: write to **mail@addonspresta.com** or use the contact form at addonspresta.com (Monday to Friday, 10:00–16:00; we usually answer within 2 business days). Please include your PrestaShop version, the module version, the steps that lead to the problem and the lines of **Advanced Parameters → Logs** starting with `ap_adminsecurity:`.