ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

The EU has stepped up to the plate in protecting its subjects’ rights to be in control of their personal data. In April 2016, the EU passed the GDPR, effective May 25, 2018, to make sure companies and institutions aren’t just paying lip service to personal data protection. The GDPR also endeavors to unify and standardize the existing individual country-level data protection policies that vary in their levels of stringency and degrees of enforcement.

Will everything be different under the new data protection law? No. The basic principles remain: The usage of personal data is not allowed unless explicitly permitted by a specific law or if the data subject has given consent for the processing of personal data. The principles of transparency, purpose limitation and data minimization remain basic tenets of the new regulation. However, the GDPR does mandate stronger rights for data subjects, more obligations for data processors, higher fines for infringement and certifications as proof of compliance.

The GDPR carries huge consequences for large companies. What seems straightforward and simple common sense in the language of the regulation hides the complexity of actually complying with it. The immense data stores, networked systems, business ecosystems, business globalization and technologies that enable companies to serve their markets and their customers with differentiating products and services are, in the light of personal data protection, a behemoth of information that needs to be seriously reined in and tamed.

What does it take to be GDPR-compliant?

Certainly, many companies will believe they’ve already gone through this exercise in compliance with their own country’s individual data protection regulations and they are partly right. They may already have their record of processing activities and guidelines for data collection. However, they should not neglect to do a full audit of their existing data protection policies, procedures and practices and vet these against the GDPR. They may find that they are missing a few of the following requirements:

- Precise knowledge of the data they house and process
- The ability to manage personal data in a manner compliant with the regulation
- GRC and IT planning practices that guarantee compliance with the GDPR

The GDPR builds on existing data privacy rules and adds some new requirements as well.

Rights of EU Citizens’
- Right of access by the data subject
- Right to be forgotten
- Right to obtaining consent
- Right to restriction of processing
- Right for data portability

Obligations for Processors’
- Accountability
- Privacy by design & default
- Report data breaches
- Assign Data Protection Officer
- Run privacy impact analysis

* Selection
The challenges you face

Granted, it’s a daunting task. The responsibility will initially rest with the company’s Data Protection Officer (DPO) to figure out what needs to be done to make sure the company is compliant by the 2018 deadline. In doing so, the DPO will be quick to see that the nature of the beast requires extensive knowledge of the IT landscape, exhaustive details on data processing activities, and a comprehensive GRC program aimed at mitigating the risks of non-compliance. The DPO will soon turn to colleagues in IT, business process analysis and risk management for support—and be sorely disappointed to find out the company does not have the needed transparency, procedures and adequate tools to:

• Know which is personal data, how it is captured, and where and how it is processed and stored
• Gather required information from data stewards and application owners
• Connect between processes and their supporting IT systems to better understand what the touchpoints are with customers and employees
• Make the connection between the data stored and the applications that process it to be able to check for accuracy, minimization and retention time
• Know if an application has the right amount of security for the data it is processing
• Quickly provide information on purpose of processing, recipients, intent to transfer, retention period and automated decision making (“profiling”)
• Govern the solution design process to comply with GDPR requirements
• Audit processing activities
• Establish efficient controls and react fast to regulatory changes
• Analyze risk and implement risk-mitigation measures
• Understand data movement in order to correctly understand the ramifications of a data breach

A best-practice approach to GDPR compliance

As experts in processes, enterprise architecture and GRC, Software AG can help ensure your company effectively and efficiently complies with the GDPR. Our powerful platform for business and IT transformation provides the capabilities you need.

Our unique portfolio of products provides you with the means for effective, reliable and sustainable GDPR compliance:

• Data transparency: 360-degree view of data, processes, and systems
• Reporting efficiency: up-to-date, reliable information in variable formats immediately available
• Company-wide commitment: assurance that policies, principles, roles and responsibilities are understood and enforced
• Risk sensitivity: heightened risk awareness
• Informed transformation: continued business and IT innovation
• Customer intimacy: greater personalization of the customer experience

For more information, please visit: gdpr.softwareag.com

Your first line of defense for GDPR Compliance

Software AG equips you with the means to quickly set up the knowledge base and process framework you need for achieving compliance by the 2018 deadline by offering everything in one solution: business process analysis, enterprise architecture management, IT portfolio management and planning, and GRC practices.

ABOUT SOFTWARE AG

The digital transformation is changing enterprise IT landscapes from inflexible application silos to modern software platform-driven IT architectures which deliver the openness, speed and agility needed to enable the digital real-time enterprise. Software AG offers the first end-to-end Digital Business Platform, based on open standards, with integration, process management, in-memory data, adaptive application development, real-time analytics and enterprise architecture management as core building blocks. The modular platform allows users to develop the next generation of application systems to build their digital future, today. With over 45 years of customer-centric innovation, Software AG is ranked as a leader in many innovative and digital technology categories. Learn more at www.SoftwareAG.com.

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