Internal Controls in the Cloud

Federal agencies have embraced the cloud’s ability to do more with less, faster and more efficiently. With the establishment of the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP℠) to address security of federal cloud offerings, agencies can feel confident that their data is secure. CGI, in partnership with Infor™ Approva Continuous Monitoring and Internal Controls, can provide agencies with strengthened internal controls for their financial management system in our FedRAMP authorized cloud.

RELIEVING YOUR MONITORING BURDEN

Infor Approva is dedicated to promoting transparency, efficiency and accountability. Approva is equipped with cross-platform, cross-application, cross-instance operations for strengthening automated controls monitoring, but functions as an independent platform, delivering true third-party analysis and testing of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) controls across multiple applications. Designed with federal compliance in mind, Approva’s federal capabilities include:

- **Full Compliance** -- ability to address and automate internal control requirements including the Federal Managers’ Financial Integrity Act, Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act (IPERA), the Financial Improvement and Audit Readiness Program (FIAR)
- **Management Insight** -- automated monitoring of user activity and sensitive transactions with alerts to federal management teams when violations occur
- **Streamlined Audit Preparation**—documenting all remediation activities to satisfy regulatory, security, and audit requirements, violations uncovered, and remediation actions

EASING YOUR TRANSITION

Change can be difficult and ensuring that your transition runs smoothly is important to CGI. Infor Approva is available as Software as a Service in the CGI Cloud which enables organizations to start utilizing Approva quickly and with zero infrastructure needs. Additionally, Approva comes equipped with a variety of techniques to facilitate migration of internal controls to a cloud computing environment, adding flexibility, speed, scalability and efficiency for comprehensive enterprise-wide services and solutions. Finally, as a fully-integrated service provider CGI is your one partner for everything from service to delivery, allowing for easier, more efficient communication, and more control.
ABOUT CGI
At CGI, we’re in the business of satisfying clients. For 37 years, we’ve partnered with U.S. defense, civilian, and intelligence agencies to support their mission-essential needs at every stage of the program, product, and business lifecycle.
As a global leader in IT, we deliver end-to-end services and solutions in application and technology management, systems integration and consulting, business process management and services, advanced engineering and technology services, and operational support services.
Our mission expertise includes defense, intelligence, environment, financial management, healthcare, homeland security, financial management, and housing.
CGI has 68,000 employees in offices worldwide.

ADDED BENEFIT OF A SECURE CLOUD ENVIRONMENT
Among the first to invest in building a federal cloud computing infrastructure, CGI’s infrastructure as a service (IaaS) cloud was the second to receive a FedRAMP provisional Authority to Operate (P-ATO). Clients hosting in our government community cloud will benefit from a third party assessment organization (3PAO) accredited safe and secure environment for storing, monitoring and managing data. Additionally CGI is one of few companies selected to offer virtual machines (VMs) and cloud web hosting services for any system under the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) has created a Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) for (IaaS) offerings.
FedRAMP is a U.S. government-wide program that standardizes the approach to security assessment, authorization, and continuous monitoring for cloud products and services. We leverage that experience and our global expertise in cloud infrastructure in providing cross-cloud service provider brokerage services.

PROVEN SOLUTION
Many agencies are already taking advantage of cloud computing’s economies of scale, increased capacity, enhanced effectiveness and improved efficiency by partnering with managed-services providers like CGI.
For example, a large government agency, in need of a solution to reduce time spent on manual audit preparation and reduce external audit findings, recently requested that CGI implement and host operations for their internal controls program.
CGI launched an innovative pilot program using Infor Approva Continuous Monitoring, which has since been implemented across the organization. The solution provides internal control functionality testing through automated monitoring of separation of duties violations. The data mining reports developed for the agency provide executives with invaluable insight into critical financial processes and transactions. Benefits that the Approva solution provides include:
  * Streamlined internal control review and security processes
  * “What-if” analysis ensuring proper separation of duties when creating new user profiles or modifying existing profiles
  * Tools for executives to protect agency funds and preclude improper disbursements by enhancing separation of duties in their day-to-day operations
As a result of working with CGI, the agency saw reductions in audit and compliance costs, time spent testing controls, and number of audit findings. Additionally the agency experienced a decreased risk of security breaches, minimized accounting errors, and prevented cash leaks and fraud.

For more information about CGI, visit www.cgi.com/momentum or email us at info@cgi.com.