



## **Manage Compliance Woes – Consolidate your IT controls into one framework.**

With the introduction of regulations and standards such as Sarbanes-Oxley, PCI, HIPAA, and Model Audit Rule, this may truly be the decade of compliance requirements. Businesses large and small are being pushed to become compliant from many different directions. It's a difficult place to get caught and even more difficult to manage resources and expenses related to compliance with multiple regulations.

To complicate matters even more, responsibilities for compliance can be scattered throughout the organization. PCI compliance may be owned by IT, but SOX may lie with internal audit or finance. If the company is doing SAS70 assessments then that's potentially another layer of compliance and audits laid over the regulations and probably spans both IT and business operations. This same-but-different approach to controls creates duplicate processes and multiplies the resources required to manage controls and keep the organization in compliance, not to mention being audited on the same controls multiple times in the same year.

It's time to think about organizing IT controls into one package. Regulations and compliance requirements aren't going away anytime soon. And if your company is spending all its time assessing controls and hosting auditors, it will be very difficult to manage the control environment and do the work the business was created to do.

If we dissect all these different regulations and standards we find that there are more similarities than differences. Each has its own focus and the level of detail varies greatly, but if you line them up side-by-side you will see common themes like access management, monitoring, authorization, network security and vendor management.

A great approach for organizing controls is to put them into a standard framework. The COBIT framework is governance focused and is great for SOX, Model Audit Rule and many SAS70 controls. ISO 27001 is a security framework and is a better match for PCI.

Once your controls are organized you can cut compliance costs by eliminating redundant controls and building compliance and audit processes that assess each control only once.

Mappings of standards and controls may be purchased but there's still a fair amount of work and knowledge that goes into rationalizing your unique control environment into a framework. ITPAC Consulting, LLC, can help you determine the appropriate framework and applicable standards for your business environment and create a matrix to focus specifically on your compliance objectives. Contact us for more information at [info@itpac.biz](mailto:info@itpac.biz) or 402-420-1556.

### **IT Project Management, Audit & Controls**

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