Xacta® 360 for the NIST Cybersecurity Framework

The solution for streamlining and automating adherence with the leading cyber risk management framework.

- Streamlines gathering and managing your security-related data
- Allows you to manage one or more compliance requirements via a single project
- Maps assessment results among similar requirements/controls to eliminate redundant effort (validate once and comply many times)
- Automates the documentation needed for CSF cyber risk management reporting
- Enables continuous monitoring of your security compliance posture
- Inherits controls from systems in the cloud, on-premises, and hybrid environments

The NIST Cybersecurity Framework (CSF) was introduced in 2014 as a means to protect critical infrastructure from growing cyber threats and to help manage and communicate cyber risk objectives and outcomes in a way that is meaningful throughout the organization. It includes standards, methodologies, and processes that align policy, business, and technological approaches to address cyber risks.

Use of the CSF is voluntary but strongly encouraged for private industry. Its use is now mandatory for U.S. federal agencies. A leading research firm estimates that the CSF is on track to be adopted by as many as 50 percent of U.S. organizations by 2020. Universities, state and local governments, and businesses and governments around the world are adopting it.

Xacta 360 Puts the Cybersecurity Framework into Action.

Now, Telos® Corporation introduces Xacta 360 for the NIST Cybersecurity Framework to support your implementation of the CSF. Built on the Xacta 360 platform for cyber risk management and security compliance, the application automates and streamlines the processes and documentation required to follow the CSF via software and workflow. This saves time and effort over manual implementations.

Xacta 360 allows you to map any controls and requirements to the CSF gap assessment process and reporting construct (Categories, Subcategories, Functions). Standardizing on a software-driven implementation of a highly recognized standard like the CSF gives you the ability to demonstrate a standard of due care for governance purposes.

The NIST Cybersecurity Framework provides a “Tier” concept that assists in assessing your organization’s current cybersecurity posture against its target posture. The Xacta 360 CSF application uses a series of questions to help you select the appropriate Current Tier for your organization and compare it to your Target Tier.

Relying on a system like this is much more efficient than managing a process via email, spreadsheets, and Word documents. All of your compliance information is in one place, so everyone who participates in the process uses the same system, making updates and collaboration much easier.

Xacta 360 CSF:

Provides automation to:
- Ingest asset inventory
- Inherit content from provider projects
- Notify people to reassess when required (continuous monitoring)

Provides a structured process to:
- Determine goal organizational cybersecurity risk management state (Target Profile)
- Compare to organizational actual cybersecurity risk management state (Current Profile)
- Reveal weaknesses that separate Current Profile from Target Profile (Gaps)
- Force risk discussion/decisions and action plans (Remediation)

Auto-generates required reports:
- System Security Plans (SSP)
- Scorecards
- Action Plans
Xacta 360 Steps You Through the Process.

As with other Xacta 360 applications, Xacta 360 for CSF helps the user navigate the end-to-end processes involved in the CSF.

Users are presented with a series of input screens that collect and organize all of the data needed for adherence with the CSF. These screens are organized in a logical manner and prompt the user to answer questions and input the data needed to complete each phase of the process.

The application generates the required documents as a byproduct of the process. You do not have to generate these documents from scratch at the end of the process. The application does this for you based on your inputs.

The Xacta CSF application tracks to the CSF’s multi-step process for cyber gap analysis to identify your current cyber risk management posture, where you want it to be, and what you need to do to get there:

**SCOPE:** Identify your business/mission objectives and high-level organizational priorities.

**ORIENT:** Identify related systems and assets, regulatory requirements, and overall risk approach.

**ASSESS:** Conduct a risk assessment, create a target profile, and determine, analyze, and prioritize gaps.

**REPORT:** Generate the documents you need to support the CSF including system security plan, scorecard, and action plan.

**MONITOR:** Conduct ongoing risk assessments and remediation actions, set evaluation intervals for selected regulations and requirements.

The greatest benefit of the CSF is its flexibility. Although a framework, it isn’t a rigid set of steps. The Xacta 360 application leverages the CSF core of Subcategories, Categories, and Functions to help you effectively communicate compliance and risk posture to all levels of an organization – from the server room to the boardroom, in terms each constituent will understand.

Xacta 360 displays the CSF subcategories that have been selected for the assessment of the organizational risk, which determines the organization’s Target Profile. Testing done on these requirements will result in the organization’s Current Profile, as defined by the CSF. The results of this evaluation determine the risks inherent in the operation of the system and are classified as the profiles’ gaps according to the CSF.

Xacta 360 is the premier solution for operationalizing NIST’s security frameworks. Serving some of the world’s most security-conscious organizations,

Xacta 360’s capabilities have:

- Reduced security authorization process times from many months to just weeks
- Eliminated four to six weeks of manual effort per project when compliance regulations changed
- Avoided months of manual effort in identifying, inheriting, and managing security controls

Contact us today to get started.

If you’re ready to benefit from the NIST Cybersecurity Framework, get in touch today about getting started with Xacta 360 for CSF.

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