

GLOBAL CERTIFICATION FOR AN INTERNATIONAL AIRLINE

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Summary

Customer: Major International Airline

Industry: Aviation

Project Duration: 1 Year

Location: Global (170+ Countries)

Objective: Achieve PCI DSS Certification

Introduction

This case study explores the PCI DSS certification process for a major international airline, which required extensive scoping and assessment due to its vast and complex operational environment. The airline's operations spanned over 170 countries, necessitating a robust and comprehensive approach to achieve compliance.

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This case study explores the PCI DSS certification process for a major international airline



Background

The airline industry presents unique challenges for PCI DSS certification, with diverse environments such as airport terminals (ATO's), corporate offices (CTO's), duty-free stores, and back-office operations. The objective was to ensure that all aspects of the airline's operations handling payment card data met PCI DSS standards.

Challenges



Scoping Complexity: Defining the scope across numerous global locations and diverse operational environments.



Data Discovery: Identifying all systems and processes that handled payment card data.



Risk Assessment: Performing a comprehensive risk assessment across all global operations.



Sampling Methodology: Implementing an effective sampling methodology to cover locations based on transaction volumes.

Approach

The certification process was carried out in a structured manner, focusing on key areas to ensure thorough assessment and compliance.

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PHASE 1

Scoping and Data Discovery

- **Scope Definition:** Identified all locations and systems that process, store, or transmit payment card data.
- **Data Discovery:** Conducted data discovery exercises to map out all data flows and storage points.



PHASE 2

Risk Assessment and Gap Analysis

- **Risk Assessment:** Conducted a detailed risk assessment to identify vulnerabilities and threats across the airline's operations.
- **Gap Analysis:** Performed a gap analysis to determine areas of non-compliance and required improvements.

PHASE 3

Remediation and Control Implementation

- **Remediation Plan:** Developed and executed a remediation plan to address identified gaps.
- **Control Implementation:** Implemented necessary controls, including encryption, access controls, and monitoring systems.
- **Training Programs:** Conducted training sessions for employees to ensure compliance with PCI DSS requirements.

PHASE 4

Certification

- **Internal Audits:** Performed internal audits to verify compliance with PCI DSS standards.
- **Final Assessment:** Engaged with a QSA for the final assessment and certification process.
- **Certification Achieved:** Successfully obtained PCI DSS certification.

RESULTS

- **Global Compliance:** The airline achieved PCI DSS certification across its global operations, enhancing its security posture.
- **Risk Reduction:** Mitigated risks through the implementation of robust security controls and practices.
- **Operational Efficiency:** Improved operational efficiency through streamlined processes and enhanced security measures.

Conclusion

Achieving PCI DSS certification for a major international airline was a complex and challenging task, given the vast scope and diverse environments involved. Ampcus Cyber's structured approach and collaboration with the airline's team ensured successful certification. This achievement not only improved the airline's security posture but also instilled confidence among customers and stakeholders in the airline's commitment to protecting payment card data.



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