# **HITRUST Shared** Responsibility and Inheritance **Program Optimal Managed Risk Solutions for Sharing Information Security Control Assurances** i1 CERTIFIED

# The HITRUST Shared Responsibility and Inheritance Program

The HITRUST Shared Responsibility and Inheritance Program includes two highly innovative, efficient, integrated solutions that combine to create a unique means to save time and money by automatically identifying and importing control testing results and scoring from prior HITRUST Validated or Certified Assessments.

The HITRUST Shared Responsibility and Inheritance Program allows organizations to place reliance on shared information protection controls that are available from internal shared IT services and external third-party organizations, including: service providers, vendors and suppliers of cloud-enabled applications and technology platforms (SaaS and IaaS/PaaS), colocation (colo) data center hosting services, and other managed services.

# **HITRUST Shared Responsibility and Inheritance Benefits:**

#### **Manages Cyber Risk More Efficiently**

• Stimulates productive communication with cloud and other service providers that aligns understanding and logistics to share controls equitably.

#### **Delivers Greater Clarity and Efficiency**

 Provides a simplified methodology and standardized structure to define and manage information security control ownership, especially for the nuanced, partially shared controls in cloud environments.

#### **Reduces Time and Effort**

The HITRUST MyCSF® best-in-class information risk management platform enables
 Assess Once, Inherit Many™ capabilities by streamlining controls reliance using
 Inheritance from prior HITRUST Validated or Certified Assessments.

# **HITRUST Shared Responsibility Matrix**

#### **Comprehensive Blueprint to Facilitate the Sharing of Controls**

The HITRUST Shared Responsibility Matrix®(HITRUST SRM) is a no-cost, easy-to-use, out-of-box, baseline template with pre-populated shared responsibility and controls inheritability that are perfectly suitable for shared cloud environments. The HITRUST SRM is aligned to a shared responsibility model that demystifies the practical application of control sharing with a unique set of rational core principles and terminology.

# **Shared Responsibility Matrix Benefits:**

- Resolves *cloudy* uncertainty and ambiguity by clearly defining and relying on shared information security and privacy controls.
- Built on the first vendor-agnostic shared responsibility model to help service providers and their customers agree on how to parse control responsibility and inheritance.
- Commonly adopted by leading cloud service providers and their user communities of relying customers.
- Tailored for HITRUST Inheritance Providers as a benefit for customers to download HITRUST SRMs to guide inheritability from HITRUST Validated or Certified Assessments.
- Uses the widely-adopted HITRUST CSF®, which is a single framework that includes
  over 40 authoritative sources and more than 2,000 security and privacy control
  requirements in a tailorable and flexible control library, which is harmonized and
  mapped to each source.

While each organization is unique, many save significant time, effort, and cost on their HITRUST Assessments by inheriting up to 60% of the controls from their cloud service providers.\*

\*To take advantage of HITRUST Inheritance, service providers must have an appropriate MyCSF subscription and current HITRUST Validated or Certified Assessment.

#### HITRUST Control Inheritance

#### Reduces Time, Effort, and Cost by Inheriting Control Scoring, Assessment Information, and Results

When performing HITRUST Assessments, Inheritance optimizes the use of prior HITRUST Validated or Certified Assessment results along with reliance on sharing cloud controls. Inheritance capabilities enable organizations to effectively manage ongoing assurances that show how they proactively protect sensitive information and critical digital assets — regardless of where or how data is hosted.

# **Key Inheritance Benefits:**



Reduces the need for duplicative and redundant direct controls testing that is covered and retained under a prior valid assessment.



Identifies control mappings and leverages assessment results within one system to efficiently process Inheritance information exchange.



Provides the transparency and visibility needed to fully understand and effectively inherit existing controls assessment data.



The industry's only Inheritance capability for third-party assurances, especially well-suited for shared cloud-based control environments.

# **MyCSF External Inheritance**

With a HITRUST MyCSF® subscription, organizations can import control assessment results and scores from other HITRUST i1 or r2 Validated Assessments that have been published (enabled) for External Inheritance by hosting, cloud, or other service providers with a Corporate or Premier MyCSF subscription. The Shared Responsibility Matrix aids External Inheritance.

# **MyCSF Internal Inheritance**

With a Corporate or Premier MyCSF subscription, organizations can leverage and repurpose their own prior controls assessment results and scores that are internally inheritable to or from other HITRUST Assessments belonging to that same organization. Reusing all or part of existing assessment results allows centralized and decentralized business functions to scope control environments into smaller sub-divisions without the duplication of evidence-gathering and controls testing, scoring, and commentary.

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#### **How HITRUST Inheritance Works**

- Provides seamless integration into the end-to-end assessment process, from creation through to validation and reporting.
- Facilitates exchange of inherited control assessment information along with automated calculation of inherited control maturity scores.
- Imports previously performed control information such as requirement statements, testing/scoring, and more directly into the "inheriting" assessment.
- Automates External Inheritance workflow requests and approvals to determine partial or full inheritance from HITRUST-Certified cloud-hosted service providers.

For more information, or to access a free download of the HITRUST Shared Responsibility Matrix, visit the HITRUST web site.

For More Information About the Shared Responsibility Matrix and Inheritance:

Contact your HITRUST Product Specialist

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