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Bureau Veritas DATA PROTECTION CERTIFICATION

Achieve certification to target compliance with data protection regulations

Striking the balance between gaining customer insights and respecting their privacy has always been a challenge. Data protection legislation, present in many countries since the 1990s or earlier, is now being upgraded to keep pace with the state of the art. This hardening of the law requires organizations to have rigorous procedures in place to ensure they manage personal data according to the highest standards. In the distributed computing environments of the cloud, and with outsourced service providers, making sure you are treating that sensitive data correctly is more challenging than ever.

The more companies invest in digitizing their products, services and activities the more clients will have to place their trust with those brands that responsibly protect their data. Certification communicates your excellent approach to data management, demonstrating to staff, stakeholders and customers that you respect their right to privacy and take data protection seriously.

The European Union's General Data Protection Regulation¹ (EU GDPR) increases controls on companies dealing with EU citizens' personal data, wherever they are located, and the Supervisory Authorities of EU member states can impose fines of up to 4% of global revenues (or EUR 20m, whichever is greater) for serious non-compliance. With this regulation already in force, and with an implementation deadline of 25th May 2018, this is a serious issue for many businesses within and beyond the EU.

Bureau Veritas has applied 30 years of management systems experience and has brought in legal expertise to write a technical standard to enable companies to understand what they need to do to comply with the GDPR, and to voluntarily seek certification, in order to pro-actively demonstrate their compliance with the regulation². The technical standard has been designed to integrate with

existing ISO standards based management systems for quality, safety, environment and information security in order to facilitate easier implementation, maintenance and ongoing auditing and monitoring.

Who is data protection certification for?

Organizations with 250 or more employees are directly affected by the GDPR requirements for record keeping, but all organizations processing the personal data of "natural persons" resident in the EU for professional or commercial reasons are considered "data controllers" or "data processors" (who may manage data on behalf of the controllers) fall within the scope of the regulation. The processing of any data³ relating to an EU citizen "data subject" is within scope, regardless of where the processing organization is incorporated, registered or listed.

The data lifecycle approach to the regulation means data protection is no longer a problem for the IT or marketing department, but one requiring a holistic approach across the organization.

¹REGULATION (EU) 2016/679

² As envisaged in GDPR article 42

³ There are some exceptions for public bodies processing data in order to enforce public security or the prevention, investigation, detection or prosecution of criminal offences.



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Why certify your data protection procedures?

- Prove that your organization has implemented the requirements of the EU GDPR to prevent the misuse, accidental breach or loss of sensitive data
- Enhance your organization's reputation and avoid the costs and reputational risks associated with data breaches
- Build trust with staff, stakeholders and customers by showing you protect their data with best practice procedures
- Should a data breach occur, your certification demonstrates due diligence and will enable your organization to notify the appropriate authorities (GDPR identifies a "Supervisory Authority" for each member state) in a timely manner (and those whose data was compromised, if needed) and mitigate possible penalties

How to certify your data protection procedures?

The Bureau Veritas approach to certification has been established over 30 years and is supported by numerous international and local accreditations. The process of EU state Data Protection Authority and Supervisory Authority approval for certification to the technical standard is underway, and is dependant on specific advice expected from the Article 29 working party. Meanwhile voluntary certification can be obtained by leading organizations as follows:

- Definition of certification scope
- Certification audit performed. This will evaluate the implementation of the technical standard, including the effectiveness of the organization's procedures.
- A certificate valid for 3 years is issued upon satisfactory results
- Surveillance audits to verify that the procedures continue to fulfil the requirements of the standard and monitor the continual improvement
- Re-certification after 3 years to confirm the continued conformance and effectiveness of the procedures as a whole

Why choose Bureau Veritas certification?

Innovation

Bureau Veritas developed and owns the technical standard for personal data certification and is the first certification body to engage on data protection issues.

Network

6,500 skilled auditors operating in more than 100 countries offer a unique combination of international and local expertise providing consistent services wherever our clients are.

Expertise

Our auditors have extensive knowledge of specific industry sectors, local regulations, markets and language that enables them to provide solutions adapted to your needs.

Recognition

Bureau Veritas Certification is recognized by more than 40 national and international accreditation bodies across the world.

Mark of global recognition

The Bureau Veritas Certification mark is a globally recognized symbol of your organization's ongoing commitment to excellence, sustainability and reliability.

Experienced Instructors

Our training courses are delivered by lead auditors with years of industry experience and insight, who have been trained in interpersonal communication, intercultural issues and adult learning concepts.



For more information, contact your local Bureau Veritas office, which can be found in the 'Locations' section at www.bureauveritas.com