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November 14, 2018

DOR's Office of Information Security Wins National Award

The Georgia Department of Revenue's Office of Information Security was recognized on November 8, 2018 as the ISE® North America Project: Public Sector Award Winner 2018. The winning project was the CISO Sentinel Security and Compliance Risk Management Platform (CISO Sentinel).

The CISO Sentinel uses continuous monitoring and management, allowing for the Department to more tightly control cyber security risks. Due to the agency's growing dependencies on third parties and the difficulties of regulatory mandates, prior to the CISO Sentinel, the agency was struggling to scale security projects to the needed levels. The CISO Sentinel helped reduce costs, expanded services and matured the Department's overall compliance and cybersecurity posture into being more proactive. As a result, the Department has shifted from paper-based assessment reporting to a dynamic actionable cyber security program. The project has been a great success and has reduced physical security access deficiencies by eighty-four percent.

The Georgia Department of Revenue Office of Information Security is responsible for securing a threat and regulatory landscape that encompasses multiple Federal mandates and 3rd Party Information Service providers. This project implemented a security and compliance risk management platform, CISO Sentinel, to capture operating efficiencies in management of the program. Using continuous monitoring and management, the platform enables greater control of cybersecurity risks by effectively managing the processes associated with obtaining, identifying, processing and aggregating key information. Significant elements of the project focused upon prioritizing the review of critical security alerts, automating governance processes, eliminating redundant silos, and streamlining compliance and management reporting.

The Executive Sponsor of the project was Wes Knight, CISO, and the project team was comprised of Chris Austin, Information Security Analyst, Larry Faulkner, Information Security Analyst, Jan Gaines, Information Security Analyst, Tavaris Lundy, Information Security Analyst, Alex Kirkland, Information Security Analyst, Wes Knight, Chief Information Security Officer, and Steve Hodges, Chief Disclosure Officer.

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