# INFORMATION MANAGEMENT &TECHNOLOGY

# Information Technology Risks & Controls for Financial Systems

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# Introduction

- ➤ IT Risk and Compliance Officer in Information Management and Technology (IMT) of the World Bank; CISA, CRISC Certifications
- Managed the Bank's Internal Controls over Financial Reporting (ICFR) IT General Controls from 2007 to date
- ➤ In 2000 2005 timeframe, advised Development Gateway Grantees in Mongolia, Sri Lanka, and Eastern Caribbean (with Romania) on web-based business plans and implementation to support Ministries and Donors
- The World Bank voluntarily complies with ICFR (similar to US Sarbanes-Oxley) as a good practice
- ➤ The Bank's in-scope applications include SAP, PeopleSoft, and numerous Treasury applications
- Complying with ICFR is not just a one-time event, it's a way of doing business

# Agenda

- Overall internal control environment to provide reasonable assurance of the completeness, accuracy, and integrity of your FMIS for financial reporting
- Frameworks to assist in implementing processes and controls
- Specific Operational and Information Security Controls for each layer of your FMIS
- World Bank Example of a Secure Web Portal



- "Trust is not a control"
- "Do what you document, and document what you do"

## The Bank's Context...

- ▶ SAP: Global ERP with 24,000 users; 12+ major applications, including standard modules such as AP/AR and in-house developed applications for loan disbursement and travel; approximately 8.6 million transactions per month
- ▶ PeopleSoft: Global ERP with approximately 18,500 dynamic roles/users and 1,033 static roles; total of 3,756 transactions assigned; Supports Human Resources, Payroll, Pensions processes
- ▶ The Bank has an in-house developed **secure website (Client Connection)** that offers government officials and project implementing agencies quicker access to information about their portfolio and the Bank's country analytic work
- ▶ The Bank also has numerous Treasury applications to support Treasury Operations
- ▶ Remote Access: The Bank has several options for Remote Access, all enabled with two-factor authentication
- ▶ Currently, a total of **148 key controls** are tested each year across all financial systems in scope for Internal Controls over Financial Reporting (ICFR)

# Some Information Technology Risks To Financial Systems

- ▶ Unauthorized Access: User/Developer access was not approved for a particular level of access or action; Example: Ensure privileged access is appropriately restricted.
- ▶ Excessive Access: User/Developer access level is beyond the scope of job role and responsibility; Example: Ensure the Principle of Least Privilege is in place people only have access to the information and transactions needed to perform their job and scope of responsibility
- ▶ Unauthorized Changes: Program change was not approved before move to production; Example:
- ▶ Fraud is a potential result of these risks if actions are intentional
- ▶ Lack of control around the acquisition and implementation of new applications and maintenance of existing applications
- ▶ Lack of control around the acquisition, installation, configuration, integration, and maintenance of the IT infrastructure.

## **Internal Control Environment**

#### **▶** Entity-level Controls

- Tone at the Top and culture of the organization
- Management ensures that the policies and procedures are in place and all employees are aware and adhering to them

#### Application Controls

- Application Development and Maintenance
- Access to Programs and Data/Information

Security Controls (applies to all layers)

#### ► Information Technology General Controls

- ▶ Infrastructure Change Management: Database, System Software, Network
- ▶ Information Systems Operations: Batch Job Processing, Backup and Restore

### People, Process, Technology



# Useful Frameworks as a Foundation for the Internal Control Environment

- ▶ COSO/COSO ERM (The Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission): Integrated framework for internal controls, focuses on the Control Environment, Risk Assessment, Control Activities, Information & Communication, and Monitoring
- ▶ COBIT (ISACA): Control Objectives for Information Technology that focuses on four key domain areas of Plan & Organize, Acquire & Implement, Deliver & Support, and Monitor & Evaluate
- ▶ ITIL (Information Technology Infrastructure Library) Framework for IT Service Management practices, such as Change Management, Incident Management, Problem Management, Configuration Management, Service Level Management
- ▶ **CMMi** (Software Engineering Institute): Capability Maturity Model Integration for Software Development Lifecycle
- ▶ **ISO20000**: Framework and Certification for IT Service Management
- ▶ ISO27001: Framework and Certification for Information Security
- ▶ **RiskIT** (ISACA): IT-related buisness risk, focusing in Risk Evaluation, Risk Governance, and Risk Monitoring/Reporting

# **Application Development and Maintenance**

- ▶ **Key Risks:** Unauthorized Access/Changes, Excessive Access, Fraud; Ineffective Controls in Process
- ▶ **Document** process and identify key controls; support with a workflow tool
- Segregation of Duties (for business and IT)
  - Separation between the development and production environments;, for example, Developers should not have update access to the production environment
  - ▶ All changes to the production application should be documented and approved; the person who initiates change should be different from the one who approves the change, and different from the person who moves the change to production

#### Access

- User Access: Based on Job Roles and Responsibilities
- Privileged Access: Clear authorization, strong authentication;
- ▶ Rule of Least Privilege the access needed to perform one's job

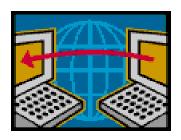
# Infrastructure Change Management

- ▶ **Key Risks**: Unauthorized Access/Changes, Excessive Access, Fraud
- ▶ **Document** Change Management Policy, Processes and Controls; support with a workflow tool
- Use a risk-based approach for changes: Emergency to Major Changes; varying levels of documentation and approvals required
- ▶ Segregation of Duties: the person initiating the change should be different from the one approving the change, and different from the one moving the change to production
- ▶ Ensure roles and responsibilities are clear regarding who can initiate a change, test the change, approve, and move to production
- ▶ Ensure all evidence of changes are documented, approved, and stored for easy retrieval



# **Information Security Controls: Access**

- Authentication and Authorization: How access is achieved and who approved new user and transfer
- Privileged Access: System Administrators
  - Ensure terminated employees access rights are removed timely
  - ▶ Individual vs. Service Accounts traceability
- ▶ Data Security and Integrity Secure data transfer; encrypt data in transit (Secure Socket Layer/SSL and Secured Hypertext Transmission Protocol/HTTPS)







- ▶ Network and Web Application Firewalls: Review Logs, restrict access
- ▶ Passwords for all user types: Complex, force change, account lockout
- Physical Security at your Data Center who has access to what; is it approved and reviewed periodically?

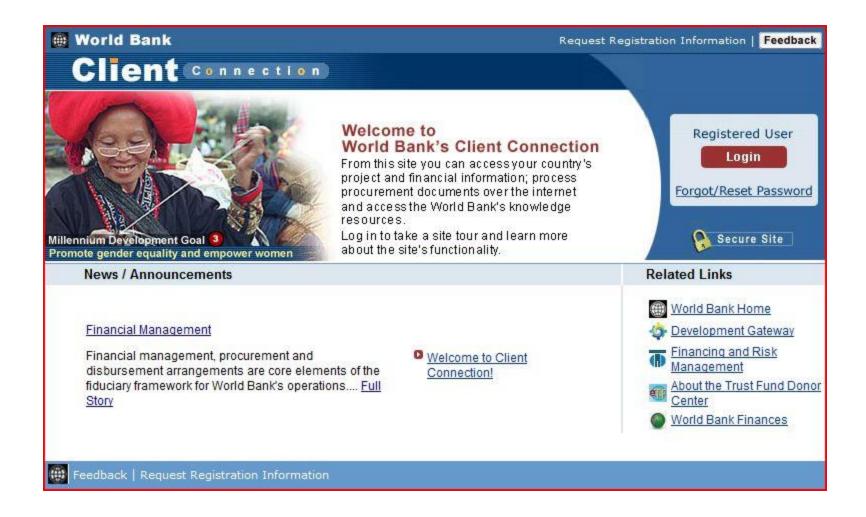
# Information Systems Operations/ Contingency Planning

- ▶ **Key risks**: System failure, Data Loss; Ineffective Controls in Process
- ▶ (At a minimum) Document Backup and Restore Processes
  - Monitor failures and take action
  - Perform periodic restore tests to ensure data availability from tape/disk
  - Secure, off-site storage
- ▶ Develop an IT Disaster Recovery Policy; Test the IT Contingency Plan
- Document Batch Job Processes
  - Who has access to run?
  - Know the scope, impact and frequency of jobs
  - Take action on failed jobs

# World Bank Example: Client Connection

- Client Connection is a secure web-based portal that allows Borrowers/Recipients and Donors access to information related to loans, credits, grants, and trust funds
- ▶ Straight Through Processing (STP) is the newest phase of the eDisbursement project Bank clients can submit an online disbursement request and sign electronically
- Authorized Signatories and Beneficiaries must be approved and preregistered
- Separate Profiles, such as a Form Creator and a Form Signatory, must be in place
- ▶ Different profiles have different levels of access or different types of transactions they can perform
- Access is granted with a valid user id and passcode, which includes a pin and dynamic token

# http://clientconnection.worldbank.org



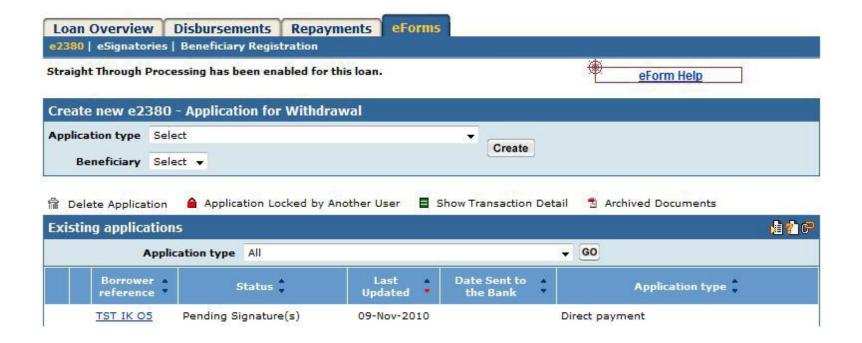
# **Using Two-Factor Authentication...**

- User id
- 8 digit PIN
- Dynamic 6 digit token code

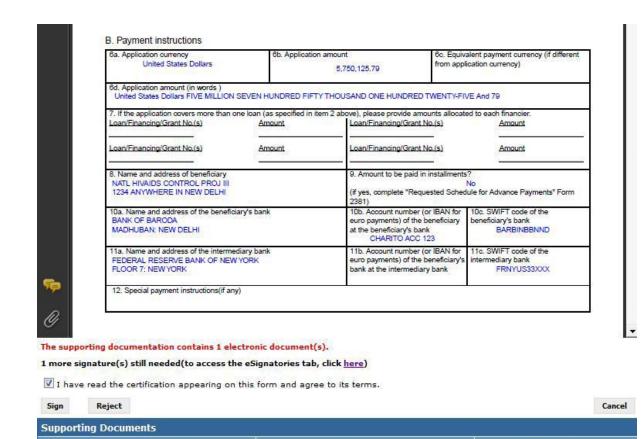


# eForm Example

STP is enabled, Signature is Pending...



# Signing the Form...





16KB

Size

Attached By

STP Create User3

26-OCT-2010

06:02 PM EST

Documentation Type/Name

Statement of Expenditure

STP Statement of Expenditures.xls

## **Methods for Preventive and Detective Controls**

- Segregation of Duties: Operational and Privileged Access
- ▶ Two-Factor or Multi-factor Authentication
- Periodic Review of Roles and Access at all layers, from network access to application access
  - Perform at least every six months; document review and action taken
- Continuous Controls Monitoring automated and manual
  - Monitor access to systems Repeat failed logon requests and unauthorized access
  - Monitor changes from the source (application/database/operating system) and compare with changes logged in ticketing systems
  - Monitor firewall activity
- Encrypt Data in Transit
- Consider an Application Firewall



## **Benefits of an Audit**

- ▶ Audits can provide reasonable assurance that the financial statement preparation is supported by adequate and sustained internal control compliance
- ▶ Audits may uncover deficiencies in information system processing that when remediated, will strengthen the control environment and the integrity of the system

View an audit as an opportunity for process and control improvement, control rationalization, and assurance that the operation is running

efficiently and effectively

View Auditors as

Strategic Partners!

# **Questions and Comments?**

