



# HA&W Information Risk Management and Assurance

## MOVING BEYOND PILLAR THREE BEST PRACTICES TO CYBER RISK MANAGEMENT

Sparked by the continued increase in high-profile data breaches across the nation, ALTA has stated that “an expanded focus on cyber security risks” will be among the top five areas that will garner attention in 2016. As a title agent, adding cyber security concerns to the mix of ongoing regulatory compliance complexities, such as TILA/RESPA Integrated Disclosures (TRID), must feel like adding insult to injury.

For title agencies that depend on the ability to process large volumes of transactions, including the associated electronic Non-public Personal Information (NPI), an actual or potential data breach could severely erode the value of the business – driving away prospects, customers and lenders.

These high stakes demand an approach to cyber risk management that can stand up to scrutiny from customers, prospects, lenders and regulatory examiners – not to mention your own executive management team. Although ALTA Best Practices Pillar Three provides general compliance guidelines for information security, compliance alone will not deliver effective cyber security and risk management.

### Focus security dollars on the assets that represent the greatest risk



### Raise the bar

HA&W looks deeper to assess the entire information security management system. We elevate your security program from a compliance-based approach to an ongoing risk management program that protects the integrity of the business and keeps you ahead of the ever-changing threat environment.

Too many executives see cyber security as a technical problem that can be addressed through vulnerability scans. But these surface-level reports may fail to address the most significant risks to your business. As a result, you could be throwing your money away on technical security measures that protect the wrong things.



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Certified Public Accountants and Business Advisors



## Comprehensive information risk management

HA&W enables title agencies and settlement firms to take control of cyber security through a comprehensive, sustainable Information Risk Management and Assurance methodology that protects what matters most.



**1. Cyber risk assessment:** We begin with a thorough understanding of your company's "digital assets" - critical groupings of data and processes that could harm the business if they were compromised. Working with your technical and business leaders, we uncover the most significant risks to these valuable information assets.



**2. Gap assessment:** Next, we determine whether current risk management activities are appropriate, given your company's risk appetite and tolerance. We measure your activities against relevant aspects of leading security standards, such as ISO 27001.



**3. Risk treatment:** By focusing on the value at risk, we enable you to maintain baseline information security controls that protect the majority of data and systems while selectively investing in advanced security measures to protect higher-value digital assets.



**4. Ongoing monitoring and attestation:** After establishing this thorough understanding of your digital assets' relative value and risks, we deliver independent and objective attestation reporting. This provides an added level of assurance that controls are operating effectively and comply with regulatory and industry association requirements.

## A higher level of assurance

Our auditors and information assurance specialists provide independent attestation and certification to satisfy your risk management and reporting requirements, including:

- SSAE 16 / SOC 1
- SOC 2
- ISO 27001

The SOC 2 attestation is a particularly rigorous type of assurance engagement in which an independent CPA expresses an opinion on a set of assertions. CPAs must comply with strict AICPA attestation standards, and they bear professional liability for their opinions. So when HA&W attests to your information systems and controls, we have personal and professional skin in the game. No other type of information security report provides this level of assurance. Let us help you raise the bar on cyber security.

### ISO 27001 CERTIFICATION

HA&W has been accredited as an ISO 27001 Certifying Body, making it one of the first full-service CPA firms to earn this credential. An internationally accepted framework, ISO 27001 certification verifies that an organization has deployed a strong information security management system. By assessing a company's security practices against ISO 27001, HA&W helps you fulfill your governance responsibilities while streamlining the process to comply with vendor management and lender requirements.

If you're ready to raise the bar on cyber security, contact:



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