

HITRUST Assessment XChange™ (The XChange) Use Cases

Inherent Risk Questionnaire Use Cases:

1. For when the Inherent Risk Profile of a third party is unknown, (such as a potential new third party being introduced into an organization's environment through the RFP process, on-boarding process, etc.), and an organization needs to assimilate a risk profile for this third party in order to determine the appropriate Level of Assurance that should be requested.
2. For when a tier has already been assigned to a third party based upon risk, and an organization wants to validate or challenge the current tier and Inherent Risk Profile of the third party against a different metric or methodology, (such as HITRUST Risk Triage), to determine if the current tier and assessment type being requested aligns the Risk Profile and recommended Level of Assurance to HITRUST or the HITRUST Assessment XChange. This validation also helps determine if what is currently being requested is sufficient, or is too much or too little.
3. To compare an organization's understanding of the Inherent Risk Factors relative to a third-party relationship with that of the third party by routing the Inherent Risk Questionnaire questions both internally within an organization and externally to the third party to test the "alignment" of understanding and expectations between an organization and the third party. This helps test and validate the understanding of both internal stakeholders and external third parties relative to the services being contracted.
4. To obtain additional data relative to an organization's third parties that they may not have today, by gaining information from executing an IRQ, including Exposure Score, vendor responses to customized questions, and more.

HITRUST e1 Essentials Self-Assessment Use Cases:

e1 Self-Assessment as the Final Destination

- For when the inherent risk of a third party is low and requesting a comprehensive HITRUST i1 or r2 Validated Assessment does not make business sense for the third party and/or is considered too demanding and time-intensive.
- To save vendors money since HITRUST Assessment XChange subscriptions include e1 Self-Assessments.
- For when your organization needs to quickly gain updated assurance(s) from a third party.
- For when an organization does not know the security and privacy posture of a third party that is going through the RFP or on-boarding process – or if a provider is expanding their services.
- To show that essential, foundational cybersecurity controls are in place for service providers who handle limited-PII business processes, such as: Sales/Marketing Agencies, Call Centers, Facility Managers, Research Partners, Insurance Brokers, Financial Brokers, Advisors, Auditors, and Others.

e1 Self-Assessment as a Stepping-Stone

- For enterprises that are new to HITRUST to get started.
- For organizations that need additional time to implement the more robust control environment in HITRUST i1 or r2 Assessments.
- Use the e1 Self-Assessment as a milestone to demonstrate progress toward a HITRUST e1, i1 or r2 Readiness or Validated Assessment (+ Certification).



Focusing on the Basics

"The e1 Self-Assessment is an efficient way for their vendors to show that our core cybersecurity controls are operating effectively."

Higher Level Assurances

- In addition to the e1 Essentials Self-Assessment, HITRUST offers Readiness and Validated (+ Certification) Assessments for: e1 Essentials, i1 Leading Practices, and r2 Expanded Practices to achieve higher levels of assurance.