

# Due Diligence Assessment

*Mergers & acquisitions cybersecurity and compliance risk assessment.*

*Sword & Shield specializes in information security and compliance. Our certified consultants are experienced professionals, and our comprehensive portfolio of security services allows us to be your single stop consulting partner.*

Mergers and acquisitions (M&A) can create strategic business advantages and fuel economic growth. Combining companies can be a risky proposition for both entities on many levels. The target company's cybersecurity posture can have a major impact on the acquiring company's present value, and on the potential unknown liabilities the acquirer may be assuming.

While companies thoroughly study a potential company for merger or acquisition in many areas, cybersecurity and compliance are often overlooked. This shortfall can be a costly mistake.

## What is a cybersecurity due diligence assessment?

Sword & Shield's Due Diligence Assessment provides a high-level overview of risk associated with your organization's pending merger or acquisition as it relates to cybersecurity and compliance. This service helps you to do the following:

Make better informed decisions from whether to proceed, to planning how to do so.

Accurately plan for expenses associated with both entities' security postures.

Avoid damage of reputation that could result from an unwise purchase.

Sword & Shield partners with you through this facilitated self-assessment to help you evaluate the security programs in place, discover potential security and compliance gaps, and address compatibility issues.

## Is compliance status an M&A concern?

Yes. Achieving compliance can be expensive; not being compliant and accruing fines can be detrimental. Sword & Shield's expertise in compliance frameworks such as HIPAA, PCI, NIST, ISO, GDPR and more helps us to ascertain the target company's status and determine what it will take to achieve compliance.



## About Us

Securing business for more than 20 years, Sword & Shield Enterprise Security, Inc. partners with our customers to meet the needs of their dynamic cybersecurity and compliance landscape.

We work closely with companies to become tightly integrated with their enterprise operations in the areas of managed security, risk and compliance, enterprise security consulting, security incident response and forensics, and security training.

Recognized nationally and headquartered in Knoxville, Tennessee, Sword & Shield has offices throughout the US. Sword & Shield services a broad spectrum of industries, including healthcare, retail, media, banking and finance, legal and manufacturing.

## Just Ask

Sword & Shield has vast experience in virtually every area of information security and compliance. If you need a service in these areas not specifically named in a description, the chances are we do it, and we do it well. So, just ask.

## Who can benefit from a cybersecurity due diligence assessment?

Sword & Shield works with capital investment companies, corporate law firms, and banks potentially funding these endeavors to assess the risks associated with compliance, privacy, security, and governance of any and all data that could be deemed sensitive.

## What does due diligence discover?

Cybersecurity Due Diligence for M&A allows our experts to provide the following:

- Information that may point to undisclosed cybersecurity problems
- Insight into the extent of remediation needed and estimated associated costs
- Information on the risk(s) related to discovered issues on which to base executive decisions
- Awareness of indications there are compliance gaps
- Understanding of implemented security frameworks and architecture
- Insight into IT department approaches and style
- Awareness of breaches, and if and how they were addressed

As any company is susceptible to cyberattacks, all parties engaged in M&A transactions should treat cybersecurity and compliance due diligence as an imperative stand-alone requirement. Fortunately, cybersecurity due diligence is becoming an M&A best practice.

## Why Sword & Shield Enterprise Security

Technology firms that dabble in security tell you what you're doing wrong (or not doing at all) and walk away, leaving you without a plan of action. Sword & Shield partners with you to become an integral part of your cybersecurity and compliance program by not only identifying gaps and vulnerabilities, but also continuing to work with you to achieve and maintain a secure and compliant environment.

In short, Sword & Shield's depth and breadth of expertise in every aspect of our comprehensive portfolio of security services, coupled with our customer-first approach, empowers us to provide tailored solutions and personalized support for small to enterprise level companies. We strive to make your security and compliance initiatives as easy as possible on you.

This is what sets us apart from other IT security and compliance firms.

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