Managing risk can be challenging for most organisations. Michael Lipinski reviews nine products that can help

Risk management is a challenge for most organisations. Periodic review of configurations, patches, vulnerabilities, server, user, network and security rules is difficult. Enterprises operate in a constant state of change and even well staffed and diligent IT staff will be challenged to validate every configuration to corporate policy, test and deploy all necessary patches in a timely fashion and validate end-to-end accuracy of all the security controls deployed.

Risk management is an enterprise initiative and not limited to IT. Business risk exists where adherence to corporate policies and regulatory requirements is not maintained. Operational risk exists when controls are not deployed to support business policies or regulatory requirements or when those controls are either not effective or can be circumvented.

Citicus ONE R3.2

Supplier	Citicus
Price	From £2,500
Contact	www.citicus.com

Citicus ONE establishes an efficient and continuous process for measuring and managing information risk and compliance across the organisation. It helps establish the criticality of business systems and traces how the measured risk tracks with the defined acceptable level.

It monitors compliance with internal policies and regulatory standards. Built-in frameworks include ISO 27001, PCI DSS, ISF, ITIL SoGP, CobiT, SOX and Basel II. Additionally, any local policies can be readily imported. We were impressed with the capability of the tool to map an identified risk right down to the individual requirement in the policy document.

Citicus ONE uses web-based data collection forms, including asset criticality assessments and risk scorecards underpinned by detailed threat and vulnerability checklists. These ensure that objective and consistent data is recorded, identifying risks to business applications, IT infrastructure and outsourced services. The tool and the content for developing the criticality assessments were very powerful.

Reporting is provided at multiple levels from owners of individual assets on the ground to top management who require an overview of compliance and risk for a business unit or for the entire enterprise.

Reports include dashboards, risk and compliance league tables, heat maps, trend reports and risk dependency spider maps. These were very useful in linking the various elements of the risk to the critical resources. A map links the five risk factors of control weakness, special circumstances, business impact, level of threat and criticality, in graphical fashion.

Remediation planning is supported through recording risk and compliance issues and the specific action required to resolve these. Actions can be assigned to individuals, costed and tracked to completion.

Citicus ONE is offered as a hosted SaaS subscription or as deployed software, which has an SQL server backend with IIS/.Net front end. Installation is automatic and configures the initial product. Phone and email support on an 8/5 basis is provided for the first year.

SC MAGAZINE RATING	
Features	★★★★☆
Ease of use	★★★★☆
Performance	★★★★☆
Documentation	★★★★☆
Support	★★★★☆
Value for money	★★★★★
OVERALL	★★★★☆

For Strong business policy, compliance and regulatory risk tool. Great reporting
Against Busy interface. Not strong on remediation recommendations
Verdict Good risk picture with map. Strong built-in control framework

This solution provides a lot of capability and content for the price in the business risk management space

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