



Your security is our business.

Challenge

Benchmark information security program against compliance requirements at the state and federal levels

Solution

Security TouchStone™ Services from Allied InfoSecurity

Benefits

- Objective validation of the company's current security policies and procedures against compliance requirements.
- Expert assistance in creating and communicating a roadmap for continuous improvement.
- Initiation of an information security partnership with a trusted third party.

Case Study:



Founded in 1989 and headquartered in Dresher, Pennsylvania, Complete HealthCare Resources (CHR) provides management and consulting services to long-term care, assisted living, and retirement communities, as well as other providers of senior housing and care. Because of the services it provides and where it is located, CHR must comply with the security and privacy requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and with several states' data breach laws.

In fact, as CIO Marty Diller explains, addressing such requirements is increasingly challenging for his IT team: "Every year, compliance and security become a larger portion of our responsibilities and consume more of our budget."

Recognizing the importance—and complexity—of compliance, Diller sought an objective assessment of CHR's existing policies, procedures, and network security components. In addition, he hoped to form a partnership with a third-party security firm that could assess and attest to CHR's compliance and security efforts on an ongoing basis.

"One of my major goals was to verify that we have a defensible position—that if, in fact, anything happened, we have a good strategy and plan regarding compliance and HIPAA initiatives in particular," he says.

Another major goal: to create a roadmap of where Diller and his team would like to be in the future.

"Compliance is a commitment and an ongoing process—more of a journey than a destination," Diller notes. "We wanted a game plan and an expert partner going forward."

Through an IT recruiter and staffing consultant, Diller was introduced to Allied InfoSecurity. He says he was impressed by the proposal they prepared but, more importantly, by the partnering approach they demonstrated: "From Day One, they started with an attitude of 'We're here to partner with you and walk down this path together.'"

"What I appreciated about Allied InfoSecurity is they brought a proven methodology and structure to the engagement."

About Allied InfoSecurity, Inc.

An independent company focused only on security and staffed by certified security professionals, Allied InfoSecurity is a consulting and outsourcing provider that helps businesses improve and manage their information security programs, mitigate risk, and respond to regulatory and marketplace demands more quickly and effectively than they could on their own. As a world-class information security partner, we help our customers address complex legal and regulatory requirements and rising customer awareness and expectations about the safe handling of sensitive information while empowering them to focus on their core business objectives.

Allied InfoSecurity offers a full spectrum of industry-specific, best practices-driven services based on a cost-effective, pragmatic, and defensible approach that meets information security needs and helps minimize liability. Our products include technical assessments, compliance and certification services, computer forensics, employee awareness and training programs, and comprehensive security program development and management.

He notes that the Allied InfoSecurity team carried through on that partnership approach with the work delivered for CHR's first engagement—a compliance assessment that benchmarked the company's policies, procedures, and technical infrastructure against the security and privacy requirements within HIPAA and other state-level regulations.

“What I appreciated about Allied InfoSecurity is they brought a proven methodology and structure to the engagement,” Diller explains. The team executed the engagement with two days of on-site information gathering followed by extensive off-site review and evaluation. That work culminated in a report that Diller calls “extremely thorough.”

In addition to benchmarking CHR against HIPAA and preparing recommendations for future enhancements, Diller says that Allied InfoSecurity even helped in optimizing communication of those recommendations to decision-makers outside the IT function.

For companies of CHR's size, Diller believes an information security partnership is the ideal course of action: “Given that CHR is a mid-tier company, we don't necessarily have the resources to address security and compliance issues on a day-to-day basis. So for us, and for me specifically as CIO, leveraging relationships with third-party experts like Allied InfoSecurity is critical to our success and a vital element in our security and compliance strategy.”

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