

Success Story

Information Technology

Systems and Security Audit

Storyline...

The client is a leading manufacturer of cement in the Middle East. They have five factories spread across the UAE, Bahrain, Bangladesh and Africa with an aggregate grinding capacity in excess of three million tons.

MaGC® (formerly NCRCL®) conducted an audit to assess the adequacy and robustness of processes and system controls. The purpose was to evaluate the chances of physical and technical intrusion into the company's information due to weakness in processes.

Once upon a time...

As part of a group wide consolidation exercise, the client required an evaluation of the adequacy of internal process and IT controls. One unit was taken up for audit and MaGC was engaged to conduct the audit.

Moving on...

The audit was undertaken by MaGC in association with ForceOne Software Solutions Private Limited. The audit was undertaken in two parts: **Audit of process controls** and **System & network vulnerability audit**. A system of rating process controls and risk categorization was conceived by MaGC for the assignment. Assessment of control gaps was made at the organization level as well as at each function level.

The vulnerability assessment was conducted by attempting to perform unauthorized transactions, obtain confidential information and determine the overall security of the application by performing a wide variety of vulnerability checks. The testing included desktops and networks in all locations of the unit.

The assessment methodology included structured review processes based on recognized "best-in-class" practices as defined by such methodologies as the ISECOM's **Open Source Security Testing Methodology Manual (OSSTMM)**, and **ISO 27001** Information Security Standard. A scoring and risk categorization system was adopted for the vulnerability audit also on the lines of the process audit.

In addition to identifying the weaknesses, a set of recommendations was also given along with prioritization for the management to take immediate corrective action. The 3PT™ framework for change was applied by MaGC in its recommendations ensuring that the **Policy, Process, People** and **Technology** issues were suitably addressed.

Finally...

The audit helped the client management to get a comprehensive view of the process weaknesses and system vulnerabilities. The risk categorization also helped in identifying the critical areas. The recommendations along with the roadmap for implementation helped the management in taking immediate corrective action to address the key issues.

