

CYTELLIX

Better visibility results in better risk management

Combining governance, risk and compliance with managed detection and response truly transforms cybersecurity



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Visibility is crucial for understanding the true cybersecurity posture of a company and improving its risk management. It involves identifying cloud-based assets; hard assets such as switches, routers and servers; software-based behaviors and operational technologies; and internet-of-things technologies, such as cameras and sensors.

The goal is to understand where those assets are connecting to the network, how they're behaving and what/who they're communicating with so that any anomalous behavior can be detected, responded to and remediated to better protect the business' critical information.

Governance, risk and compliance (GRC) is a category of solutions that helps determine how a company is aligning to a cybersecurity framework, such as the

A comprehensive approach to compliance

That's where security efforts start to move into Managed Detection Response (MDR), which includes endpoint and log management through capabilities such as security information and event management and Endpoint Detection Response (EDR). GRC and MDR are typically handled separately, with one part of the company responsible for regulatory compliance and another responsible for security and incidents. When companies combine GRC and MDR capabilities, however, they create a measurable and comprehensive approach to cybersecurity risk and compliance.

Cytellix has developed a security platform, Cytellix Cyber Watch Platform (CCWP™), that brings together GRC, MDR and a third category called Extended Detection Response (XDR). That

combination helps our customers protect critical information as required by regulatory requirements, including CMMC. It also helps them understand whether they are under attack, whether information is leaking out of the organization and whether

any employees are acting in a way that increases the company's security risks.

Our CCWP™ prepares a company for audit and certification by a CMMC third-party assessment organization, and it works across on-premises, cloud-based and hybrid environments. We monitor and respond to security events that include all assets, virtual environments and networks, and in real time, we can identify changes



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Defense Department's Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC). Dynamic GRC tools can offer a deeper understanding of an overall cyber posture and network design and provide visibility into assets and their behaviors to uncover violations of a company's policy and/or a framework's objectives. However, the company won't know that a violation has occurred without some sort of monitoring of changes in posture.

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in employee behavior, data leakage and attacks by bad actors to prevent a change that would put companies in violation of cybersecurity compliance frameworks.

The long timeline to certification

Companies that need assistance complying with CMMC or other cybersecurity frameworks should seek an expert that can help them understand what's necessary from a capabilities perspective and guide them through the entire process so that they gain ongoing, real-time situational awareness of their security posture and the cyber risks they face.

We're on a timeline to mandatory CMMC compliance over the next three years, with the first contracts requiring CMMC expected to appear in the early part of fiscal 2025. That might sound like plenty of time, but achieving compliance takes much longer than many companies expect.

For the past six years, we have measured new clients' cybersecurity postures against the industry framework, and the average score is about 29% out of 100%. So companies typically have a long way to go.

The preparation work to secure the company including: Employees,

Infrastructure and Applications may include development of policies, configuration management and/or technology procurement — typically takes 12 to 18 months.

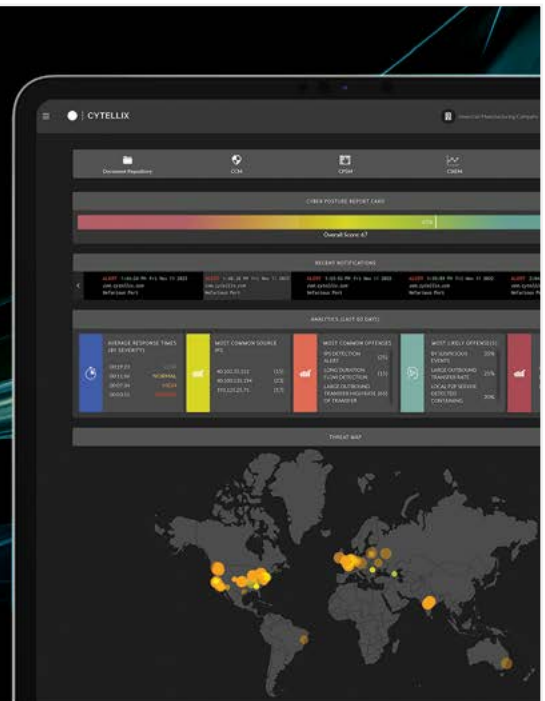
For companies that want to achieve CMMC compliance and win and maintain government contracts, the time to start is now. The infrastructure for helping suppliers meet compliance is not unlimited, and certification could bottleneck as we get closer to contract issuance. Be proactive! ■

Brian Berger is president of Cytellix.



The **ONLY** place GRC meets XDR.

One Platform. Better Visibility.
Better Risk Management.



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