Assessing risks to information assets

The information security environment is evolving. The key business drivers such as confidentiality, regulatory compliance, and return on investment may be the same, but the stakes are higher now than ever before. For example, financial services institutions face a bewildering maze of regulatory compliance requirements—Payment Card Industry (PCI) Data Security Standard, EU Data Protection Directive, US Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC), Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA), Sarbanes-Oxley, to name a few. Most of these regulations require audits, which often lead to costly remediation and in some instances significant monetary penalties.

Today’s virtual, global, and dynamic enterprises require an information security strategy that is based on a comprehensive understanding of the information assets, threats to those assets, current controls used to counter those threats, and the resulting risks. Enterprises of all types can no longer rely on a product-centric approach to security—which generally addresses only threat isolation. What is needed is an information-centric risk management perspective that ensures that all aspects of your information security program are appropriate for the management of business and operational requirements, while easing the burden of compliance with internal and external mandates.

A systematic overview of your information security capabilities and a roadmap for risk remediation

The EMC® Information Risk Assessment Service is a broad-based security posture assessment based on the ISO 27002 standard for information security—augmented with best practices that have been developed through years of industry-leading product and services delivery.
Overview

The EMC Information Risk Assessment Service, encompassing assessment of governance, policy, data protection, authentication, access, and other business and technical infrastructure security controls, is based on a best-practices methodology proven in numerous successful customer engagements. Founded on well-established ISO frameworks, this service is built on EMC’s understanding that close cooperation with key stakeholders is a critical success factor in all security improvement initiatives.

Information Risk Assessment services are conducted by experienced EMC consultants who will work closely with your key business and technical stakeholders to structure and deliver the engagement.

At the beginning of the engagement, the EMC consultants will discuss the goals and objectives of the project, identify the project team and the processes to be used, and develop a project scope and work schedule. EMC consultants then will collect and review available information infrastructure diagrams, policies, standards, procedures, and other relevant documentation. Through a series of interviews with key personnel, the current enterprise security posture will be thoroughly assessed. Key decision makers and stakeholders will be engaged throughout the project to ensure the accuracy of any business or technical gap findings.

At the completion of the engagement, you will receive a comprehensive findings report that documents the results of the assessment for each of the ISO 27002 control categories, including prioritization of any security risks and roadmap recommendations.

Identify gaps, prioritize areas of concern, and develop a high-level risk remediation roadmap

EMC Consulting performs these activities for an information risk assessment:

• Identify the assets to be protected by answering the question, “What assets do I have?”

• Identify the possible threats to those assets.

• Identify the vulnerabilities which, if present, will allow the identified threats to materialize.

• Review the controls or countermeasures currently in place to eliminate the identified vulnerabilities and keep the associated threats from materializing.

• Perform an analysis to determine where there are currently gaps and to prioritize the exposure resulting from these risks.

• Report on the findings and recommendations for reducing or eliminating the gaps in the current controls or countermeasures.

In short, we prioritize the risks and gaps which come out of the analysis and propose a security improvement roadmap which demonstrably answers your business and technical requirements for incrementally addressing security concerns in a cost-effective manner.

Why EMC

With over 2,700 business, application, and infrastructure consultants focused on information infrastructure challenges, EMC Consulting is the largest information-focused consultancy in the world. EMC has extensive client relationships with more than 50 percent of Global 500 companies and a global reach complemented by local delivery.

EMC Consulting brings insight and experience in information risk assessment to each engagement, offering certifiable skills needed to safeguard your organization’s critical information.

Take the next step

For more information, visit www.EMC.com/consulting or contact your local EMC Consulting representative.