

## USE CASE

# Managed Service Provider (MSP) Third-Party Audit



When it comes to cybersecurity, organizations and their service providers are equally responsible for measures and cyber defenses that protect shared data. Attackers commonly use service and technology companies as access points to larger corporate targets, so instituting appropriate controls has never been more important for providers and their customers.

## THE CHALLENGE

Organizations hire speciality firms to conduct MSP third-party audits. The audits support due diligence questionnaires (DDQs) that companies operating in regulated industries need, while also ensuring alignment to broader regulatory laws like the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and state-level acts like the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA). Third-party audits are becoming more routine, yet they lack standardization and often vary depending on the firm conducting the audit or the customer requesting it.

Increased frequency and a lack of standardization makes completing audits and fulfilling requirements challenging for MSPs and vendors. In many cases several MSP employees support the audit, each handling a different section. The process is time consuming, and a lack of central expertise can create confusion, misalignment or worse – failed certification.

### Risks of Audit Misalignment, Non-completion and Failed Certification:



Regulatory Non-compliance



Reputational Risk



Lost Business



Competitive Disadvantage



Penalties

