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Closing your Audit Gap

How to eliminate friction between compliance and audit for time and cost savings

Audits don't need to feel like such a puzzle

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Imagine two different teams trying to build a puzzle:

Your Compliance Team diligently collects pieces all year—logs, policies, procedures—yet never knows if the puzzle is "complete" for an actual audit.

Your Audit Team arrives, demands evidence, and wonders why the pieces aren't neatly assembled into one big picture.

If it feels counterintuitive, that's because it is. Even with the most sophisticated compliance automation tools, there's still a missing link when it comes to actual audit execution. On the flip side, a traditional audit firm may excel at testing controls but knows little about your day-to-day processes. Neither can close the gap alone. In fact, they often aren't even speaking the same language. That disconnect between the compliance and audit worlds creates confusion, duplicate work, and last-minute scrambles.

We call this the audit gap. It's the root cause of repeated evidence requests, disorganized documentation, and zero transparency into where an audit really stands. Until you bring compliance and audit together in one integrated workstream, you risk circling back to the same chaos, year after year.

Why the audit gap hurts

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The disconnect costs you money and diminishes trust. A single missed control can trigger repeat testing, wasted hours, or even lost deals when your biggest prospect wants quick proof of compliance. It also means your best people are pulled away from their day jobs to handle panic-mode tasks—like rummaging through logs for an auditor who's completely new to your environment.

> **We've had a lot of challenges with the audit process that we inherited. Communication was really difficult. We had four different auditors, and each of them wanted the evidence in their own specific way. All of it was done through email chains and we had version control issues."**
>
> **Matt Steel, Head of GRC, The Access Group**

The end results

High overhead and delays:

Separate compliance automation tools and siloed auditors create endless back-and-forth.

Missed revenue:

Lack of a streamlined process can slow your go-to-market for new products or hamper entering regulated industries.

Uncertain outcomes:

You can't be sure your final audit report will pass muster until deep into the engagement—when it's too late to fix major gaps.

The key to closing the gap

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What if compliance and audit lived in the same environment? Although many companies today want them to, neither a stand-alone automation tool nor an isolated auditor can fully close the gap. By uniting them, you align policies, controls, and evidence-collection with the actual audit, reducing chaos and establishing a steady, always-on approach.

In other words

Continuous compliance:

Ongoing control monitoring, automated evidence gathering, and robust risk registers that keep you up to date year-round.

Connected audit:

Auditors who log into the same platform (limited to only what they should see), see the same control data, and provide near real-time feedback instead of waiting weeks.

Unified work:

A single roadmap and unified controls that applies the work you do once to multiple frameworks and regulations—SOC 2, ISO 27001, HIPAA, PCI DSS—so you don't scramble for each new standard.

Connecting compliance and audit

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A single platform removes the friction of multiple disconnected tools, letting compliance, IT, and auditors collaborate in real time. Automatic evidence gathering and AI-driven checks ensure everyone shares one source of truth. No more guesswork or wasted cycles—just a streamlined narrative that leads to faster, more confident audits.

Visibility:

Everyone sees the status of controls, which evidence has been approved, and what still needs action—reducing guesswork and rework.

Streamlined workflows:

Automatic evidence verification (e.g., AI-driven checks) flags missing or outdated data before the auditor sees it. Instead of clashing over incomplete artifacts, you fix them in real time.

Multi-framework:

Adding a second or third framework doesn't triple your workload–or your audit budget. Reusable controls and a shared system cut duplication, letting you handle multiple audits as one holistic process.

Faster time to certification:

Align with your auditor early, and your team can tackle the real issues rather than wrestle with disorganized requests.

Real results: Efficiency, cost savings, and peace of mind

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When compliance and audit converge, you save time, cut costs, and gain peace of mind. By consolidating frameworks and preventing re-work, you keep security front and center without the constant fire drills. You free up resources to focus on growth instead of looming compliance deadlines.

Companies that close the audit gap:

Slash audit prep time:

One platform means 67% faster time-to-audit, freeing staff to focus on higher-value security tasks.

Reduce costs:

Fewer duplicative efforts and fewer external consultants translate into lower overall audit spend.

Enhance risk management:

With continuous monitoring, you catch issues long before an auditor flags them.

Speed up deals:

Seamless audit reports and recognized certifications help convince enterprise prospects you can protect their data.

The future of compliance: end-to-end strategy gap hurts

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No one likes the friction of compliance that's disconnected from auditing and assessment. An integrated approach is the new standard for competitive, security-minded organizations. By closing the audit gap, you transform a painful, box-checking ordeal into a transparent, efficient collaboration—one that protects your business and accelerates growth.

> It has made massive differences in terms of our costs and our resource requirements, and therefore, it has just saved us a vast amount of time. Generally, a SOC audit could've taken us 12 months beginning to end, and now we're probably doing it in six or seven months."
>
> **Matt Steel, Head of GRC, The Access Group**

Ready to close your audit gap?

When compliance and audit join forces on one platform, the entire process—from setting policies to finalizing the audit report—runs smoothly. Instead of an annual fire drill, you unlock year-round readiness, reduced costs, and better trust with your customers who see the robust security woven into your business.

Close the gap. Embrace a unified solution where compliance automation and audit live side by side, saving time, money, and everyone's sanity. After all, a friction-free audit isn't just possible—t's already the new reality for organizations that have opted for an integrated, audit-ready approach.

Ready to talk?

Speak with a Thoropass specialist to get a personalized idea of what cost and time savings could look like for your business

Request a Demo →

Not quite there yet?

Learn more about how Access Group uses Thoropass to reduce audit time by 50% and costs by 25%.

Read the case study →

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