

# Xacta® 360 for FedRAMP

Reduce the time and cost needed to achieve and maintain FedRAMP cloud compliance.



- Create a common working environment for all process participants
- Reduce spending on advisory services
- Speed compliance approval processes for your cloud offerings
- Streamline gathering and managing your security-related data
- Automate the documentation needed for compliance reporting
- Enable continuous monitoring of your compliance posture

Software developers who want to offer cloud solutions to federal agencies must follow the government's stringent security guidelines for the cloud. Compliance with FedRAMP — the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program — requires tremendous effort and expense to manage the processes and generate the documentation needed to earn and maintain an authorization to operate (ATO) in a government environment.

Now, Telos Corporation offers the **Xacta 360 application for FedRAMP** to automate and streamline the key steps in the FedRAMP process, including the creation and maintenance of the required documentation. Our Xacta FedRAMP application covers all three phases of the authorization process:

**1. Pre-authorization:** Allows you to create system-specific documents and conduct a self-assessment. Uses a security questionnaire to determine the current security profile of your offering, replacing the gap assessment

you'd normally pay a third-party assessment organization (3PAO) to perform.

The questionnaire is designed to flag FedRAMP show-stoppers and critical controls — compulsory requirements that cannot have alternate implementations.

**2. During Authorization:** Gives your sponsoring agency and 3PAO access to conduct assessment and authorization approval. Any controls that failed during Pre-authorization will be moved to this phase, where you can do further risk analysis and create a mitigation plan. This task will produce a formal document to be submitted to the FedRAMP Joint Authorization Board (JAB) or the agency.

**3. Post-authorization:** Supports continuous monitoring and maintenance of your plan of action and milestones (POA&M) for mitigating risks. Lets you designate project personnel, review and change information, and set expiration dates for required controls.

## X A C T A® FedRAMP Application



The Xacta FedRAMP application covers all three phases of the authorization process:

- 1. Pre-authorization** — Allows cloud service providers (CSPs) to create system-specific documents and conduct a self-assessment
- 2. During Authorization** — Gives 3PAO and sponsoring agency access to conduct assessment and authorization approval
- 3. Post-authorization** — Supports continuous monitoring and plan of action & milestones (POA&M) maintenance

## **Xacta saves you time and money in the FedRAMP process.**

The Xacta FedRAMP application is an all-in-one tool for managing, testing, and documenting the compliance posture of your cloud offering. It enables you to create and update your system security documentation and authorization package in just minutes — a major time-saver for staying secure in the face of rapid changes in the cloud.

The application is built on the Xacta platform for IT risk management and compliance — the premier solution for automating and streamlining NIST's security frameworks. Serving some of the world's most security-conscious organizations, Xacta's capabilities have:

- Reduced ATO 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 controls

Without the Xacta FedRAMP application, the cost of advisory services to create your initial documentation package can run from \$100,000 to \$250,000. Each gap analysis can cost \$20,000 to \$40,000. And advisory services for continuous monitoring can be as high as \$90,000. In short, Xacta FedRAMP can save you well over \$250,000 across the lifecycle of your cloud offering.

While exact time and cost savings are difficult to estimate for different organizations, most aspiring cloud service providers (CSPs) should experience substantial savings by using Xacta for FedRAMP.

## **Xacta 360 uses controls inheritance to streamline the data-collection process.**

Process automation is key to the efficient deployment of FedRAMP. Xacta 360's roles-based workflow can help your cloud-based offering achieve ATO under FedRAMP without spending heavily to meet compliance requirements. It also provides tools to help automate the collection of data needed to show the achievement of security objectives and create a body of evidence (BoE) that demonstrates a standard of due care.

A key part of Xacta 360's compliance-automation capabilities for cloud offerings is its ability to inherit controls from the cloud host's infrastructure. This continuous controls inheritance capability cuts down

on manual effort by about 60% and reduces errors in populating the system with security controls data.

The application uses FedRAMP-required FIPS 199 and FIPS 200 to specify security impact level and security controls requirements, with a Recommended Implementation option to help you implement system-specific and shared controls. This saves time by simplifying system setup and population according to security categorization and sensitivity level.

## **Xacta's continuous monitoring assures compliance on an ongoing basis.**

FedRAMP requires continuous monitoring of a cloud offering's security posture to assure its compliance on a rolling basis. However, effective continuous monitoring requires ongoing interaction among the CSP, the agency, and the 3PAO. Supporting that work requires detailed updates to the documents within the security authorization package as well as supplemental reports that provide evidence of how changes to the offering are being reconciled with its security posture.

Xacta's continuous monitoring capabilities are ideal for these requirements. Its integration with the cloud host's APIs supports scanning, testing, and monitoring to continuously validate compliance of inherited controls. This keeps asset inventory accurate and up-to-date and supports ongoing validation of inherited controls.

Xacta 360 then produces updated documents for the FedRAMP security authorization package including updates to the POA&M. These documents provide sound evidence that FedRAMP baseline security controls continue to safeguard the system as originally envisioned. With Xacta, the goal of a "continuous ATO" is within reach for cloud-based offerings.

## **Contact us today to get started.**

If you're ready to take advantage of the federal market for cloud-based solutions, get in touch today about getting started with Xacta 360 for FedRAMP.

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