Digital Compliance

Addressing Federal Data Management Challenges in a Telework Environment.

In June 2019, the Office of Management and Budget finalized the Federal Data Strategy (FDS)—a framework of operational principles and best practices that agencies must implement to help them leverage data as a strategic asset. Underpinning this mandate is support for strong data governance to protect sensitive and mission-critical information. To leverage their data, agencies are tasked with implementing FDS guidelines to encourage data-driven decision making and unlocking value while ensuring overall compliance.

Amid a global health crisis, the majority of government employees must now telework for the foreseeable future. Agencies must reevaluate how they store and archive data—including virtual meeting records and use of CARES Act funding—in preparation for federal recordkeeping and rapid response to potential FOIA requests, Congressional Inquiries, and ongoing eDiscovery and litigation needs.

In this environment, we must adapt the way we live and work, staying connected and boosting productivity while adhering to government requirements. There is an overwhelming need for technology solutions that support effective federal data backup, recovery and protection for agency resiliency. Veritas meets this challenge.

How Veritas Supports Data Management at The Federal Level

In the new teleworking environment, federal agencies are responsible for capturing and managing unprecedented levels of data across numerous channels—messaging applications, social media and videoconferencing tools such as Microsoft Teams, Zoom and Cisco Webex. To manage the deluge and prepare for upcoming investigations and inquiries, agencies must defensibly capture, index and archive their data now. Data classification helps organizations improve their information governance practices, equip them with the intelligence needed to optimize storage for records management efforts, streamline information gathering for inquiry-related matters and enhance investigatory efforts. The Veritas Information Classifier (VIC) tool helps public sector organizations address their data challenges. Already built into the Veritas Digital Compliance portfolio and supporting our three core tenets—visibility, context and action—VIC can help federal agencies keep track of the increased data generated while teleworking in the new normal.

With more than 700 preconfigured data classification patterns and over 120 classification policies, organizations can organize, search and take action on data based on tags. Within these classification policies is a new policy specific to COVID-19 data, allowing users to tag information related to the pandemic response. VIC is also entirely customizable, ensuring that agencies can change their workflows to read, capture and index the data. This metadata enrichment further enhances discoverability, the user experience, overall engagement and compliance.

Data classification is essential for a complete data strategy. To demonstrate compliance, mitigate risk and automate workflows, public sector organizations must enable universal classification.

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Key Benefits:

With VIC, organizations can properly classify data, as well as leverage it for greater value.

Pinpoint Critical Information

Identifies critical information by using pre-configured policies grouped by regulation type, including:

- **Financials:** Financial regulations, such as Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) and Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rules
- **Healthcare:** Health regulations such as HIPAA, personally identifiable information and COVID-19 policies—which in turn can fuel crucial scientific research and decision-making
- **Government:** Regulations from state, federal and international governments, as well as sensitive data policies from more than 35 countries
- Runs various classification policies concurrently, including custom-built policies in address internal mandates and policy compliance

VIC offers significant value to federal agency leaders—in particular, CDOs who are leading the charge toward leveraging data strategically as part of the FDS mandate. From data strategy to compliance, Veritas is a one-stop shop for automating data management.

Save Time and Resources While Ensuring Compliance

- Automates response to standard requests, including FOIA requests, Congressional Inquiries and privacy requests
- Helps agencies demonstrate compliance with federal policies, and monitor their adherence to other privacy and regulatory requirements. This capability is essential as inspector generals and other government leaders are tasked with ensuring that agencies use funds appropriately and comply with policies across the board
- Reduces costly litigation by quickly locating and compiling data and documentation needed for future use

Veritas Information Classifier: Built-in for Immediate Insights

VIC is available in the following Veritas products:

- **Data Insight:** Agencies and their key decision-makers, such as CDOs, need visibility into how all their data ties together. Data Insight helps them find, aggregate and assign relative value to all organizational data to ensure compliance, optimize storage and make informed decisions. This helps agencies reduce overall risk and improves organizational accountability by analyzing, classifying, tracking and reporting data.
- **Enterprise Vault and EV.cloud:** Enterprise Vault (EV) and EV.cloud serve as a central repository to capture all content sources within an organization, indexing and classifying more than 80 content sources. Classification impacts the retention period and storage location, and helps users target their search based on classification tags.
- **eDiscovery Platform:** eDiscovery Platform can collect from EV/EV.cloud archives and live sources. When collecting from archived content, it can filter based on classification tags to limit the amount of content collected. It can also target content directly from the source and classify content to filter what is relevant to the discovery event. The eDiscovery Platform can conduct phonetic search against archived video content, ensuring that data—regardless of format—is searchable.

Example Use Cases For VIC and the Veritas Digital Compliance Portfolio

Increase visibility for public expenditures. Citizens and agencies providing government oversight are interested in where and how public funds are allocated and spent. VIC, packaged in Veritas Data Insight, enables organizations to track the use of specific funding and ensure transparency.

Prepare for eDiscovery requests. The Federal Government received 858,952 FOIA requests in FY 2019—an unwieldy amount. By classifying data based on regulation, policy, content source, file type or other, VIC in conjunction with the Veritas eDiscovery Platform helps organizations accelerate the discovery of relevant content and, subsequently, the response time for FOIA requests, Congressional Inquiries, privacy requests and COVID-19-related requests.

Improve management of growing video and audio data sources. Government agencies are increasing their adoption of video devices, including bodycam footage and public surveillance. VIC, along with Veritas Enterprise Vault, can capture bodycam or other video footage andn transcribe audio to text to allow for indexing and classification.

Addressing the Compliance Challenge

To align with the FDS, the Federal Government needs information insights that will allow agencies to leverage their data as a strategic asset. Compliance can be challenging—and nuanced, especially as new regulations and inquiries are introduced each year, further increasing complexity. Veritas solutions adapt to an ever-changing regulatory environment.

Government organizations must establish a holistic data management strategy and understand the tools they have available to them to simplify compliance. Whether you're looking for better data visibility or context or to take action—or need help understanding the latest privacy and regulatory requirements—Veritas can help.

To learn more about our VIC tool, please visit www.veritas.com/classification. To read more on our government capabilities, please visit www.veritas.com/solution/government.

VERITAS

2625 Augustine Drive
Santa Clara, CA 95054
+1 (866) 837 4827
veritas.com

For global contact
information visit:
veritas.com/company/contact