

Battling Security Fatigue – Working Towards Usable Security

Instilling good security habits starts at the top with C-level executives owning security as a business issue and not just an IT issue. In other words, security awareness should be woven into every aspect and department of a community bank. Starting with onboarding, new hires should be trained on the bank's information security policies, procedures and employee use guidelines. This should be reinforced with social engineering exercises and periodic continuing training. The frequency should be established by the size, complexity and culture of the bank and outlined in its policy documents.

Security Compliance Associates (SCA) provides world-class information security assessments to help community banks ensure the security of customer data and bank assets, while also meeting regulatory requirements. In fact, we offer a guarantee of compliance when our recommendations are followed.

We accomplish this through a proprietary process inclusive of FFIEC and FDIC requirements, industry standards and SCA best practices. Our recommendations provide a road map for community banks to take both required and proper security actions.

In terms of making security more "usable" for lay people and/or IT staff, SCA views each client engagement as a unique relationship. After we deliver our report(s) we stay connected with our clients as a partner and resource to provide continuing remediation advice.

Our reports are written in plain English making them more easily digestible to those without a technical background. Our goals are to help clients create the most robust information security posture possible while also helping to make their lives a bit easier so they can focus on member service and other mission critical activities.



Jim Brahm
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Contact Info

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Jim Brahm is the managing Director and CEO of Security Compliance Associates. His primary role is running the day to day business of SCA, ensuring that product and service deliverables are competitive and 'better than advertised'. He is also responsible for the long term strategic direction of the company including effective capital management, new product development, strategic alliances and business development. Prior to joining SCA, Jim enjoyed a 26 year career with FIS, Certegy, Equifax Card Services and Telecredit, Inc. Jim held numerous executive operational and sales roles during his career in the Payments Industry and is widely known as an effective and impactful leader. Jim was responsible for many large, strategic sales which significantly helped grow the revenues of the company. His most recent role at FIS was SVP and Chief Operating Officer for the Credit Card division, which includes 4 large business units and over 1,000 associates. Jim serves on several local community focused organization boards and councils.