## How to Revolutionize and Harmonize Compliance Processes over SOD Access with Pathlock AVM

Vijan Patel, Managing Director, Protiviti John Scaramucci, Associate Director, Protiviti SAPinsider Las Vegas

2023

## **SAP**insider

1 **SAP**insider



### **In This Session**

- How AVM supports the security monitoring
  process
- Critical factors that drive the AVM implementation effort, timeline, and success
- Review SAP and cloud configurations needed for AVM integration
- How to deploy AVM as the repository of SOD mitigation and integrate expectations

### What We'll Cover

- SODs Is Hard
- The Right Tool
- Too Much Data
- One Company's Journey
- Wrap-Up

## Segregation of Duties (SOD) Is Hard

This section will explain the concepts and challenges of Segregation of Duties (SOD) management.



### What Is Your (SOD) Problem?



**Company size and** (risk) culture



Security is not a priority (unless something is wrong)



Risk appetite and regulations



Organizational structure and complexity

## SOD Risk Management Maturity



### Problems in Optimized Environments



Significant number of outstanding SOD violations after an initial remediation project

Expensive security redesign project fails

Mitigating controls do not address risk or are not performed regularly

Excessive use of "firefighter" as a cure-all for SOD issues Increased scrutiny around control performance by compliance/audit

Wasted remediation efforts as next audits uncover new SOD issues



Organizational turnover

**Competing priorities** make maintaining integrity difficult

### Is There a Better Way?

### **Provisioning with SOD Solutions**

- Prevent and identify "potential" violations
- Occurrences are investigated if issues are identified (audit or fraud)
- Potential risks may be classified as "known" SODs
- No understanding if SODs are processed

### **Quantify and Mitigate Actual Violations**

- Identify who conducted SOD issues (mitigated or unmitigated)
- How many times did they execute these SODs?
- For how much? What is the risk exposure?



## What Is an Actual SOD Violation?



### **Quantifying SOD Risk Exposure**

Why focus on the Real Exceptions?

- Identify actual occurrences of SOD violations
- Understand who did it, how many times, and for how much
- In the *absence of controls* at the above layers, true comfort can still be obtained



## The Right Tool (For Which Job?)

This section will share examples of leading automated solutions in the SAP Access Management space.





## Extending GRC beyond Access Control



Although roles may be free of conflicts, many SOD access conflicts may still remain due to business requirements

#### **SAP Access Control**

- Certify and monitor access
- Find and remediate SOD
- Automate assignments
- Define and maintain roles



Time and effort to mitigate SOD violations No visibility to "did-do" and financial impact

#### Stay Clean

#### **SOD Transaction Monitoring**

- Identify users that have actually performed conflicting transactions
- Provide visibility and control of risk exposure for remaining SOD violations
- Focus effort on truly high-risk areas
- Drive business transformation
- Implement a continuous monitoring solution like Pathlock AVM



## Pathlock Access Violation Management

### Without Access Control and AVM:

- Access is managed and reviewed independently by system
- No cross-system access
   analysis
- Segregation of duties violation goes undetected

## With Access Control and AVM-SI (System Integration):

- Reviewers receive real-time
   alerts when conflicts arise
- Multiple ERPs can be integrated with cross-system reporting
- Audit trail of approvals

### AVM-RA (Risk Analysis) Transaction Monitoring across applications:

- Map hundreds of business functions across thousands of tables and views
- Translate data across all business applications
- Maintain as new versions are released and new applications adopted
- Remove invalid data
- Filter out immaterial exceptions

## Solution Comparison (AVM vs Manual)

Real-Time RFC Connection to ECC allows for near continuous monitoring and proactive alerts to Business/Risk Owners

Line-item review with Comments and Attachment functionality becomes Online Mitigation Repository for Audit/Governance

Standard and Expandable Risk Control Library with Additional Configuration

Point-in-Time extracts analyzed as needed (e.g., Support Substantive Testing when Unmitigated SOD Risk or Control Deficiencies are Found)

IUUa

П-

-

П.

Results typically stored offline for additional review and validation needed after each round of testing

Test criteria definitions often require significant technical knowledge when detailed reporting solutions are not available or sufficient

## Too Much Data (And What to Do with IT)

This section will walk through common examples of results from SOD transaction analysis and how to engage the appropriate stakeholders.



### **Can-Do vs. Did-Do Results**

Quantify Financial Impact of Risk

		Potenti	ial Risk	100%	Material Se	egregation of Du	uties Issue	
Risks		"Can-Do" Access Conflicts		Activity Volume	"Did-do" Transaction Violations			"Oon do" roguized
ID	Description	Users	SODs	Transactions	Users (% of can-do)	Exceptions (% of transactions)	\$ Value	reviewing 208 users when only 4 (2%) was
P001	Create or maintain suppliers and process supplier invoices	208	2,277	114,962	4 (2%)	1,040 (1%)	\$5,149,290	Smallest "can-do"
P002	Create or maintain suppliers and process payments	22	105	28,739	2 (9%)	269 (1%)	\$452,517	SoD conflicts, but the largest "did- do" financial impact
P003	Process invoices and process payments	37	83	110,941	3 (8%)	3,469 (3%)	\$11,509,010	User not found by
P004	Process purchase orders and process invoices	221	4,581	22,224,544	1 (<0.01%)	8 <0.01%)	\$600	<ul> <li>periodic "can-do" analysis because access changed</li> </ul>
P005	Process purchase orders and payments	23	248	22,138,321	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	\$0	
Time and effort wasted looking for exceptions that didn't occur								

## Leverage Results to Drive Action





Identify which risks to test or monitor using quantification analysis Create a process to manage reported violations (e.g., which violations, who they are reported to, how they are mitigated) Transfer risk mitigation to the business owners rather than IT managed functions to realize true SOD risk and quantification.

This can lead the business to tighten security so that less violations exist within the landscape



Combine detailed examples with high level reporting to convey true risk exposure across the organization

### **Example SOD Review Process Flow**



### **One Company's SOD Journey**

This section will explain how a Global Company moved from the decentralized and manual control processes that managed their Segregation of Duties (SOD) risks to a streamlined compliance model.



## The Company's AVM Journey

Our client decided to implement AVM by Pathlock in order to automate their SOD lookback control process. AVM was configured to monitor ~50 SOD risks across 25+ ERPs, including cross-system.



### SOD Controls Workflow



- SOD Review Control facilitated by GRC
- Access-based SOD risk assessment
- Approve or reject access

- Lookback Control facilitated by AVM
- Transaction-based SOD risk assessment

## **SOD Risks Examples**

Risk ID	Business Process	Function 1	Function 2	System(s)
FI02	Finance / Accounting	Approve PRA Manual JEs	Create / update PRA manual JEs	SAP ECC
OC10	Order to Cash	Process Sales Order	Maintain Pricing Conditions	SAP ECC
PP02	Procure to Pay	Release Purchase Order	Maintain Vendor Master Data	SAP ECC
JR01	Procure to Pay	Approve Expenditure	Maintain Vendor Master Data	Non-SAP
X001	Procure to Pay	Release Purchase Requisition	Maintain Vendor Master Data	Non-SAP and SAP ECC (cross-system)
JX01	Procure to Pay	Release Purchase Requisition	Maintain Vendor Master Data	Non-SAP (cross-system)

### A Leading Practice Backbone

	SOD Rule-set Implementation Project Overview	
Gap Analysis	Protiviti took input from multiple sources, including the client's legacy rule-set, External Audit recommendations, and Protiviti's own leading practice rule-set, and developed a new proposed rule-set for S/4 The proposed rule-set was inclusive of both S/4-based and non-S/4-based risks, therefore making it a holistic cross-system rule-set	
Ruleset (Risk Layer)	Protiviti then held a series of workshops with Global Process Owners and other business leads to determine the applicability of each of the proposed risks for $S/4$ , as well as the associated risk criticality for those that were deemed to be in-scope After the rule-set was refined in this manner, final approval for the business risk layer of the rule-set was obtained from the SOD Governance Committee	
Ruleset (Tech Layer)	Protiviti worked with the S/4 functional and security teams to refine the technical layer of the rule-set, accounting for specific t- codes and Fiori apps within the S/4 system design Protiviti worked with the security team to incorporate incremental changes to the BPML and further refine the rule-set Protiviti worked with External Audit to review their observations on the rule-set technical data	
Risk Analysis & Mitigations	Risk analysis results were shared with the security team to remediate master and single roles in order to eliminate SODs For high-risk conflicts that cannot be remediated, Protiviti will work with the client team to determine appropriate mitigating controls	
Cutover & Go- Live Prep	Protiviti team communicated the cutover plan and strategy with the client's GRC team Protiviti team will communicate any risk status changed to the client's SOD Governance Committee Protiviti team shared the GRC technical data to the client's GRC team for review and approval The S/4 GRC rule-set will be promoted to the GRC production environment upon approval	

### **Benefits of AVM**

The revolutionizing benefits related to SOD Compliance activities were highlighted and quantified through the results of a Proof of Concept survey of business managers.



### Key Points to Take Home

SOD quantification can give significant and better visibility to SOD issues

There is a significant difference between "potential" SOD violations and "real" financial impact

Monitoring of known risks can start immediately to reduce risk and prove compliance

Not every SOD in your rule set can be quantified — usually only financially relevant transactions are included and many risks will never materialize in day-to-day business activities

Point in time assessments are very helpful, but they are only a short-term solution as it can be difficult to manually quantify the impact of SOD access

Include the Business and IT (and Audit if necessary) when implementing an SOD Quantification process to ensure proper scoping is performed up front and all expectations are met

An automated process for SOD monitoring can remove management pressure to remove all SODs during a redesign project

### Wrap-Up

Monitor your target SAP system for actual SOD violation transactions using AVM.

Develop a process to review reported violations within AVM so that it becomes the repository of SOD mitigation, eventually replacing the need to for ineffective or inefficient manual controls.

Leverage the full reporting capabilities of the AVM solution to help the business avoid material weakness while better controlling SOD.



## Where to Find More Information

The Pathlock Blog

https://pathlock.com/blog/

• Link to various posts on market trends and success stories from Pathlock's library. Also check out the Case Studies page.

#### "SOD Empowerment With SAP Access Violation Management By Pathlock" by John Scaramucci, Protiviti TC Blog

https://tcblog.protiviti.com/2022/03/30/sod-empowerment-with-sap-access-violation-management-by-pathlock/

• Paper describing how organizations are best prepared and empowered to handle SOD and mitigations effectively when they use automated tools.

"Effectively Managing SAP Security Risks in the Modern World" by Vijan Patel and John Scaramucci, Protiviti TC Blog

https://tcblog.protiviti.com/2022/03/30/sod-empowerment-with-sap-access-violation-management-by-pathlock/

• Paper describing how the global landscape has changed in light of COVID-19 and how critical it is for companies to practice good security hygiene.

### **Key Points to Take Home**

- Pathlock AVM combined with SAP Access Control can give significant and better visibility to SOD issues
- There is a significant difference between "potential" SOD violations and "real" financial impact
- Monitoring of known risks can start immediately to reduce risk and prove compliance
- Not every SOD in your rule set can be quantified usually only financially relevant transactions are included, and many risks will never materialize in day-to-day business activities
- Point in time assessments are very helpful, but they are only a shortterm solution, as it can be difficult to manually quantify the impact of SOD access
- Include the Business and IT (and Audit if necessary) when implementing an SOD Quantification process to ensure proper scoping is performed up front and all expectations are met
- An automated process for SOD monitoring can temper management pressure to remove all SODs during a redesign project



### **Thank You! Any Questions?**

#### Vijan Patel

Linkedin.com/in/vijanjpatel/

#### John Scaramucci

Linkedin.com/in/johnscaramuccijr/

Please remember to complete your session evaluation.

# SAPinsider

### SAPinsider.org

PO Box 982Hampstead, NH 03841 Copyright © 2023 Wellesley Information Services. All rights reserved.

SAP and other SAP products and services mentioned herein as well as their respective logos are trademarks or registered trademarks of SAP SE (or an SAP affiliate company) in Germany and other countries. All other product and service names mentioned are the trademarks of their respective companies. Wellesley Information Services is neither owned nor controlled by SAP SE. SAPinsider comprises the largest and fastest growing SAP membership group worldwide, with more than 600,000 members across 205 countries.