

## SHARPOINT SECURITY AUDIT CLOSES PERMISSION GAPS AND INCREASES COMPLIANCE

### CLIENT OVERVIEW

The client, a multinational specialty biopharmaceutical company, develops vaccines and antibody therapeutics for infectious diseases, oncology, and autoimmune disorders. With a sprawling SharePoint environment, security and permissions were becoming difficult to manage and police across the organization. When it was discovered that non-authorized users could mistakenly obtain access to sensitive HR data, violating corporate information access policies, the client's CIO needed to take immediate action to resolve the problem.

### CHALLENGE

***Effectively Manage Site Permissions Across a Complex, Multi-Release SharePoint Platform.***

The client needed to ensure that the SharePoint environment adhered to corporate information access policies. There was no simple way to audit the security configuration across the environment, and thus enforce corporate information access policies.

Practices such as copying a document library and propagating its permission set to the new library were rampant, setting up overlapping, redundant permissions across the environment.

The company needed expert advice for managing permissions and bringing sites owners into compliance. The company turned to Aspect Consulting for assistance.

### SOLUTION

***Security Audit and Site Permission Policy Overhaul***

Aspect Consulting was engaged to implement a site permission policy overhaul. The client was impressed with Aspect's approach: run a pre-scripted Security Audit, followed by remediation, proactive permission monitoring, and user training to ensure adherence.

The Aspect Security Audit process has the ability to detect permissions at every level (owner, member, and visitor) across the environment.

The client gained continuous permission monitoring for peace of mind, and clearly defined permissions policies that were easier to adhere to and support.

Aspect took the following actions to bring security administration in line with company policies:

- **Conduct Security Audit:**  
At the onset of the engagement, Aspect conducted a detailed security audit of the client's SharePoint environment. Aspect has a pre-scripted Power Shell process that determines the number of groups on site, the individual access for users, detecting permissions across the environment, even those hidden from the user interface.
- **Repair Violations:**  
Taking the results of the security audit, Aspect coordinated with each site owner to implement resolutions to eliminate the invalid and/or redundant permissions.
- **Proactively Detect Future Security Violations:**  
As a safeguard, Aspect set up the Audit processes to run as a scheduled job on a quarterly basis to determine whether permissions continue to adhere to corporate policies.
- **Conduct Security Policy and Process Training:**  
As a final step, Aspect helped client stakeholders record standard policies in an approved SOP and conducted training, to ensure that site owners and administrators were aware of corporate policies going forward.

### BENEFITS

***Information Access Protected-Operational Efficiency Gained.***

- **Permission Gaps Closed**  
The permission violations were closed, and proactive monitoring ensures that any future issues are quickly detected.
- **Increased Supportability:**  
The newly documented security policies, coupled with proactive monitoring, were able to reduce the effort and costs associated with security administration over time, and increase the ability to detect and remediate issues in a timely manner.
- **Site Owner Compliance Achieved:**  
Clearly documented policies and targeted training ensured that site owners were made aware of security process and policies, and were able to execute best practices for administering site permissions going forward.