



RISK ADVISORY • TAX • FINANCE & ACCOUNTING

COBIT AND IT GOVERNANCE

Jefferson Wells delivers professional services in the areas of risk advisory, tax, and finance and accounting. We serve clients, including Fortune 500 and Global 1000 companies, through highly experienced professionals working from offices worldwide.

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Client:

A college textbook wholesaler/retailer with a corporate office/warehouse and approximately 250 retail locations throughout the United States

Need:

The client was preparing for its first-year Sarbanes-Oxley audit and needed help in evaluating its IT controls.

Reason:

The client had a very stable IT department, so had never felt the need to document any procedures or policies. In addition, its main information systems were proprietary and, therefore, had no requirements or design documentation.

Capabilities:

The client needed a partner who could provide the proper guidance and tools to ensure the organization had effective IT controls, policies and procedures in place.

We Provided:

Our technology risk management team used COBIT (Control Objectives for Information and related Technology) and COSO (Committee of Sponsoring Organizations) guidelines to assess the client's existing IT controls.

The team used a proprietary PMO (project management office) system for IT-control assessment, documentation and testing, as well as for communication, status updates and issues management. Linked to a common document-storage repository, the system allows real-time data access, helping to eliminate overloaded mailboxes and passing documents from person to person.

In addition, an assessment form maps COSO to COBIT; results are recorded directly into the database, as are controls and remediation activities, with standard report formats produced for each delivery phase.

Results:

Using COSO and COBIT standards and the PMO system, Jefferson Wells identified the noncompliant issues facing the client, and provided comprehensive guidance and recommendations for improving the organization's processes, policies and procedures – to build the IT controls the company needs.