Survey Finds Compliance Activities and Fines Cost Organizations Nearly $4M per Year

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Independent research reveals that commercial organizations spend an average of 58 days each quarter dealing with compliance audits.

Ashburn, VA – October 13, 2020 – Telos® Corporation, a leading provider of cyber, cloud and enterprise security solutions for the world's most security-conscious organizations, today unveiled new findings from a survey conducted by independent research firm Vanson Bourne that highlights organizations' ongoing struggle to keep up with IT security and privacy compliance regulations. The survey found that organizations spend an average of $3.5M annually on compliance activities, with compliance audits consuming 58 working days each quarter.

As more regulations come into existence and more organizations migrate their critical systems, applications and infrastructure to the cloud, the risk of non-compliance and associated impact increases. Key findings from the survey include:

- IT security professionals report receiving an average of over 17 audit evidence requests each quarter and spend an average of three working days responding to a single request.
- Over the last 24 months, organizations have been found non-compliant an average of six times by both internal and third party auditors resulting in an average of eight fines, costing an average of $460,000.
- Nearly nine in 10 organizations (86 percent) believe compliance would be an issue when moving systems, applications and infrastructure to the cloud.
- 94 percent of organizations report they would face challenges when it comes to IT security compliance and/or privacy regulations in the cloud.

"Compliance teams spend 232 working days each year responding to audit evidence requests, in addition to the millions of other tasks they are responsible for, and spend $3.5M annually on compliance activities, with compliance audits consuming 58 working days each quarter. The bottom line is this level of financial and time commitment is unsustainable in the long run. As hammer, chisel and stone gave way to clipboard, paper and pencil, it's time for organizations to realize the days of doing it the old way are over. It's time to embrace automation. Telos is the only real way to get in front of curve, rather than continuing to try and keep up." said Chris DeRosa, CEO, Telos Corporation.

Nearly all survey respondents (99 percent) indicated their organization would benefit from automating IT security and/or privacy compliance activities, with the greatest benefits being the reduction of time spent being audited (51 percent) and the ability to respond to audit evidence requests more quickly (50 percent).

For additional findings and to download the full report, visit: www.telos.com/reserved/audit-fatigue-report/

Methodology
Telos partnered with Vanson Bourne to survey 300 security professionals from the United States. Respondents represented companies ranging from 1,000 to more than 5,000 employees and $60 million to more than $5 billion in global annual revenue.

About Telos Corporation

Telos Corporation empowers and protects the world's most security-conscious organizations with solutions for continuous security assurance and conflict of interest management. The company secures and protects some of the world's most highly privileged information and assets, including those of the U.S. government, allied nations and commercial organizations around the world. Telos is a recipient of the prestigious James S. Cogswell Outstanding Industrial Security Achievement Award from the Defense Security Service (DSS), awarded to less than 0.03% of eligible organizations. For more information, visit www.telos.com and follow the company on Twitter @TelosNews.

About Vanson Bourne

Vanson Bourne is an independent specialist in market research for the technology sector. Our reputation for robust and insightful research attracts global blue-chip companies and technology leaders. We provide a full range of qualitative and quantitative research solutions, across technical and business functions, in all business sectors and all major markets. For more information, visit www.vansonbourne.com.

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