

Compliance and InfoSecurity – Applying the Right Resources

I think it's fair to say that achieving and maintaining security compliance will continue to be a goal of all credit unions - as well it should. However, I have seen a real shift over the course of the last few years. Information security and the protection of critical data have become, along with compliance, a strategic goal. That significant change in and of itself is a major victory. While resources are still at a premium, I believe credit unions are, in general, doing a better job protecting critical and sensitive data instead of simply protecting themselves from the risk associated with potential loss.

I have been asked many times if credit unions can implement security measures and systems in ways that actually enhance productivity, and without a doubt this is a tough question. If we are being honest, I think it is difficult to actually increase what we would consider traditional productivity while adding layer after layer of security measures, procedures and policies. I do believe, however, that we need to re-think how we measure productivity. Is it productive to spend hour after hour on a Suspicious Activity Report or responding to an actual breach? Clearly the answer is no. If security measures can prevent lost time, loss of resources, and loss of reputation, then they are clearly aiding productivity.

In terms of how we can help credit unions maintain compliance and add to their overall security posture, every product and service that we offer at S1Defense has been designed to address two things: security compliance and security best practices. One example is our unparalleled network intrusion prevention technology and service. There is no other IPS on the market today that offers best-in-class intrusion prevention, speed, accuracy, and value-added Data Loss Prevention. This combination of features helps meet several regulatory requirements while also providing protection against the accidental or intentional transmission of sensitive data. When combined with our firewall management and monitoring program and Zix encrypted email (hosted by S1Defense), this comprehensive solution addresses compliance, security best practices and costs no more than lesser competitive solutions.

It is important to conclude with the fact that the best technology in the world is only as good as the people backing it. We have assembled a team of professionals with the training, skills, and technology needed to help protect credit unions from internal and external threats - our people make the difference. We are qualified to help you identify the weaknesses in your internal and external network security and to guide you in creating a more secure and compliant operating environment. One of our CU clients said it best: "I can pick up the phone at any time and receive top-notch service from their highly trained engineers. I have learned that I can look to S1 Defense as my total security partner."

Bruce C. Smalley
VP and Managing Director



Bruce C. Smalley
joined PMSC's S1 Defense team in 2006. He became Director in 2007 and was

later promoted to VP. Prior to joining S1 Defense, he was the CIO and a managing partner of Grigg & Allaire in Columbia, SC. Prior to his position with Grigg & Allaire, Bruce held senior technical and managerial positions with Edens & Avant and Universal Avionics Corporation. Bruce holds a BS degree in Management Science from the University of South Carolina and a BBA degree from Georgia Southern University. Mr. Smalley served as a Richland County Sheriff's Department narcotics investigator and City of Columbia Police officer in the early and mid-1990. Bruce is an active member in the SC chapter of the FBI's Infragard program and is active on the credit union information security speaking circuit. He has written and published over 60 security articles.

Contact Info

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