

DataSure24's March Brainbytes: Cybersecurity Audits and Vehicle Inspections

DataSure24 is your cybersecurity partner, working to help meet your company's specific security needs. Each month, we'll offer bytes of information about emerging risks, news, and protective measures to help keep your data safe and your network secure.

The words annual check-up or vehicle inspection likely don't elicit happy feelings. However, most of us recognize it's just something we have to do. The same can be said for businesses facing regular regulatory audits.

To ensure the protection of customer information, several industries are facing stricter regulatory requirements regarding cybersecurity. In addition, the Biden Administration recently released the National Cybersecurity Strategy, which "would force companies to implement minimum cybersecurity measures for critical infrastructure". This means the sometimes lax, or "on your honor" cybersecurity allowances of past audits are slated to be replaced by fines and other penalties for those out of compliance.

A Cybersecurity Audit:

- Is a **point-in-time evaluation** that involves a **comprehensive analysis and review** of the IT infrastructure of your business.
- Detects vulnerabilities and threats, displaying weak links, and high-risk practices
- Verifies that specific security controls are in place, working correctly, and meet compliance requirements
- Is conducted by an independent company
- Is the primary method for examining regulatory compliance

Cybersecurity Audits are Vehicle Inspections for Your Business

It may help to think of a cybersecurity audit like a vehicle inspection. While the scope, methods/tools and complexity of the two inspections may differ, both are a comprehensive approach to identifying vulnerabilities and mitigating risks.



CYBERSECURITY AUDIT

VERSUS

VEHICLE INSPECTION

NECESSARY REGULAR CHECK-UPS

Cybersecurity/Compliance Requirements (GDPR, DoD, NCUA, FTC)	Automotive Safety Standards/Requirements (State DMV)
Cohesive and Effectively Working Security Teams/Tools	Proper Functioning of Engine and Transmission
Threat Alerts	Check Engine Light
System Back-ups	Spare Tire
Security Liaison (CISO)	Master Mechanic
Incident Response Plan	Emergency Kit

So before you navigate the open road (internet) with your company, have your vehicle (cybersecurity program) inspected. Think of it as being a safe driver and not causing undue harm to those around you (customers, vendors). Identify problems before they occur, and stay safe and secure out there.

Cybersecurity should always be a business priority. **Unprepared organizations will become easy targets for cyberattacks.** Now is the time to learn the potential cybersecurity risks for your business, and build a complete cybersecurity plan.

For more info on developing a cybersecurity program, check out our blog: <u>Stricter Regulations Impact Cybersecurity Audits</u>

If you would like to speak more about how DataSure24 might help your company meet its security needs, contact us by clicking below, or call (716) 600-3724. We look forward to hearing from you!



