



Fortune 500 Company Conducts Ground-breaking Risk Assessment Across the Organization

THE PROBLEM: How to Review Information Technology Security Compliance for a Global Company with over 120,000 Employees in less than 60 days.

One of the Fortune 500, a global electronics manufacturer with over 120,000 employees needed to quickly develop a global view of how their Information Security standards were implemented across the entire organization.

This analysis was critical to establish the budget for the IT program, because of the worldwide economic contraction and the forecasted increase in both white collar crime and potential identity theft concerns. A 2009 report done by McAfee (see sidebar), pointed out possible concerns over potential data theft.

The company selected a hosted Risk Watch solution to use to do a company-wide compliance review. Over one hundred and fifty questions were selected from a published international standard and the employees were divided into groups by their business units.

The questionnaires were distributed electronically over the web and each group was analyzed both separately, and then compared to a company average for each business unit. The business units were also compared to each other, creating an each category, as well as against each business unit.

Many of the business units were surprised by the results and some wanted to argue about why their unit ranked below others in the company.

MCAFEE REPORTS CONCERNS RISE OVER DATA THEFT

Laid-off employees are the biggest IT security threat created by the economic recession, according to a new McAfee study, which warned that cyber crime could cost businesses worldwide more than \$1 trillion.

The study surveyed 1,000 IT decision makers from 800 companies in eight countries. The study says that laid-off employees may steal intellectual property from their former employer in order to sell the information, improve their chances of getting hired with a competitor, or start a company of their own.

Finally, workers who are unsure about their job security and the job security of their colleagues may be more hesitant to report security problems. Ignoring these problems can be costly. McAfee CEO Dave DeWalt says companies lose an average of \$4.6 million in intellectual property during a security breach and have to spend about \$600,000 to correct the problem.



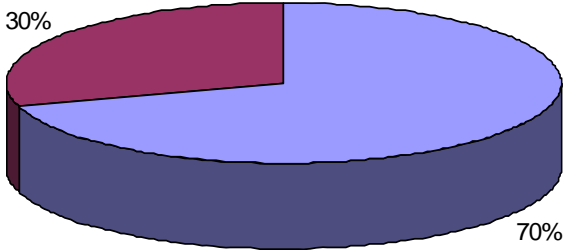
Results from the Company-Wide Compliance Assessment

THE RESULTS - Better than Anticipated Compliance Scores

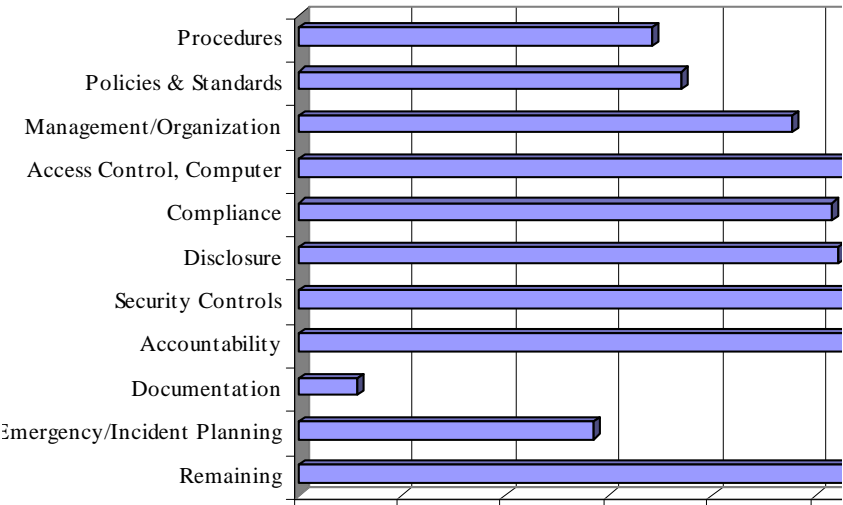
The Compliance Results for the company as a whole were better than management originally anticipated. Over 3000 individuals answered an average of sixty questions each for a total of more than 180,000 answers which were instantly analyzed and benchmarked.

The areas of weakness which were identified in the assessment included a variety of areas, specifically: Policies and Standards, Procedures, Management, Access Control, and Disclosure.

Participation in the company-wide survey dramatically increased employees awareness of the current security policies; as well as increasing the visibility of the security managers throughout the organization. The company now plans to make this an annual survey and it will be expanded next year to include even more departments.



OVERALL COMPLIANCE
70% Compliance vs. 30% Non Compliance



The entire risk assessment was condensed down to three slides that were able to present management with the overall compliance profile for each business unit that participated in the risk assessment. The large size of the assessment created a few minor problems, and some parts of the organization were more cooperative than others, but overall it provided a great deal of value to the organization.

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