

Federal Computer Security Managers' Forum

US Census Bureau Risk Management Framework

August 27, 2015

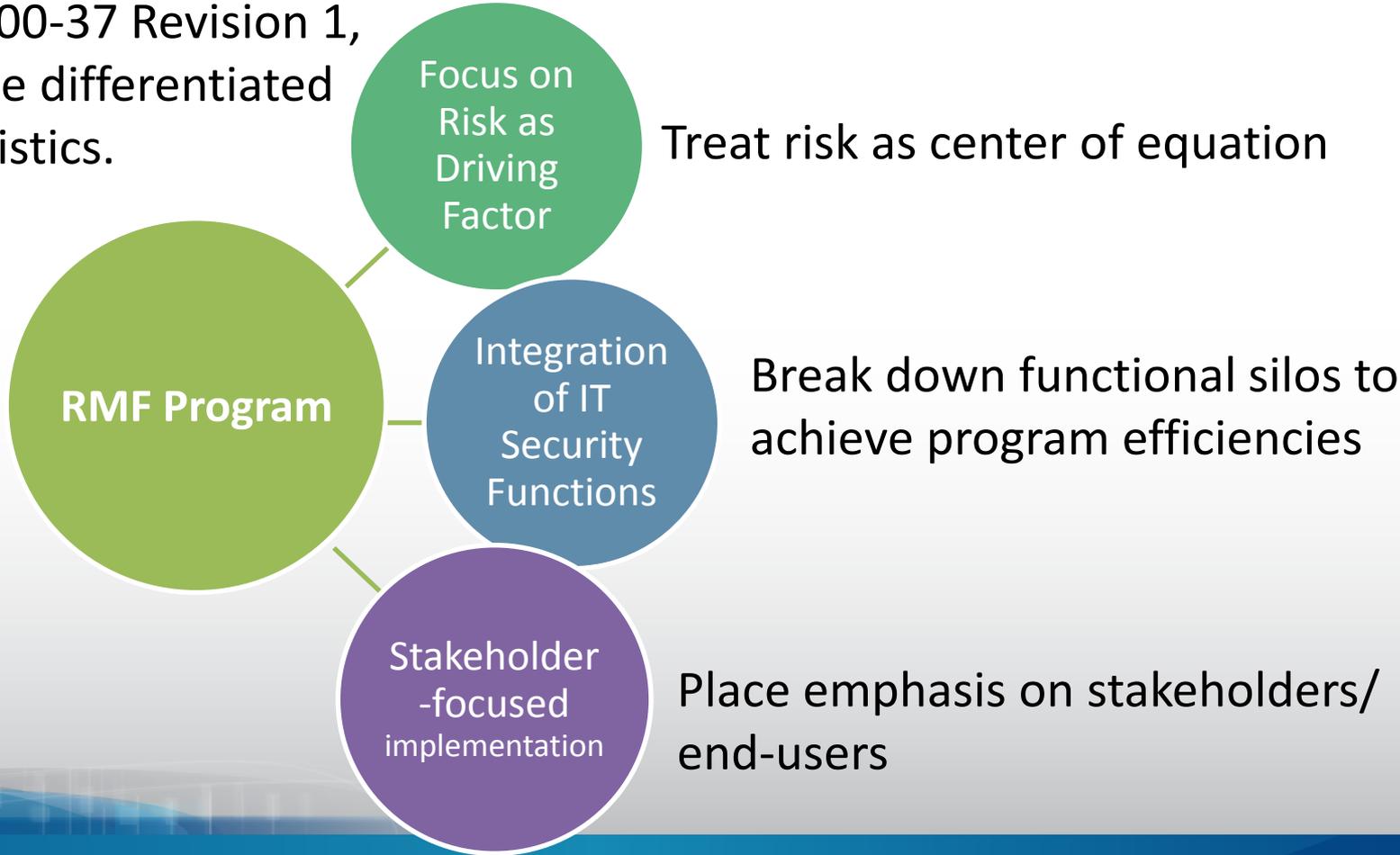
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Agenda

- Defining Characteristics of Census Bureau's RMF Program
 - Focus on Risk
 - Integration of IT Security Functions
 - Stakeholder-Focused Implementation
- How We Did It – Risk Reporting and Continuous Monitoring
- RMF Program Accomplishments
- RMF Program Scalability and Future State

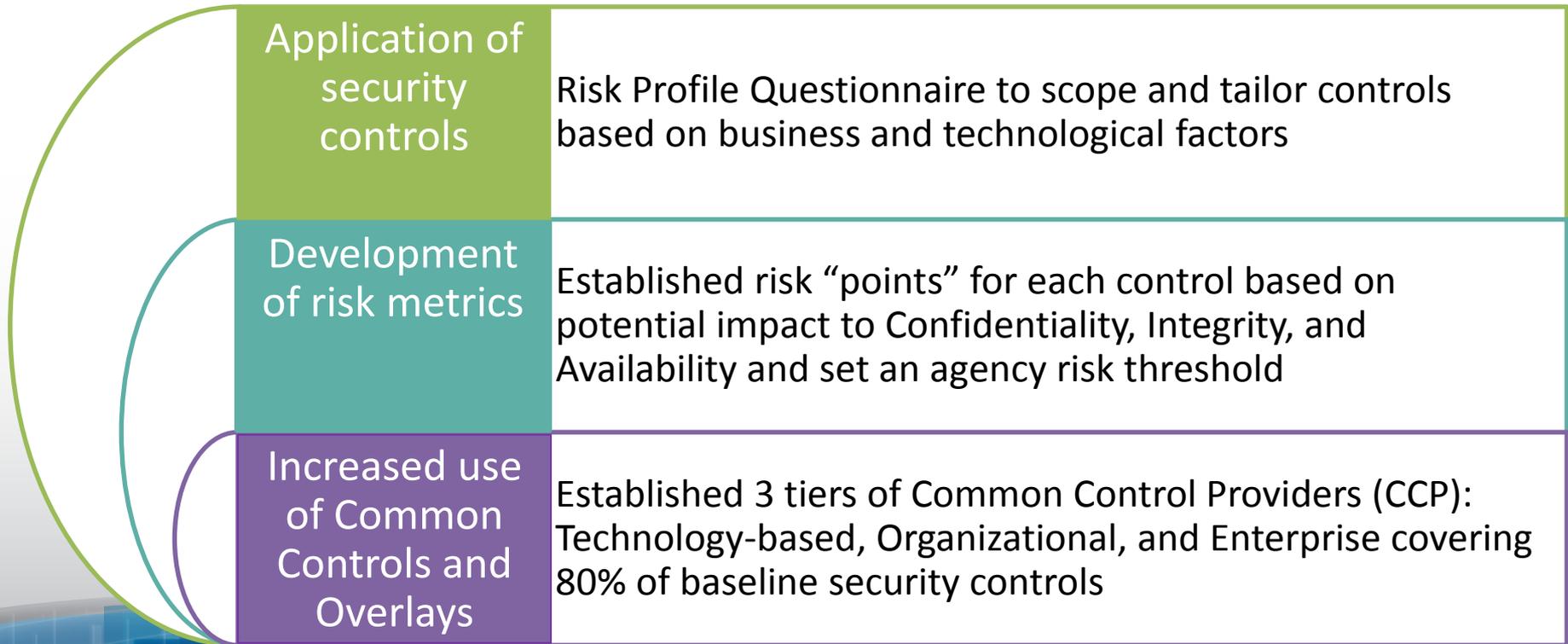
Characteristics of Census Bureau's RMF Program

The Census Bureau implemented the RMF Program in accordance with NIST SP 800-37 Revision 1, With three differentiated characteristics.



Our Differentiators - Focus on Risk

Risk to the enterprise serves as the core element of our decision making process for cyber actions. Focusing on risk, rather than compliance, allows the bureau to make business-oriented decisions



Our Differentiators - Integration of IT Security Functions

Correlating previously siloed functions allowed the Bureau to realize cost and process efficiencies in execution across workstreams

Embed **security engineers** in Integrated Project Teams to facilitate security early in the development lifecycle

Incorporate security engineering recommendations in **Risk Profile**

Incorporate results from **automated scanning** and manual security control assessments into single risk report



Our Differentiators - Stakeholder-Focused Implementation

Security **stakeholders** and **senior management** were actively involved in designing the RMF program to create support for change at all levels

RMF Piloting

- Interviewed individuals from system-level staff to senior management to garner feedback on proposed RMF implementation
- Implemented phased, process pilots with targeted business areas and obtained feedback
- Obtained key stakeholder and senior management buy-in

Governance and Training

- Developed and executed detailed Change Management strategy
- Hold bi-monthly Information Security Community forums
- Hold monthly policy working group meetings
- Deliver role-based training
- Deliver content-specific training (e.g. Process, 800-53 Rev 4)

Risk Reporting

- Generate on-going Risk Reports that include results of ISCM assessments
- Detailed assessment results with risk points associated with each control failure
- Risk-based decision-making capabilities (e.g. spending, remediation prioritization)

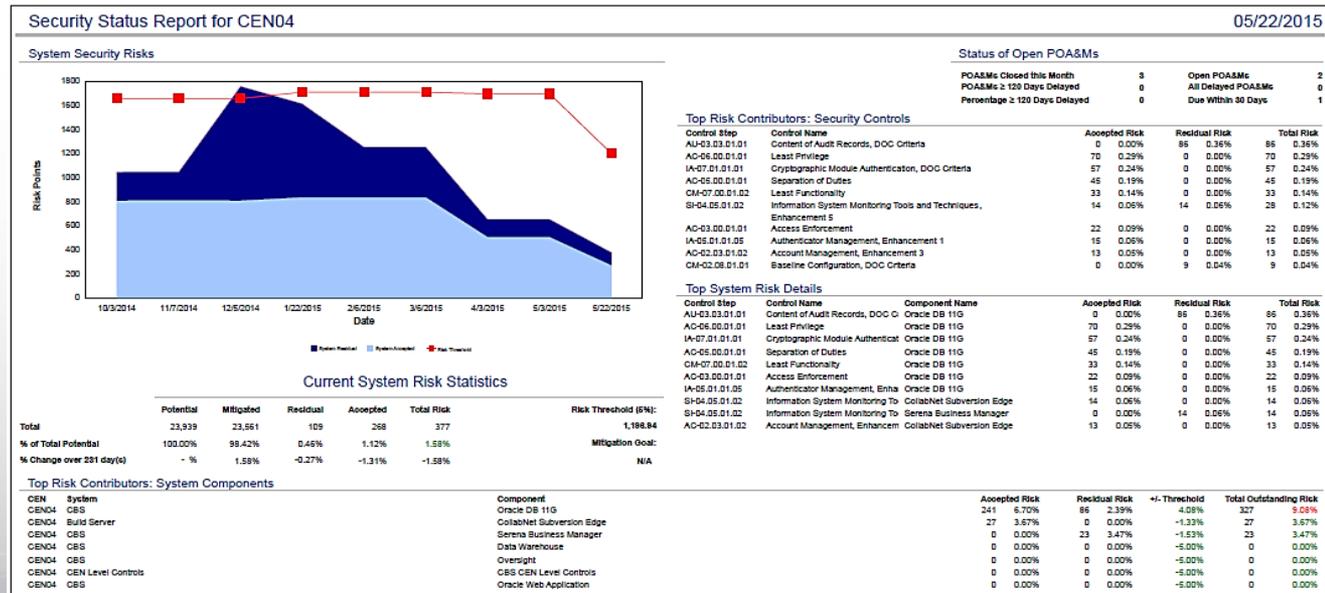
How We Did It - Risk Reporting

Risk reporting on **assessment status** allows for **On-going Authorization** of systems and gives our stakeholders the tools to understand and manage cyber risk.

- **Trend in overall residual risk**, broken down by inherited risk, accepted risk, and risk to be mitigated by the POA&M

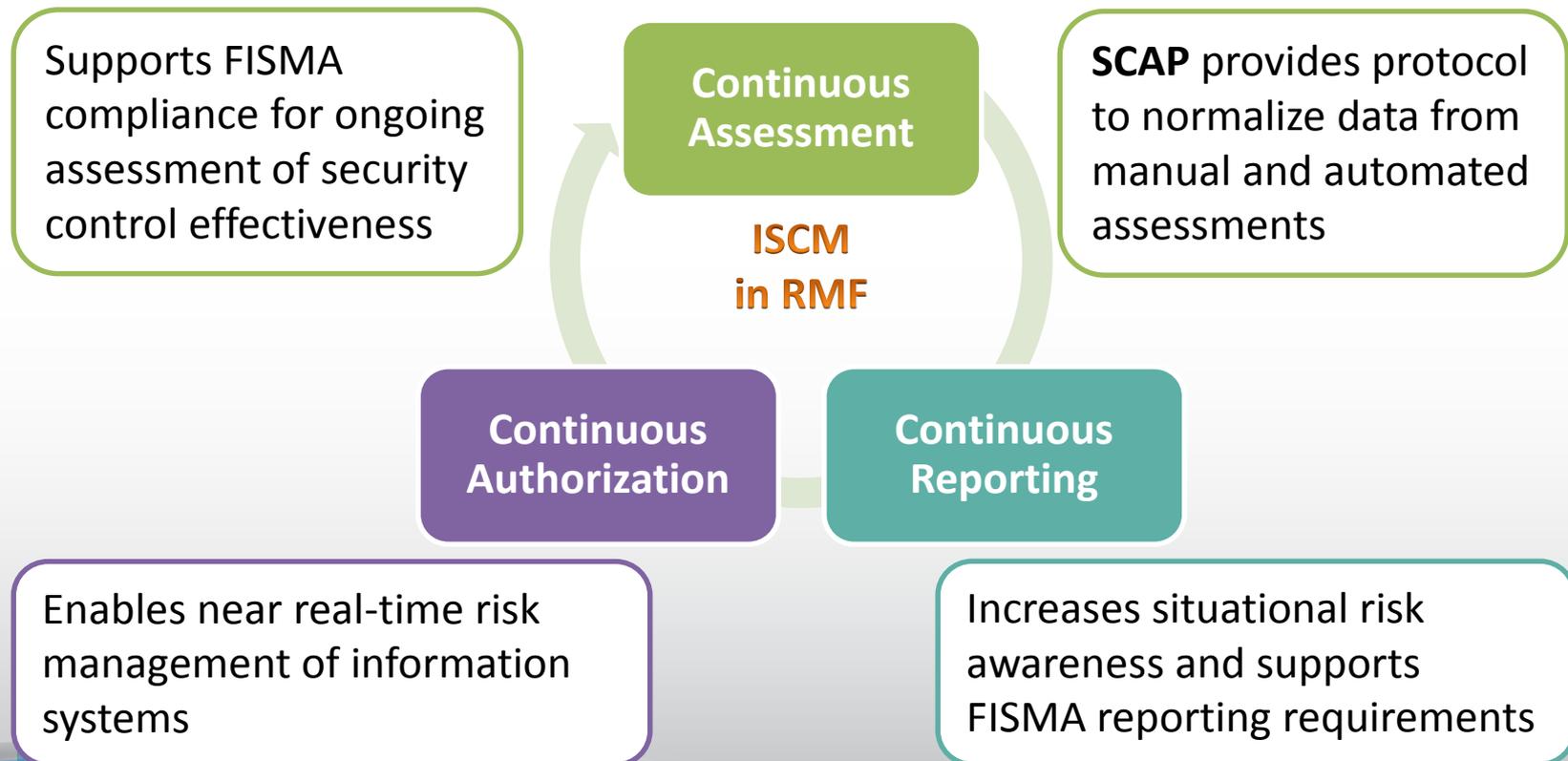
- **System-specific risk analysis**
- **Top risk contributors by security controls & system component**

- **Status of open POA&Ms**



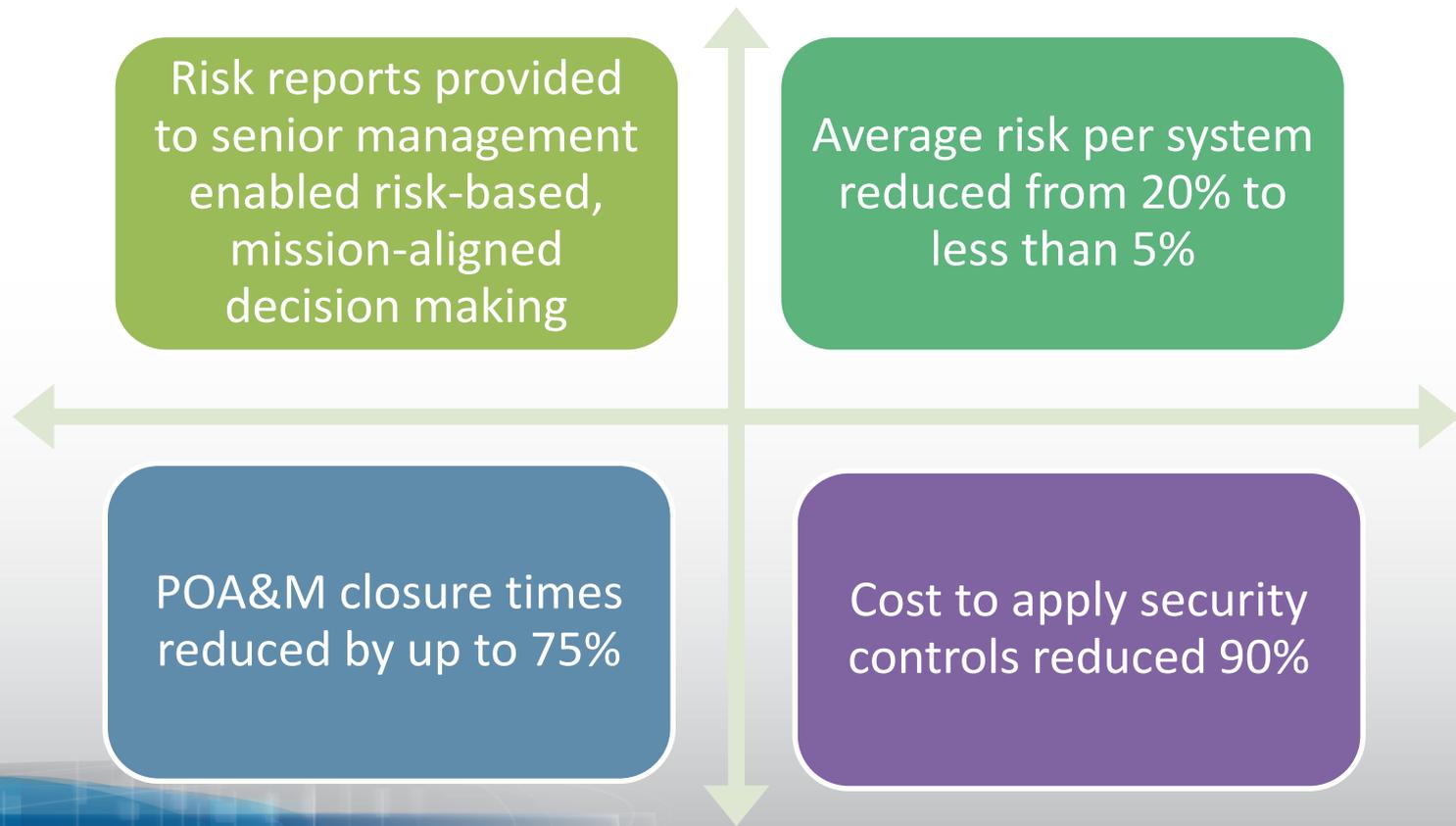
How We Did It - Information System Continuous Monitoring

ISCM consists of **continuous** assessments, reporting, and authorization of information systems to **monitor security risks**



RMF Program Results

Implementation of the RMF Program at the Census Bureau has yielded numerous **qualitative** and **quantitative results**.



Scalability and Next Steps for Our Program

The RMF Program at the Census Bureau was implemented for **scalability**, to address **current** and **future** cybersecurity needs.

- Incorporation of **Federal cyber sprint** objectives, including:

High-Value
Asset
determination

Enhanced
Patch
Management
Processes

Use of Multi-
factor
Authentication

- Next steps: Increased integration of critical security activities, including:

Coordination with
Incident Response
Management

Dynamic re-allocation of
control risk points based
on threat landscape

Correlating risk with cost
for efficient cyber
resource allocation

Questions?