



# z/OS Mainframe Security Assessment Services

Cyber Security



Companies have been relying on z/OS, the enterprise operating system for the IBM z systems mainframe, to process high volumes of data and to run various business applications. IBM revived z/OS' role in technology ecosystems by introducing robust capabilities such as web services, Big Data analytics, and Cloud Computing. However, with a rise in system complexity, proliferation of cyber-threats, and shortage of mainframe skills and cloud computing, organizations face uncertainties with respect to security effectiveness, cost, and agility.

TCS' z/OS Mainframe Security Assessment Services help firms analyze the mainframe ecosystem to identify security pitfalls and areas of improvement, measure cost efficiency, and assess risks. It allows companies to leverage our expertise in z systems to bolster cyber-security and reduce associated costs. The assessment also enables compliance with SANS Institute's guidelines, which mandate independent assurance of enterprise security effectiveness.

## Overview

Over the years, diminishing emphasis on z systems and a declining skilled resource pool have led to lower focus on the associated vulnerabilities, exposing these systems to cyber-threats. Existing application and business process controls are often unable to detect mainframe system threats, leading to data privacy and integrity risk. Moreover, many enterprise security consultants focus exclusively on product implementation while assessing security vulnerabilities, which, though critical for fortifying z/OS security, is not the only deciding factor. Further, auditors do not provide sufficient time for mitigating vulnerabilities, if detected, leading to higher expenditure and unfavorable compliance reports.

TCS provides a comprehensive evaluation of security controls across IT governance, people, processes, and technology. We assess your existing z/OS security implementation and administration practices, and study their impact on your business outcomes. We help determine the criticality of specific controls based on the business context, in order to enlist relevant risk mitigation initiatives. Our focus is on bridging security gaps with required controls, in line with your budget and time constraints, while ensuring compliance. To resolve security gaps that require costly, time-consuming fixes, we identify compensatory controls acceptable to auditors.

## Benefits

With TCS' Services, you can reap the following benefits:



### Minimize mainframe data risk

Mitigate z/OS security vulnerabilities and protect your business-sensitive data from unauthorized access and external hackers. Manage privileged access effectively to reduce IT risk associated with z systems and storage environments.



### Boost regulatory compliance

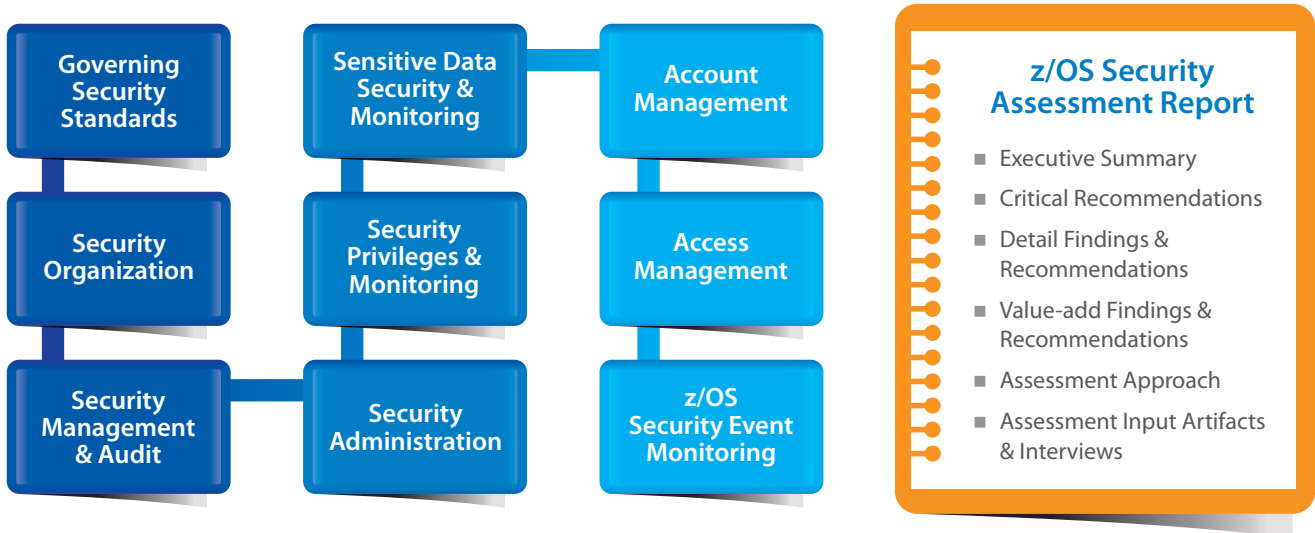
Boost adherence to regulations and corporate standards, for example, tackling excessive privilege to comply with The Sarbanes-Oxley Act (SOX). Respond effectively to auditory findings with the implementation of appropriate controls or security products in a quick and cost-efficient manner.

## Our Solution

TCS' z/OS Security Assessment focuses on:

- **Governance:** Benchmarks existing z/OS security management capabilities and associated service level agreements (SLAs) against best practices.
- **People:** Maps the entire security administration across locations and skill sets to ensure self-sufficiency, and recommends additional training to further boost capabilities.
- **Process:** Determines the level of standardization and automation across security processes, while assessing if security is empowered to enforce policy or diminished to a clerical function. Evaluates the effectiveness of security event management for timely detection of critical events.
- **Technology:** Validates the technical implementation of the security software for resource coverage, account obsolescence, and the unchecked usage of high security privileges. Analyzes the effectiveness of access control lists and role-based access control features.

## An overview of our z/OS Mainframe Security Assessment Services



## The TCS Advantage

By partnering with TCS, you can leverage the following differentiators:

- **Technical expertise:** Our experts have successfully delivered complex enterprise security projects to global companies across industries. TCS has a deep understanding of z systems, and has demonstrated its capabilities in configuration and management of the platforms at an enterprise scale.
- **Business-centricity and comprehensive analysis framework:** TCS' balanced analysis methodology helps enhance the sustainability of security improvements, as it provides a 360-degree view of vulnerabilities, while encompassing technology, governance and administrative

factors. These findings are mapped to possible business impacts, in order to establish enterprise security as a strategic function. The assessment also focuses on determining whether the security provisions are restrictive, optimal, or lax to catalyze necessary recourse, if required.

- **Strategic partnership:** We are an IBM Gold Business Partner, which gives us access to end-to-end, consistent vendor support before, during, and after the implementation of IBM software products. This collaboration also helps us enable IBM technical validations and co-create solutions at IBM innovation centers, thereby reducing the time to market for tailored solutions.



### Ensure future-readiness

Strengthen controls across governance, people, processes, and technology to boost ROI of mitigation efforts, and prevent the systems from becoming irrelevant in the coming years. Identify potential security vulnerabilities proactively to enhance system longevity and effectiveness.

## Awards & Recognition

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### To know more

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Email: [cyber.security@tcs.com](mailto:cyber.security@tcs.com)

To read views, best practices, and experiences from experts, visit [TCS' Cyber Security Community Portal](#)

### About Tata Consultancy Services Ltd (TCS)

Tata Consultancy Services is an IT services, consulting and business solutions organization that delivers real results to global business, ensuring a level of certainty no other firm can match. TCS offers a consulting-led, integrated portfolio of IT and IT-enabled infrastructure, engineering and assurance services. This is delivered through its unique Global Network Delivery Model™, recognized as the benchmark of excellence in software development. A part of the Tata Group, India's largest industrial conglomerate, TCS has a global footprint and is listed on the National Stock Exchange and Bombay Stock Exchange in India.

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