Secure Halo Expands Third-Party Risk Management Services for Financial Institutions

February 14, 2026

SILVER SPRING, MD - February 14, 2026 -
Secure Halo has announced an expansion of third-party risk management services specifically designed for financial institutions facing increasing regulatory scrutiny and cybersecurity threats from vendor relationships. The cybersecurity firm, which operates as part of Mission Critical Partners Company, has developed comprehensive assessment frameworks that address the unique compliance requirements facing banks, credit unions, investment firms, and insurance companies.

The enhanced service offering provides financial institutions with systematic evaluation processes for third-party vendors, suppliers, and business partners who access sensitive customer data or connect to critical systems. These third-party risk management assessments examine vendor security controls, compliance posture, incident response capabilities, and overall risk profiles to help financial institutions make informed decisions about business relationships.

"Financial institutions face tremendous pressure to manage vendor risk while regulators increase expectations for third-party oversight," said Will Durkee from Secure Halo. "Our expanded services provide institutions with the expertise and frameworks needed to evaluate vendor security programs, identify potential

vulnerabilities, and maintain continuous monitoring of third-party relationships."

The expansion addresses growing regulatory requirements from agencies including the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and state banking regulators. These agencies have issued guidance requiring financial institutions to implement formal third-party risk management programs that include due diligence assessments, ongoing monitoring, and incident response planning for vendor relationships.

Secure Halo conducts third-party risk management assessments that evaluate multiple risk dimensions including data protection controls, access management, network security, business continuity planning, and regulatory compliance. The assessments provide financial institutions with detailed reports that quantify vendor risk levels and identify specific control deficiencies requiring remediation.

The third-party risk management program includes initial assessments conducted before contract signing, annual reassessments for existing vendors, and continuous monitoring of security incidents or control failures. Secure Halo maintains a vendor risk database that tracks assessment results, remediation progress, and overall risk trends across an institution's entire third-party ecosystem.

Financial institutions commonly work with hundreds of third-party vendors ranging from core banking system providers to marketing firms, payment processors, and cloud service providers. Each vendor relationship creates potential security risks if the vendor experiences a data breach, system compromise, or service disruption.

Secure Halo employs security professionals with deep expertise in financial services regulations, payment card industry standards, and banking security frameworks. The team understands the specific compliance obligations facing different types of financial institutions and tailors third-party risk management assessment criteria to match regulatory expectations.

The expanded services include vendor contract review to ensure agreements contain appropriate security requirements, audit rights, incident notification obligations, and liability provisions. Secure Halo works with institutional legal teams to identify contract language that protects the institution while establishing clear security expectations for vendors.

Third-party risk management assessments examine vendor practices for data encryption, access controls, vulnerability management, security monitoring, and incident response. Assessors review vendor security policies, test technical controls when possible, and verify compliance with relevant regulations.

Secure Halo also provides institutions with risk rating methodologies that categorize vendors based on data

access levels, system criticality, and inherent risk factors. These ratings help institutions allocate assessment resources appropriately, focusing intensive reviews on high-risk vendors while streamlining processes for lower-risk relationships.

Secure Halo maintains relationships with multiple financial institutions across different asset sizes and business models. Service delivery models accommodate different institutional needs, from fully outsourced third-party risk management programs to advisory support for internal teams.

Financial institutions interested in third-party risk management services can contact Secure Halo through the company website. The firm provides initial consultations to assess institutional needs, explain service offerings, and develop customized program proposals.

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For more information about Secure Halo, contact the company here:Secure HaloErin Webb202-629-1960info@securehalo.com962 Wayne Ave, Suite 310, Silver Spring, MD 20910


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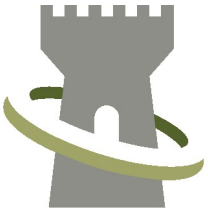

Secure Halo

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