Compliance Automation for Physical Security

Clients

Physical security comprises complex and ever-changing issues for federal civilian agencies. These agencies serve the general public through nationwide networks of field locations and operate programs to ensure the safety and security of these sites.

Challenge

Our clients faced budget cuts, fewer resources, and incomplete paper trails which impacted their ability to perform facility security assessments, track and remediate deficiencies, report incidents, and analyze physical security data. They found it difficult to:

- Comply with federal mandates, industry best practices, and audit requirements
- Enforce and measure compliance
- Identify trends
- Align funds with pressing security needs

Solution

ICF designed and implemented a comprehensive solution based on our GroupAssure® core software framework, which includes a sophisticated security model with role-based access control and workflows. The ICF team customized robust suites of web-based compliance and workflow automation applications, resulting in a unique, role-based user experience for each agency. Accessible to field sites through an intranet, features included:

- A workflow tool for requesting and approving access to buildings and secured areas. This tool interfaces with physical access control systems and the PIV card management system. It supports the HSPD-12 mandate and NIST Special Publication 800-53 recertification compliance.
- An online physical security assessment for use during onsite facility surveys, in compliance with agency and Interagency Security Committee protocol.
The tool uses responses to determine physical security deficiencies and automatically calculates the facility security level (FSL) and level of risk.

An online reporting form for workplace and domestic violence incidents, in compliance with U.S. Office of Personnel Management guidance. The application streamlines case management workflow and victim support.

An online questionnaire about a site’s physical security for managers to complete annually and as needed. Responses to the questionnaire populate physical security action and emergency planning handbook templates consistently across offices and are automatically routed for approval in the agency hierarchy.

An application for logging maintenance and training data that populates physical security handbooks.

A budget tool for tracking deficiencies that require remediation based on the physical security assessment, the online questionnaire, or manual entries by a manager. The tool automates the recommendation and approval process for funding requests to remediate these deficiencies and allows managers to prioritize requests. Managers can track budgets, purchase orders, and allocated funding for physical security items.

An online form for submitting physical security incidents and responses at field sites. The application sends automated notifications to the appropriate chain of command and reports statistics.

Results

With the customized and built-in features of the GroupAssure® framework and its applications, ICF’s clients could automate recurring tasks, streamline workflows, comply with audit requirements, and adapt quickly to ever-changing regulations. The suite of tools eliminated paper processes and provided custom reporting of metrics. GroupAssure® delivered ease of integration with existing agency applications and intra-integration with other GroupAssure® applications. It became a one-stop shop for the agencies' physical security needs.