Case Study
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Meeting regulatory compliance requirements and reducing data loss risk.

For any organization operating in healthcare, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) sets the standard for sensitive patient data protection. Healthcare providers that deal with protected health information (PHI) must have physical, network, and process security measures in place and follow them to ensure HIPAA Compliance. Zones nfrastructure, the Services Company of Zones, helped a nationally recognized hospital improve their security posture and reduce their data loss risk, enabling them to better position themselves for HIPAA compliance with a proactive security framework.

Challenge
• Maintaining HIPAA compliance and reducing data loss risk.

Solution
• Zones HIPAA Security & Compliance Audit Assessment.

Results
• Validated security policies, procedures and standards.
• Reduced data breach or data loss risk.
• Ensured compliance with HIPAA standards & best practices.
• Extended value of internal IT security team with certified security experts.
The Challenge

Operating in the healthcare field, this nationally recognized hospital sought to improve their overall security posture, reduce potential data loss risk, and ensure compliance with HIPAA requirements.

The Solution

Zones proposed a comprehensive HIPAA Security & Compliance Audit Assessment. Zones provided an in-depth appraisal of the hospital’s adherence to existing policies and industry best practices and identified areas of weakness that needed to be addressed to meet HIPAA regulatory compliance. The Zones Assessment included interviews with personnel, system analysis, policy and procedure review, and remediation recommendations. Working closely with the client, Zones developed countermeasures in three areas – people, process, and technology – providing a roadmap to help improve the overall security posture of the organization.

**Zones HIPAA Security & Compliance Audit Assessment**

> Review security management processes in place to protect confidential data.
> Review the facilities and physical security process to protect confidential data.
> Review network security design and identify weaknesses.
> Review HIPAA security policies for accuracy, completeness and best practices.
> Analyze results and develop remediation plan to meet security requirements.
> Perform mini-assessment after six months to validate remediation steps have been implemented.
> Create or modify up to five policies to meet gap in security procedures.

The Results

Leveraging the framework and roadmap Zones developed during the Assessment process, the hospital was able to cost-effectively maintain its HIPAA compliance certification. Due to the volume of personal health information (PHI) being handled by employees, Zones also performed a Penetration Test as part of the Assessment to identify the level of risk of accidental loss of sensitive data due to employee error, including providing potential remediation recommendations. With a Zones HIPAA Security & Compliance Audit Assessment, Zones makes it affordable for any size healthcare organization to be in compliance – without cutting any corners.