

Moving Up to Controls & KPIs

Governance leads to consistency; Activities that define expectations and verify performance.

Make governance & compliance your allies, not foes

Control frameworks like COBIT, PCI and HIPAA are often a requirement of life, but more importantly, they can lead to increased competitive advantage for your organization.

The true value – stewardship

IT professionals are stewards, with a fiduciary responsibility to ensure the information technology resources they manage are used in the best interest of the business. These business owners want and deserve a reasonable return on their IT financial investments.

But how do you show your success as a steward; or your IT business alignment?

Controls are the answer.

Controls in Samantha[®] let you demonstrate, on an on-going basis, how your IT teams meet controls, adhere to governance metrics and perform preventative maintenance activities, as defined by agreed-upon standards. Samantha[®] Controls operate under a strict workflow, where controls are proposed, approved, scheduled and then executed day in and day out.

You can proactively demonstrate your compliance, rather than waiting for an annual audit for a Passing or worse yet, a Failing grade. Uncover when controls are veering off-track, well within time for corrective action. With Samantha[®] on-going monitoring, you can avoid painful annual audit embarrassments.

And when the auditors do come, Samantha[®] helps you easily deliver indisputable evidence that your governance activities were executed on-track, on-time, and as planned.

Mitigating risks

Create the necessary controls to eliminate risks:

- Detective δ for early discovery of problems
- Corrective δ to correct errors that have been uncovered
- Preventative δ to keep errors from occurring in the first place

Easily demonstrate that your controls are comprehensive, covering preventative, reactive and proactive measures.



“My teams no longer forget to track and perform preventative maintenance and control activities. Now, with Samantha[™], it’s a breeze.”

Assuring performance

Process and IT team performance should be consistent, with a positive trend you can prove. Controls are also effective at assuring standard activities are being performed consistently. For instance, set controls on:

- Success in network penetration testing
- Ensuring tape backups successfully occur
- Measuring system availability
- Service level compliance
- Event logs meeting accepted thresholds
- Inventory levels passing expected goals.

Native framework support

PCI, COBIT, and HIPAA frameworks are defined δ out of the box. Or, create your own controls for your internal governance and preventative maintenance activities. Both pre-defined and your custom controls help assure your organization is correctly aligned with the business.

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Create your own “get out of jail free” card

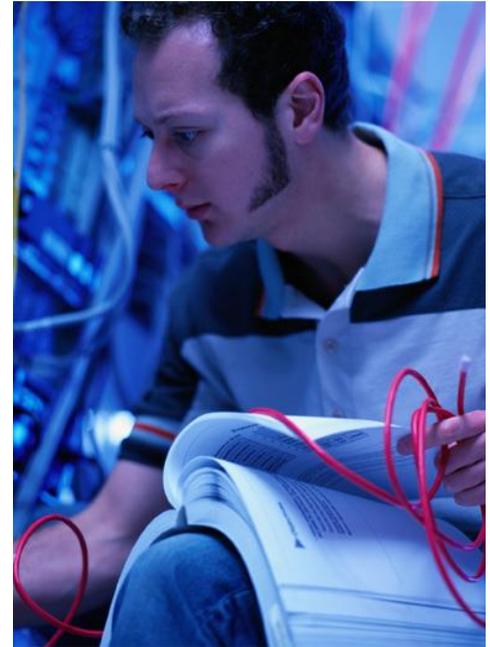
Bad things do happen – virus attacks, security breaches and equipment failures. When (not if) they do, PROVE you took adequate measures to avoid those risks, before they happened.

Controls in the System Asset Management System™

- Set-up recurring schedules for governance and maintenance items
- Define a duration for when the testing must be performed
- Provide e-mail warnings when testing is due and overdue for verification
- Easily report on Passed or Failed controls
- Get timely e-mail notifications when individual controls Pass or Fail.
- Link controls to applications and assets
- Identify controls to cover various risks ó financial, fraud, security.
- Cross-reference PCI and HIPAA controls to COBIT frameworks

Automated testing

Being part of the System Asset Management System™, Controls can easily be created for automated testing. Controls verification often relies on electronic records, file date / time stamps, data in files, or process verifications. When this evidence is available in online systems, Samantha™ can perform the desired testing automatically, according to your testing schedule.



Controls cover the entire business

It's not just IT that has business controls. Use Samantha™ Controls to alert business leaders anywhere in the company of the success or failure of the organization's key controls. The reports can be used for compliance, governance, service level and contractual obligations in many different sectors.

But within IT, the controls you create can be linked to the applications and systems they cover. For instance, all of the financial applications and systems can be grouped into various control frameworks. This linking helps give you assurance that your key systems are adequately protected.

Having the right metrics increases your value as a manager or technology professional. With the right tool it is easy to demonstrate how effective you are at being a good steward to the business.

Let us show you how.

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"I welcome the Auditors; They make me shine."



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