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Sailpoint Contractor Onboarding

The Challenge

Onboarding government contractors can be more complicated than onboarding a government employee since there is no centralized HR system for contractors. The nature of contracts also makes keeping track of contractors more challenging. In a sample workforce of over 100,000 contractors, roughly 10% are on multiple contracts, more than 15% are currently inactive, and 20% of contracts lack sufficient ownership. Agencies need identity governance solutions that take these situations in account.

Contractors often come to agencies with little background information, but they need to be vetted, have their clearances approved, and be granted access to the right programs in a timely manner. The system must onboard them to the agency while also properly assigning them to an existing contract and appropriate manager.

Layers of complexity are added with multiple contracts; a contractor can have different managers depending on which contract they are working on and billing during the day. Each contract has a different setup access, whether it is servers or applications, and each one must be independently managed. Contractors on multiple contracts can also present unique security risks.

Additional challenges are presented by expiring contracts, particularly at the end of the fiscal year when agencies often implement contract extensions because the old team is rolling off, but the system is not yet updated for the new team. Insufficiently updated systems will deny access to valid contractors and cause other administrative hassles.

"56 percent of companies said they have experienced a data breach caused by one of their vendors or third parties. Fewer than one in five companies –17 percent – felt their organizations effectively managed third party risk." -- Ponemon Institute Data Risk in the Third-Party Ecosystem Study

The Result

Government agencies that implement ICAM get a complete picture of employee and contractor access across the organization. They speed up their onboarding time, allowing new contractors to become productive more quickly—on average they go from two to four weeks to two or three days.

Our solution also addresses the security challenges presented by contractors. It turns off account access the same day that the person leaves; in other systems, 20% of contractors still have accounts allowing remote login for months after they are gone. While other vendors' solutions ignore the security risks presented by multiple contracts, we have unique methods for addressing these issues.

Our solution is already built to handle contract extensions. Built-in waiver processes allow the contracting officer representatives to extend a contract and gain the appropriate permissions. This avoids situations in which the system automatically disables contractors on a valid contract while extensions are still being processed

RESOURCES

Identity Governance Addresses US Government Cybersecurity Frameworks
carah.io/Sailpoint-IG-Blog

How Identity and Cloud Governance Enhances NSA Guidance for Improving Cloud Security
carah.io/Sailpoint-IG-NSA-Blog

Identity for Government Page
carah.io/Sailpoint-Identity-Governance

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While other vendors might spend 6 to 12 months working through review and approval boards just to get the diagrams written, we can walk in with code that has been running in production for government agencies for over five consecutive years.

Our experience with government can make your life easier in many other ways. We have created a fully automated digital DD2875 experience, providing an end-to-end validation and approval process. We are familiar with governing contractor access through FAR regulations and everything necessary to comply with the FICAM Architecture and Roadmap, OMB M11-11, and OMB M19-17. Our solution is built to comply with NIST SP 800-53 Access Controls and accelerate your ATO process.

By choosing SailPoint and UberEther you will greatly reduce your implementation costs. While other vendors might spend 6 to 12 months working through review and approval boards just to get the diagrams written, we can walk in with code that has been running in production for government agencies for over five years. All the bugs have already been ironed out, and the best practices are in place. The data validation processes have already happened, allowing your organization to run faster from day one. Our solution is up and running in production before other vendors have started coding.

Key Benefits

- Timely contractor onboarding ensures workflow efficiency
- Accurate, up-to-date access, identity, and security status for new contractors
- Proactive alerting enables adequate time for staffing changes
- Maintain accurate lists of current contractors
- Easily remove contractors who have left

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