

## Wave Secure Data Group – Information Security Approach

Traditionally, Information Security has been addressed through the implementation of point solutions to secure network infrastructure. This methodology has proved flawed in both its approach and effectiveness. Information Technology is implemented for one purpose - the automation of digital information handling (collection, storage, process, and delivery) in the most efficient ways possible. "Data" is the company's true asset, and it - not the network infrastructure - is the asset that needs to be secured.

In practice, securing the network is the process by which *Data* is secured. The flaws in conventional security implementations are present not because the security mechanisms are ineffective, but rather because they were architected without thorough consideration of the *Data* maintained within the corporate environment. Wave Secure Data Group designs security solutions that protect the corporation's *Data*, whether at rest, or in transit.

Most Information Technology solutions can be mapped as "verticals" implemented within a technology environment. Applications, server infrastructure, E-Commerce solutions, and Network Operating Systems are all examples of technology "verticals". Security solutions touch all areas of the technology infrastructure. Therefore, security maps as a "horizontal" that covers all other technology verticals. In order to maintain a comprehensive security strategy, well defined policies and procedures must be created to guide the security effort.

Wave Secure Data Group provides security consultation, design, and implementation services to our clients by executing a structured approach. This approach begins and ends with the client's *Data* at the heart of the effort.

- **Data Discovery:** Discovery and evaluation of the client's digital information and its characteristics
- **Policy and Procedure Analysis:** Review and evaluate their effectiveness at protecting the client's *Data*?
- **Assessment:** Infrastructure, Security, and Risk Analysis
- **Security Solutions Design**
- **Security Solutions Deployment**
- **Monitor and evaluate the new solution's ability to security the client's *Data***
- **Implement security management processes; train personnel**

### Data Discovery

Security is employed to protect a company's primary digital asset, its *Data*. *Data* Discovery and Analysis locates all of the digital information used by a corporation. This *Data* is identified, categorized, and prioritized. This process creates a matrix that defines the defense factor required for each piece of *Data*. Each piece of *Data* is also assigned properties that define its dynamics - how it is processed, what format(s) it is stored in, what applications make it available on the network, and which class(es) of users require access to it - as well as the level of access required by each.

### Policy and Procedure Analysis

This task reviews all existing policies and procedures implemented by the client. The appropriateness of these policies and procedures is weighed against the legal requirements imposed upon the client, effectiveness at preserving the client's ability to do business, and the norms in the client's industry vertical. Legal ramifications, damage to corporate reputation, disruption of operations, and industry standards are all key factors when determining the effectiveness and appropriateness of security policies and procedures. One thing is certain, if a formal set of policies and

procedures does not exist (or does not address certain standards of behavior), the likelihood of failure of new security solutions is extremely high.

### Assessment

Once the client's *Data* is adequately mapped and their policies and procedures have been reviewed and/or modified, Wave SDG can begin the process of environment assessment. Discovery of physical assets, analysis of technology architecture, and evaluation of security control mechanisms already in place are all tasks included in the assessment process. A comprehensive understanding of the client's current environment allows Wave SDG to set a baseline from which the security design will take place. Where ever possible, the client's existing infrastructure investment will be leveraged to maximize return on investment.

### Design

After all of the requirements have been gathered and the existing infrastructure is documented, the design process can begin. Wave SDG Architects will develop solutions that address the client's specific requirements, always prioritizing the protection of the client's primary digital asset; their *Data*.

### Implementation

Skilled security technicians will implement the security solutions. In most cases this is a combination of enhancing the configurations and usage of existing infrastructure, deployment of new security controls, and establishing a core methodology for managing the security lifecycle model within all future projects.

### Monitor and Modify

Once new security controls are deployed, effective monitoring and management is necessary. Visibility of security related events within the technology infrastructure is paramount, not only to enable threat response, but also to evaluate the effectiveness of the security solutions. In-band modifications are often required post-deployment. This phase of the project utilizes a structured process for managing and deploying any necessary modifications to the new security controls.

### Implement Management Process

Ongoing management is always necessary with any new technology. Security solutions often require frequent updates, policy modifications, regular monitoring, and procedures for scaling. Wave SDG empowers the client's existing security and technology professionals to effectively manage their new security solutions.

### Why Wave Secure Data Group?

Wave Secure Data Group is a vendor neutral technology consulting company. Our consultative approach provides our clients with impartial assessments of available technology based on the client's specific needs. Our highly trained staff brings years of industry experience from both sides of the "fence". We understand the technology industry from our client's perspective, enabling us to provide relevant solutions to solve your specific needs.

To learn more about Wave Secure Data Group, visit  
<http://www.wave-sdg.com>

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