

A NIST CSF Assessment for Reducing Cybersecurity Risk

With cyberthreats rapidly evolving and data volumes growing exponentially, many organizations are struggling to ensure proper security. Implementing a solid cybersecurity framework (CSF) can help you protect your business.

► What is the NIST CSF?

Back in 2014, the United States government directed the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) by executive order to develop a framework to improve the cybersecurity of critical infrastructure. The NIST Framework was designed in collaboration with industry leaders and offers guidance for organizations looking to better manage and reduce their cybersecurity risk.

► Who should follow NIST?

Although it was developed as a voluntary framework to be used by the Federal Government and critical infrastructure owners, it has received accelerated acceptance among the private and commercial sectors. The NIST CSF helps businesses of all sizes better understand, manage and reduce their cybersecurity risk and protect their networks and data.

Cybersecurity frameworks are not considered a one-size-fits-all

It is important to understand that the NIST Framework is not a set of rules, controls or tools. Rather, it offers a set of processes that can help organizations measure the maturity of their current cybersecurity and risk management systems and identify steps to strengthen them.

AccessIT Group's team of certified experts have developed a NIST CSF assessment tool to assist organizations interested in adopting this risk-based approach to cybersecurity.

Our team works closely with clients to understand their goals and objectives. By interviewing senior leadership and stakeholders throughout the organization, we help determine current state, unique risks, threats, vulnerabilities, potential impacts, and risk tolerance levels to come to a consensus as to an appropriate Framework Profile and discuss Implementation Tier Goals.



The Implementation Tiers, **Partial, Risk Informed, Repeatable and Adaptive**, are unique to each industry sector and should not be considered a maturity roadmap but instead, a way to measure continuous improvement and increased risk reduction.



During our assessment we will measure your organization against risk reducing controls, organizational culture (people), policies, standards, processes and technologies.

► IDENTIFY

Our team will help Identify critical and non-critical assets, software, data, and data flows.

► PROTECT

We will assess your ability to Protect your environment through logical and physical access, whether remote access technologies, least privilege, password protections and multi-factor authentication. We'll determine the existence and/or success of awareness training, change control and encryption, among other protection mechanisms.

► DETECT

AccessIT Group certified experts will assess Detection based controls such as whether baselines have been established, events are detected and analyzed, vulnerability scans are performed, etc.

► RESPOND

Respond is one of the most critical functions within the CSF Framework so understanding your response capabilities is critical. Do you have an incident response plan? Are you able to contain portions of your network in the event of a breach? Do you have a call tree including senior leadership, Legal, HR, law enforcement, etc.

► RECOVER

Once the incident has been contained and eradicated the business must get back up and running in a timely manner to reduce loss in revenue, public trust, minimize fines, and retain customer base. We'll help you review Recovery plans and strategy, assess whether you have a public relations representative to guide the notification process and repair a potentially damaged reputation.

Upon completion of the assessment, you will receive an executive summary and the full report with a dashboard providing a clear indication of gaps, risk levels and implementation tier. We will also schedule a follow up call to discuss the report and provide feedback with recommendations.

Why AccessIT Group?

AccessIT Group started as a security integration company. Having been founded on security is our strength. We specialize in cybersecurity solutions and are dedicated to best of class services and support. Our clients count on us to assess and mitigate risks, meet compliance requirements and improve existing business processes. By partnering with AccessIT Group, your organization will benefit from our vast experience and desire to successfully support your business objectives.

