

8 Ways to Strengthen Corporate Data Governance & Regulatory Compliance

Data continues to pile up each year. According to Cisco*, annual global IP traffic will reach 2.3 ZB by 2020. With all this data, here are eight steps you can take to strengthen your data governance and mitigate compliance risks.

1

Institutionalize data discovery.

Find data stores, such as customer data and records of security-clearance issued personnel. Know every type of data stored by your organization.



2

Catalogue data stores.

Ask yourself where data stores reside. Who has and controls access? How are you protecting it?



3

Follow the rules.

Enforce all existing corporate-wide data retention policies.



4

Don't forget to delete.

Make sure that data retention policies include verifiable end-of-life data erasure.



5

Search diligently.

Find "hidden" classes of data, such as: machine logs, deleted files and browsing history and make sure that data is erased.



6

Audit regularly.

Build an ongoing auditing process for data retention policies, data use and data erasure methods.



7

Hire a DPO.

Assign responsibility for data security to a Data Protection Officer (DPO)—as required by the EU GDPR.



8

Empower your DPO.

The DPO should report both internally and externally to a central data protection oversight organization such as the GAO.



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