

Archer® Plan of Action & Milestones (POA&M) Management

Use Case for Public Sector Solutions

The Challenge

Whether collecting critical asset information through assessment and authorization (A&A), control assessments, audits, or continuous monitoring (CM) with scanners and sensors, your organization accumulates scattered lists of defects and findings in various documents. Information assurance (IA) stakeholders have no consolidated view of outstanding issues. Additionally, limited documentation on current and planned remediation efforts leaves gaps in understanding what is being done to mitigate and address open defects and risks. Risk acceptance requests often lack the proper review, approval, and documentation to ensure understanding of how exceptions or deviations affect the organization's overall risk.

The negative impacts of poor issues management begin with lack of visibility or accountability in addressing known risks. Missed issues can fall through the cracks, resulting in repeat audit findings and failed control assessments or lingering risks to the organization. Remediation efforts can suffer as well, with missed deadlines or poorly planned remediation of identified risks.

Overview

Archer® Plan of Action & Milestones (POA&M) Management allows organizations to lay the foundation for your IA program to manage issues generated by audit, A&A, and CM processes. You can effectively establish the organizational structure and assign accountability for risk and compliance issues. It provides the applications to create, approve and manage POA&Ms and risk acceptance requests to address risks and associated resolutions.

With Archer POA&M Management, organizations gain a consolidated view into known issues and you can break down remediation efforts to better understand timing, milestones, and costs. It provides capabilities to route POA&Ms through formal review and approval processes and capture performance management and cost metrics. With an organized, managed process to automatically escalate issues, you get visibility into known risks as well as efforts to address and close risks. Your organization will see quicker reaction to emerging risks, creating a more secure and resilient environment while reducing costs.

Key Features

- Consolidated issues management process.
- Consolidated list of defects and findings from audits and A&A and CM processes.
- Consolidated list of POA&Ms with status, progress, and expiration dates.
- Managed risk acceptance requests with informed review/approval.

Key Benefits

With Archer POA&M Management, organizations can:

- Reduce time to resolution on audit, risk and compliance issues.
- Improve staffing management for remediating issues.
- Reduce overtime/reactive overload for operational staff responding to issues.
- Reduce repeat findings and overall risk.

