Global enterprises increasingly rely on multiple third-party vendors, contractors, and systems to support business operations and achieve strategic objectives. While business initiatives such as outsourcing operations, forming new partnerships, shifting business offshore, and implementing cloud computing services can result in tremendous benefits, they can also introduce risk. As security becomes more complex and networks more intertwined, third party risk management is more essential to your business strategy than ever.

Critical Business Operations Reliant on Outside Vendors
When evaluating, implementing, or expanding third-party relationships, it is critical to have a strong understanding of the risk landscape and how the desired benefits, whether improved agility, increased performance, or cost savings, could be offset by unforeseen vulnerabilities. Management of third party risk can be complex because of increased regulatory scrutiny, more demanding compliance and contractual obligations, and existing gaps in traditional audits and certifications.

Ensure Business Continuity
Our Cisco® Security Advisory Services can help you understand your full risk profile to which you are exposed from third parties. We help companies make sure that their business relationships do not expose them to unacceptable levels of risk.

Our proven methodology helps you understand and manage third-party risk throughout the entire relationship lifecycle, from selection through relationship conclusion. We identify the information needed to balance risk and opportunity and help you make sure that you engage with the most risk–appropriate organizations. With this knowledge you can make better decisions about your business and about how you connect, communicate, and collaborate with third party providers.
More About Our Services

- **Third-Party Information Security Due Diligence:**
  Assessment of information security and compliance risks associated with your organization’s relationships with third-party providers.

- **Third-Party Risk Management Program Development:**
  Review current state of your risk management program or establish a new program from the ground up, incorporating process to proactively address due diligence, performance management, procurement, assurance, and governance—addressing existing risks and protecting against future threats.

- **Third-Party Risk Management Assessment:**
  Identify data that third-parties can access, determine the vulnerabilities that could expose sensitive data, confirm service provider compliance with regulations and standards, identify continuity risks, and define SLAs.

Cisco Advisory: Seasoned Security Professionals

As strategic and technical advisors, Cisco Security Advisory Services help leading organizations and executive teams identify strategic opportunities in information security to protect performance, create competitive advantage, and capture long-term sustainable business value.

Backed by a superior combination of resources—vast research and threat intelligence, mature methodologies, and multidisciplinary experts across security, cloud, mobility, collaboration, and data center operations—our clients better manage risk and compliance, control cost, and achieve strategic IT and business objectives.

Technology-Enabled Consulting with Cisco Advisory Accelerator

In consulting use, Advisory Accelerator is our project management, workflow, and reporting platform for security assessments. It enables rapid execution of project tasks, integrates with many of our security assessment tools, and facilitates efficient report generation and consultant collaboration. It supports the breadth of Cisco’s services and provides clients with access to real-time security expertise whether it lies in-house, with Cisco, or even with a 3rd party. With Advisory Accelerator, we work with people collaboratively to make sense of it all and to provide advisory strength from afar. Advisory Accelerator is truly an automated, collaborative extension of the consulting expertise that Cisco provides.

Case Study: Global Technology Company

**Challenges**

- Multiple vendor assessment programs
- Ineffective prioritization and remediation for vendor risks
- Bandwidth challenges limited the number of assessments

**Solution**

- Pilot of vendor assessment program, including program management and 25 assessments
- Program improvement recommendations for processes, executive metrics and management oversight

**Outcomes**

- 25–30 reviews per year for continuous improvement in program and assessment efficacy
- Greater management transparency to vendor risks through proactive security guidance
- Annual summary analysis across all programs

**Key Features**

- Expert collaboration, brainstorming and strategy discussions
- Crowd-sourced, quality controlled knowledge engine
- Faster ramp of inexperienced security professionals
- Assessment guidance, workflow and reporting
- Trend analysis to support ROI, budget planning and product selection
- Best Practice Templates to address security gaps and optimize key product platforms
- Product Templates to facilitate complex technology integrations

**Next Steps**

Visit [www.cisco.com/go/securityservices](http://www.cisco.com/go/securityservices) to connect with our advisors and protect your business today.