

Secure Controls Framework (SCF)

SCF is a control framework that helps organizations design, implement, and map security and privacy controls to multiple regulations.



What it is

The Secure Controls Framework (SCF) is a comprehensive cybersecurity and data protection control framework that supports organizations in designing, implementing, and managing security and privacy controls to meet a broad range of regulatory and industry requirements.

Developed and maintained by the SCF Consortium, the framework is utilized by information security, privacy, risk, and compliance professionals across diverse sectors. SCF unifies control requirements from numerous regulations and standards—including ISO 27001, NIST, CIS Controls, and GDPR—covering key areas such as risk management, incident response, data protection, and compliance oversight.

At a glance

PUBLISHER Secure Controls Framework (SCF)	TYPE Control Framework	VERSION Secure Controls Framework (latest version)
EFFECTIVE 2019	DOMAIN Cybersecurity	FAMILY Other
REGION United States	ADOPTION MODEL Regulatory Compliance	IMPLEMENTATION COMPLEXITY Very High

Source: <https://securecontrolsframework.com/>

Why it matters

- **Support comprehensive risk management** Integrate risk identification, assessment, and mitigation across security, privacy, and regulatory domains within a single control structure.
- **Improve regulatory alignment** Map internal control activities to multiple global standards and regulations, simplifying compliance efforts across jurisdictions.
- **Enhance audit readiness** Provide clear documentation and evidence mapping to streamline preparation and response for internal and external audits.
- **Strengthen data protection measures** Implement robust safeguards to reduce unauthorized access and protect sensitive information throughout the organization.

How SmartSuite supports SCF

Unified Control Library Management

Organize SCF controls across domains with consistent structure, ownership, and applicability.

Cross-Framework Mapping and Harmonization

Map controls to NIST, ISO, SOC 2, and other frameworks to eliminate duplication.

Control Implementation and Ownership Tracking

Assign owners, manage tasks, and track implementation status for each control.

Evidence Collection and Continuous Monitoring

Capture evidence, link artifacts to controls, and schedule recurring reviews.

Risk, Policy, and Compliance Alignment

Connect controls to risks, policies, and regulatory requirements for unified governance.

Multi-Framework Coverage and Readiness Reporting

Provide dashboards showing control coverage, gaps, and readiness across frameworks.

Common framework mappings

CIS Controls v8.1

COBIT 2019

ISO 27001:2022

ISO 27002:2022

MITRE ATT&CK

NIST CSF 2.0

NIST 800-53 Rev.5

SOC 2

Official resources

Secure Controls Framework Specification

Defines a comprehensive set of cybersecurity and data protection controls to address various regulations.

securecontrolsframework.com

SCF Implementation Guide

Provides guidance to assist organizations in implementing the Secure Controls Framework effectively.

securecontrolsframework.com/free-content/prioritized-implementation-guide-pig

SCF Control Catalog

Outlines all controls included in the Secure Controls Framework for comprehensive security management.

securecontrolsframework.com/free-content/scf-download

SCF Quick Start Guide

Describes the steps to begin using the Secure Controls Framework in organizational processes.

securecontrolsframework.com/free-content/prioritized-implementation-guide-pig

Frequently asked questions

What are the ongoing compliance requirements for SCF?

Ongoing SCF compliance requires regular risk assessments, continuous monitoring and improvement of controls, periodic policy reviews, and timely remediation of identified gaps. Organizations also need to maintain documentation and evidence to support audit readiness and demonstrate alignment with applicable regulatory obligations.

How would SmartSuite support the Secure Controls Framework?

SmartSuite supports SCF management through integrated control libraries, real-time risk tracking, and centralized evidence collection capabilities. It streamlines control management, automates compliance tracking, and facilitates audit readiness by organizing documentation and remediation workflows. Reporting features provide compliance teams with clear visibility into control effectiveness and ongoing regulatory status.

License included / downloadable: Yes The Secure Controls Framework is publicly available through the Secure Controls Framework Council and related community resources.

Full framework page and mappings: smartsuite.com/frameworks/secure-controls-framework-scf