



OSCAL: THE FUTURE OF COMPLIANCE AUTOMATION

While there has been effort over the years to shrink the burden of security compliance, the fact remains that current methodologies are still woefully lacking in scalability and interoperability.

Across public and commercial markets, it's clear that today's approach to risk management is slow, costly, labor-intensive, and out of step with an increasingly fast-paced digital world. A lack of regulatory standards creates redundant inefficiencies that increase cost and time-to-market across entire sectors and industries. Without harmonization and reciprocity, all compliance programs will eventually suffer under the weight of paperwork and slow manual audits. The White House has recognized these challenges, making regulatory harmonization a top priority in the 2023 National Cybersecurity Strategy.

Fortunately, there is a light shining that looks to address the challenge: NIST's **Open Security Controls Assessment Language** (OSCAL), a standardized framework released in 2021 that enables compliance automation at scale.

OSCAL: The Emerging Solution

OSCAL is considered the gold-standard for alleviating the challenges of risk management and compliance. It isn't just a grassroots movement – it's a critical innovation in response to a national need. OSCAL is unique in that it standardizes the entire compliance lifecycle, positions organizations to use

automation and innovation to improve efficiency, and enables continuous assessment. By introducing a standardized, data-centric format, OSCAL empowers organizations to:

- + Promote a secure-by-design culture by decentralizing the creation of security control and documentation to developers and engineers
- + Automate the generation of compliance documentation
- + Automate processes and human-driven activities like security plan validation
- + Support continuous authorizations by decreasing assessment-related labor and automation of continuous monitoring capabilities
- + Bridge the gap between legacy formats like Word or Excel and new machine-readable language standards

Our Unique Innovations

Easy Dynamics recognizes that for OSCAL to succeed in an organization, tooling must address two primary stakeholders: **Risk Operators**, who need intuitive UI for viewing, managing, and updating compliance data; and **Automation Engineers**, who require API access to automate and manage compliance data in near real-time.

Easy Dynamics' **Comply0 Platform** addresses these two use cases with an intuitive UI that allows operators to manage OSCAL data without knowing JSON:

- *Manage catalogs and develop organizational profiles*
- *Manage security plans, component definitions, and POAMs (Q2 2025)*
- *Manage assessment plans and assessment results (Q3 2025)*
- *Conduct automated assessments using our Kansa agent*

To help organizations operationalize with OSCAL, we have developed an OSCAL Adoption Framework to support and accelerate an organization's journey. The framework describes a 6-step process, from identifying targets to optimizing educational and change management efforts – all of which enhance the ability to develop and maintain highly-reusable compliance artifacts.



Our Community Contributions

Over the past 3+ years, our team has led the way on developing new OSCAL Open Source capabilities and helping raise awareness in the community for adoption of OSCAL. Easy Dynamics manages [OSCAL.io](https://oscal.io), a central hub



that serves as a repository for valuable OSCAL resources like templates, artifacts, and user

guides¹. Additionally, we manage the Mid-Atlantic OSCAL Community with over 140 members, where practitioners gather and discuss use cases for OSCAL adoption.



Looking to the Future

In the rapidly-evolving landscape of compliance automation, OSCAL stands as a beacon of innovation and efficiency, addressing the persistent challenges that have plagued risk management and compliance for years. Its impact goes beyond mere automation; it signifies a major shift towards a secure-by-design culture.

At Easy Dynamics, our commitment to OSCAL's evolution has already yielded valuable tools and resources for the wider community, even as our innovations for both public

and private markets continue. With our team leading the way, organizations can step into a future where compliance is a near-time reflection of their security posture, allowing a shift in focus from administration to critical cybersecurity.

¹ Additional OSCAL.io resources: [OSCAL API Specification](https://oscal.io/api-specification), [OSCAL Registry](https://oscal.io/registry), [OSCAL Viewer](https://oscal.io/viewer)

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