



# AUTOMATION

## Open Security Controls Assessment Language 2022

### SPEAKERS' BIOS



**Matthew Scholl**  
Division Chief  
CSD/ITL/NIST

Matthew Scholl is the Chief of the Computer Security Division in the Information Technology Laboratory at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). His responsibilities include cryptographic standards used by the U.S. Government and internationally, Cybersecurity Research and Development at NIST, and Cybersecurity Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Security Programs. He also co-leads NIST's participation with Cybersecurity National and International Standards Development Organizations (SDOs) and associated conformance testing programs. Mr. Scholl has a Master's in Information Systems from the University of Maryland and a bachelor's degree from the University of Richmond. He is a U.S. Army veteran and currently has more than 20 years of federal service.



**André Mendes**  
CIO  
Department of Commerce

André Mendes was appointed Chief Information Officer for the Department of Commerce in August of 2019. There, he has overall responsibility and oversight of all technology systems at the United States Department of Commerce (DOC) and its associated Bureaus (FY2020 Budget \$3.8B).

Before, Mr. Mendes was responsible for all global technology platforms and systems for the International Trade Administration (ITA), the DOC bureau that manages global trade issues for the United States of America. There Mr. Mendes oversaw a rapid bureau-wide transformation effort making ITA the first Federal Agency/Bureau to be 100% cloud based, radically changing several workflows, enabling a massive scale-up of service provisioning quality, an unprecedented rise in employee morale and job satisfaction while also lowering overall operating costs to less than 11% of ITA's appropriation.

Prior to DOC, Mr. Mendes spent eight years at the U.S. Agency for Global Media (USAGM) in various executive roles; including CEO, COO, CIO, CTO and CFO. During his time at USAGM, Mr. Mendes managed overall Agency transformation generating over \$360 million in savings from 2010 through 2018 through aggressive global technology and facilities optimization with projected 10-year savings in excess of half a billion dollars (\$503M). In that timeframe, global weekly audiences grew 78% (165-278M), all while reducing technology and front office staff by over 22%.

Mr. Mendes has also held CXO positions at Special Olympics International, PBS, Pluvita, MRL Pharmaceuticals, USAssist and General Health Inc.

Mr. Mendes received his MBA and BS in Management of Information Systems from University of Maryland Global Campus and an Associate Degree in Biology from Montgomery College. Mr. Mendes also holds certificates in finance and international management from MIT and Antwerp University.

Mr. Mendes is a member of the CIO Hall of Fame (Class of 2021), a recipient of the 2011 Milton F. Clogg Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award from Montgomery College, the Chair Elect of the Capitol Technology University Board of Trustees and has receive multiple industry awards including an MIT award for IT Innovation, a 2020 Top 150 Global Transformation Executives from Constellation Research, 2020 and 2021 FedScoop 50 Federal Leadership Awards, 2020 and 2021 50 Best Bsses In Federal IT, the 2005 Technology Leadership Award from Broadcasting and Cable Magazine and the Top 100 Hispanic Executives in IT Award every year between 2009 and 2019.



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**Dr. Michaela Iorga**

Senior Security Lead for Cloud  
OSCAL Strategic Outreach Director  
CSD/ITL/NIST

Dr. Michaela Iorga serves as senior security technical lead for cloud computing with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Computer Security Division. She also serves as the Strategic Outreach Director for the Open Security Controls Assessment Language (OSCAL) project and chairs the NIST Cloud Computing Public Security and Forensics Working Groups.

Having previously served in a wide range of consulting positions in both, government and private sector industries, Dr. Iorga has a deep understanding of cybersecurity, risk assessment and information assurance for cloud, fog and IoT systems. In her role at NIST, Dr. Iorga supports the development and dissemination of cybersecurity standards and guidelines that meet national priorities and promote American innovation and industrial competitiveness.

Aligned with NIST's mission, Dr. Iorga's work particularly focuses on collaborating with industry, academia, and other government stakeholders on developing a high-level, vendor-neutral cloud, fog and IoT security and forensics guidance. Dr. Iorga received her Ph.D. from Duke University in North Carolina, USA.



**David Waltermire**

Standards and Outreach for Security Automation  
OSCAL Technical Director  
CSD/ITL/NIST

David Waltermire is the lead for Standards and Outreach for the Security Automation Program and the Technical Director for the OSCAL project at NIST. He has been a significant contributor to the National Vulnerability Database, Security Content Automation Protocol, Continuous Monitoring and other security automation projects. Prior to joining NIST, he worked as a security consultant advancing security automation capabilities within the government sector. His background is in systems and network operations for internet service providers and also working as a software engineer designing and developing distributed systems. His research experience includes incident handling, continuous monitoring, vulnerability/misconfiguration identification, reporting, categorization and remediation.



**Zach Baldwin**

FedRAMP Program Manager for  
Authorization Innovation  
FedRAMP/GSA

Zach Baldwin is the FedRAMP Program Manager for Authorization Innovation and leads several projects focused on increasing authorization transparency, reciprocity, and helping agencies maximize and effectively deploy their cyber security resources. Prior to joining FedRAMP, Zach served as the Project Manager for OMB's government-wide Federal Data Center Consolidation Initiative. Zach began his federal career at GSA and has an extensive background in the organization having worked in the Federal Acquisition Service, the Public Building Service, the Office of Citizen Services, and the Office of the CIO. Zach is a graduate of Penn State University.



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- AC-22 ✓
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- AT-2(2) ✓
- AT-3 ✓



**Tom Volpe Sr.**  
CEO  
VITG Inc.

Tom Volpe Sr. is the Chief Executive Officer of VITG, INC. Mr. Volpe has over 26 years of commercial industry and government experience in systems security and program management in information assurance. In addition, Mr. Volpe has extensive experience in software development projects. Mr. Volpe has been working with the GSA FedRAMP Automation team for over 2 years with a focus on OSCAL and its uses to gain efficiencies in the FedRAMP ATO process. He has developed multiple automation tools for use by internal agency review team members. He has been responsible for the development of Secure Coding Initiatives (SCI) and Secure System Lifecycle procedures and processes for agencies of the Federal government. He has hands-on experience in a variety of programming languages, rapid application development tools and database applications. He also has extensive experience as a Senior C&A AIS lead and Senior Security Engineer.

Tom led the effort in engineering and development of a full life cycle Certification and Accreditation management product that supports government agencies in using technology to facilitate all phases of the C & A process. In the commercial sector, Tom was one of the lead software architect and software engineer to implement the (DCS) DIAD Control System and communications subsystems for the DIAD, (Delivery Information Acquisition Device) a handheld device currently in use by UPS drivers worldwide (100,000+) to capture information and customer signature images and track deliveries.



**Gary Gapinski**  
SME  
Flexion Inc.

Gary Gapinski is a security and XML engineer at Flexion Inc. where he is currently working on a GSA 10x FedRAMP automation project using NIST OSCAL. He has worked professionally in information technology since 1969, and with XML-related technologies since 2000, with particular focus since 2005 on structured document formats designed for security and compliance related activities.



**Alexander (AJ) Stein**  
OSCAL SME  
CSD/ITL/NIST

Alexander is an application security engineer passionate about the alignment of DevSecOps practices and organizations' security and risk strategies for effective information assurance and regulatory compliance.

He has worked for a variety of public sector customers including CMS, GSA, and the US Air Force.



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**Nikita Wootten**  
 OSCAL SME  
 CSD/ITL/NIST

Nikita Wootten is a computer scientist and researcher at NIST, where he has spent the past 5 years working on topics such as compliance, blockchain, and network security. Nikita graduated from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2021 with a degree in Computer Science and a focus in Data Science. With his strong background in AI/ML and NLP, Nikita offers a unique perspective when tackling the problems presented in this workshop.



**Victoria Yan Pillitteri**  
 FISMA Implementation Team Project Lead  
 Group Manager  
 CSD/ITL/NIST

Victoria Yan Pillitteri is a supervisory computer scientist in the Computer Security Division at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Ms. Pillitteri leads the Federal Information Security Modernization Act (FISMA) Implementation Project, supervising a team of technical and administrative staff that are responsible for conducting the research and development of the suite of risk management guidance used for managing cybersecurity risk in the federal government, and associated stakeholder outreach and public-private coordination/collaboration efforts. She serves as the lead of the Joint Task Force working group, a partnership with Department of Defense, the Intelligence Community and Civilian Agencies to develop a unified security framework to protect USG from cyberattacks and is co-chair of the Federal Computer Security and Privacy Forum hosted by NIST. She previously worked on development of the Cybersecurity Framework and Privacy Framework, led the NIST Smart Grid and Cyber Physical Systems Cybersecurity Research Programs, served on the board of directors of the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel, and completed a detail in the office of the NIST Director as an IT policy advisor. She has co-authored a number of NIST Special Publications (SPs) and Interagency Reports (IRs) on information security, including SP 800-12, 800-37, 800-53, 800-82, 800-171, 800-171A, 800-171B, 800-137A, 1108 and IR 7628. Victoria holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland, a M.S in Computer Science, with a concentration in Information Assurance, from the George Washington University, completed the Key Executive Leadership Program at American University, and is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP). She has completed a Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program (SES CDP) and is SES certified.



**Jasson Walker**  
 President and CEO  
 cFocus Software Inc.

Mr. Walker is President and CEO of cFocus Software Incorporated and the lead architect for cFocus' FISMA/RMF/FedRAMP compliance automation & reporting solution called Authority To Operate (ATO) as a Service™. Using OSCAL, ATO as a Service™ enables federal government agencies to auto-populate RMF & FedRAMP authorization package documents (i.e. SSP, SAP, SAR, POA&Ms, etc.), automate the transition from NIST SP 800-53 rev. 4 to rev 5, and perform continuous ATO for their systems. With ATO as a Service™, federal government agencies can achieve 'Optimized' maturity ratings for their annual FISMA IG and CIO Metrics. Mr. Walker is a decorated cybersecurity and cloud expert with over a dozen cyber & cloud certifications, including: CMMC-AB Registered Practitioner (RP), Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH), Certified Penetration Tester (CPT), Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE), Microsoft Certified Solutions Developer (MCSA), and Project Management Professional (PMP). Mr. Walker also has a Pure Mathematics degree from Dartmouth College.



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**Robert Wood**  
CISO  
CMS/HHS

Robert Wood is the Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). He leads enterprise cyber security, compliance, privacy, and counterintelligence functions at CMS and ensures the Agency complies with secure IT requirements while encouraging innovation. Mr. Wood has over 10 years of experience in information technology, information security and management consulting. As information technology has grown more complex with the advent of innovative technologies that enable rapid collection, storage and distribution of vast amounts of information and data, so too has the importance of safeguarding the privacy of health and other sensitive information collected by CMS. Our Agency is entrusted with the health information of over 100 million Americans, and it is our fundamental responsibility as stewards of this information to ensure its confidentiality is protected. Robert leads CMS's efforts to ensure we meet the standards of excellence demanded by that stewardship responsibility and protect it from bad actors both foreign and domestic. Prior to CMS, Mr. Wood has built and managed several security programs in the technology sector. He was also formerly a Principal Consultant for Cigital where he advised enterprises about their software security programs. He also founded and led the red team assessment practice with Cigital, focused on holistic adversarial analysis, helping organizations identify and manage risks from alternative perspectives. Mr. Wood has a B.S. in Information Management & Technology from Syracuse University.



**Anca Sailer**  
Senior Technical Staff, Master Inventor  
IBM Research

**Dr. Anca Sailer** is currently a Senior Technical Staff Member and Master Inventor in IBM Research where she develops the next generation of digitized compliance. Dr. Sailer received her Ph.D. in Computer Science from Sorbonne Universités, France and applied her Ph.D. work to Bell Labs before joining IBM Research in 2003. In IBM she was the lead architect for the automation of the IBM Smart Cloud Enterprise Business Support Services which earned her the IBM Outstanding Technical Achievement Award. Dr. Sailer holds over five dozen patents, has co-authored numerous publications in IEEE and ACM refereed journals and conferences, and co-edited three books on network and IT management topics. Her interests include hybrid cloud business and develops management, compliance digitization, and multiomics. She is a Senior Member of IEEE and an aspiring 46er.



**Vikas Agarwal, PhD**  
Senior Researcher  
IBM Research

Dr. Vikas Agarwal is a Senior Researcher at IBM Research, India. He has more than 20 years of experience in diverse areas such as Cloud Computing, Cognitive and AI, Mobile Computing, Web Services and Semantic Web, etc. His current interests are in the area of Cloud Security and Compliance, where he is simplifying and automating compliance for Cloud. Dr. Agarwal has published more than 25 papers in top conferences and journals and has filed over two dozen patents.



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**Lou DeGenaro**  
Senior Engineer  
IBM Research

Lou DeGenaro is a Senior Engineer at IBM Research who's worked on projects over 40+ years around the distributed processing theme including compliance standardization and automation, Watson Heath EMR scheduler/dispatcher, Jeopardy! Challenge, super computer for DoD, DFSMS data migration facility, MPIF/6000, System S, WebSphere, Distributed Directory VM/370 in Python, C, C++, Java, javascript, APL, PLAS and VM/370 Assembler. He's received many awards and been granted 30+ US patents.



**Dr. Jesus Luna Garcia**  
Governance Enterprise-IT (C/IDS-GE)  
Robert Bosch GmbH

Prof. Dr. Jesus Luna Garcia, holds a PhD in Computer Architecture from the "Technical University of Catalonia" (UPC, Spain 2008), and was a postdoctoral researcher both with the CoreGRID NoE (Greece/Cyprus, 2008-2009) and the Technical University of Darmstadt (Germany, 2011-2016). He has more than 25 years of experience in the IT security field, working with both public and private sector, in America and Europe.

Jesus Luna has co-authored more than 50 publications including peer-reviewed scientific papers, international standards, and a patent. Currently, he works as senior cloud security expert with Robert Bosch GmbH (Germany), holds a professorship with the International University of Applied Sciences (Germany), and is member of the working group developing the new European Union Cybersecurity Certification Scheme for Cloud Services (EUCS). His topics of interest include security certification, security automation, trust management, and cloud/IoT security.



**Matthew Donkin**  
SME  
AWS

Matthew has 12 years of Information Security experience and currently works for AWS on the U.S. Customer Engagement team assisting customers with compliance challenges. Matthew is currently heading AWS' efforts to bring OSCAL tooling into authorization and security documentation process.



**Douglas Boldt**  
Solution Architect  
AWS

Douglas is a customer focused IT professional with over 30 years of experience in enterprise IT operations, infrastructure technology strategy, service delivery, and application support. Douglas is currently a Solutions Architect, supporting NIST as a member of AWS's U.S. Department of Commerce dedicated account team.



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**Ramon Burks**  
 CSS Assistant Director  
 CSAM, Department of Justice

Mr. Burks currently serves as the Department of Justice (DOJ) Cybersecurity Services Staff (CSS) Assistant Director. In this position, he leads the cybersecurity programs which support DOJ Components and other Federal Agencies with services including Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM), security architecture, Cyber Security Assessment and Management (CSAM), and Identity, Credential, and Access Management (ICAM).



**Adam Oline**  
 Technical Lead  
 CyberBalance LLC  
 CSAM, Department of Justice

Mr. Oline is an employee of CyberBalance, LLC, supporting the Department of Justice as Technical Lead on the Cyber Security Assessment and Management (CSAM) team. He has been working with the CSAM application for over 15 years, from its early days as an internal DOJ Access Database application helping organize NIST SP 800-26 self-assessments to its current iteration as a robust GRC web application used by DOJ and 28 other Federal Agencies to help automate Security Assessment and Authorization documentation and reporting based on the latest NIST SP 800-53 control catalog.



**Jaya Ramanathan, PhD**  
 Chief Security and Governance Architect  
 Red Hat

Dr. Jaya Ramanathan is a Distinguished Engineer and Chief Security and Governance architect within Red Hat. She has held Chief Architect roles for a variety of security aspects such as identity and access management, audit logging and reporting, data loss prevention, and cloud platform security, compliance, and governance. Her current area of focus is multi cluster automated policy-based governance for open hybrid cloud. She has authored many blogs, been a panelist in industry conferences, and is actively involved in open-source upstream communities about this topic.



**Jim Bugwadia**  
 CEO  
 Nirmata

Jim Bugwadia has more than 20 years of experience building and leading effective teams and has created software that powers communications systems. Prior to co-founding and becoming CEO of Nirmata, Jim was among the original architects and business leaders within Cisco's cloud automation practice, where he helped grow revenues to over \$250M and IDC recognized the practice as #1 in global cloud services. Prior to his work at Cisco, Jim led engineering teams at startups including Pano Logic, a desktop virtualization startup; Trapeze Networks, a wireless pioneer; and Jetstream Communications, a telecom equipment manufacturer.



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**Robert Ficcgaglia**  
CTO  
SunStone Secure

Robert Ficcgaglia is the CTO at SunStone Secure and a veteran software and IT executive with over 25 years experience delivering software and hardware solutions in highly regulated verticals including Healthcare, Banking, Payments and Government. Robert has architected and delivered multiple secure cloud systems, each serving >1B users. Robert co-chairs the Kubernetes Policy Workgroup and leads CNCF and Kubernetes project assessments and audits as a member of the Kubernetes SIG-Security and CNCF TAG-Security and advises several government agencies and private industry groups as an invited open source and cloud native security subject matter expert.



**Adam Brand**  
Managing Director  
KPMG

Adam Brand has dedicated over 20 years to providing cybersecurity and technology consulting services across a wide variety of domains and has extensive experience in third party security and third-party risk management (TPRM). From spending time as an onsite assessor to building scalable assessment programs, Adam’s experience spans the full range of activities associated with TPRM. His industry experience in TPRM includes healthcare, financial services, retail, and media. He also has extensive experience with TPRM in regulatory contexts, including significant experience with payment card industry (PCI) third party risk management. Adam is an active speaker and organizer at a variety of conferences, including RSAC, BSides Las Vegas, DEF CON Biohacking Village, IIA, ISACA, ISSA, THOTCON, HOPE, and others.



**Thomas Nash**  
Director  
KPMG

Tom Nash is a Director in KPMG's Cyber Security Services practice and serve as the global co-lead for Cyber Performance Improvement Engineering. He specializes in cyber program design and implementation, cyber risk governance, security and operational strategy, cyber resilience, cyber regulatory compliance, and third party security.

Alongside client delivery, Tom is actively involved in advancing the cybersecurity profession. Tom has taught postgraduate classes (guest lecturing at Fordham University) and published numerous white papers (including “The case for framework harmonization” and “Third party security continuous assessments and monitoring: Expanding and enriching the use of data within the assessment process”).



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**Vikas Khosla**  
Chief Digital Health Officer  
Intraprise Health

Vikas Khosla has worked in the healthcare technology sector since 1999 driven by a personal and professional passion to advance the experience of patients by transforming our national healthcare system. His focus areas have been Security, Privacy and Compliance (SPC), care transformation and digital health innovation. Throughout his career, Vikas has worked closely with CIOs, CISOs, technology teams, federal legislators and industry peers across the healthcare ecosystem including hospitals and health systems, health plans, life sciences and healthcare technology companies on various initiatives that leverage innovative and secure technology solutions. He has held several business leadership roles, actively participates in healthcare technology advocacy groups and associations, launched a national innovation showcase for healthcare technology startups in collaboration with HHS’s Office of the National Coordinator (ONC), fosters thought leadership through articles, blog posts, social media and, most recently, the launch of a video podcast series focused on cybersecurity and digital health. Since 2018, Vikas has served as Intraprise Health’s Chief Digital Health Security Officer. In his role, Vikas works closely with CISOs and CIOs to advance organization specific and industrywide cybersecurity, privacy, and compliance capabilities through the implementation of standards-based risk management programs and platforms. As a strategic business leader, Vikas directs the company’s focus on accelerating compliance and risk management capabilities, as well as, optimizing engagement with healthcare consumers through innovative digital health solutions. Prior to his current role, Vikas served as CEO of BluePrint Healthcare IT(BluePrint), a 100% healthcare-focused services and software company which he founded in 2009. BluePrint’s SPC division provided HIPAA compliance solutions, NIST and HITRUST cybersecurity and privacy framework adoption, secure Cloud migrations and consulting services that matured its clients risk and threat management capabilities. BluePrint was recognized by KLAS as one of the premier SPC companies in healthcare achieving KLAS’s top sector rating in 2017. BluePrint’s care coordination division, Care Navigator, developed and deployed a transformative software platform which is currently utilized across several major US regions to coordinate and manage the care of millions of underserved patients and their families. While at BluePrint, Vikas and his team collaborated with ONC to launch the non-profit “Innovation Summit Series” which held several showcases across the US to match digital health and SPC startup companies with health systems and health plans seeking to implement innovative and disruptive solutions.



**Conner Phillippi**  
Senior Compliance Solution Manager,  
Product Manager  
Secureframe

Current Employer: Secureframe  
Title(s): Senior Compliance Solutions Manager; Product Manager  
Execute on product, strategy, go-to-market, and operations  
Former Employer (1): Coalfire  
Title: Cybersecurity Consultant  
Led cyber strategy, cloud security, incident response, privacy, and regulatory-related client engagements  
Former Employer (2): DayBlink Consulting  
Title Management Consultant  
Advised companies on various cybersecurity initiatives



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**Apostolos Delis**  
Software Engineer  
Secureframe

Current Employer: Secureframe  
 Title(s): Software Engineer  
 Write software for third party integrations, cloud infrastructure scanning, and multi-device management  
 Former Employer (1): Tubular Labs  
 Title: Data Engineering Intern  
 Led efforts to aggregate social media video analysis by topics and helped renew a contract with Viacom  
 Former Employer (2): Amazon  
 Title: Software Development Engineering Intern  
 Helped develop, maintain, and test machine learning models to accurately price Amazon products



**Dr. Wendell Piez**  
OSCAL SME  
CSD/ITL/NIST

Wendell Piez is a computer scientist at National Institute of Standards and Technologies specializing in data modeling and data transformations. Trained in the humanities at Yale College (BA 1984) and Rutgers University (PhD 1991), he became conversant with emerging standards in electronic text encoding from the early 1990s. Starting in 1994 he worked at the Center for Electronic Texts in the Humanities, a joint project at Rutgers and Princeton Universities, where he pioneered development with SGML (Standard Generalized Markup Language) in applications to the electronic publication and study of textual data in literature, history and cultural studies. In 1998 Dr Piez joined Mulberry Technologies Inc., a private consultancy active in the emerging field of markup languages on the Internet. While at Mulberry, he became recognized for his expertise in XML, XSLT and related technologies and standards, contributing design and demonstrations for customers and community initiatives including conference series (Extreme Markup Languages 2001-2007; then Balisage: the Markup Conference 2008-current). Since its founding in 2008, Dr Piez has served as General Editor for Digital Humanities Quarterly, a leading online journal in digital humanities. From 2012 until 2018 Dr Piez worked as an independent consultant; among his initiatives during this period were JATSKit (an open-source software library for working with data using NISO JATS XML) and XSweet, an open-source format converter (sponsored by the Coko Foundation) for extracting data from MS Word docx format into HTML. In 2018, he joined NIST ITL, where he contributes to R&D efforts in data modeling and information interchange of systems security data including OSCAL (the Open Security Controls Assessment Language).



**Ray Gauss**  
Director of Innovation  
Easy Dynamics

As a technologist keen on Agile, cloud-native development, leveraging standards, and embracing open-source, Ray Gauss looks to cultivate opportunities for accelerators and product development at Easy Dynamics and has a track record of working with and contributing to open standards like IPTC, ODRL, CMIS, OIDC, and now OSCAL. Ray spends the rest of his time enjoying life with his family, cooking, and performing music.



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**Gaurav (GP) Pal**  
Principal  
StackArmor

GP is subject matter expert in driving cloud adoption and implementing NIST security standards for FedRAMP, FISMA and DFARS/CMMC compliance. He has received the Fed 100 and GCN Rising Star awards in 2015 and 2011 for Cloud ATO's.



**Martin Rieger**  
Chief Solution Officer  
StackArmor

Mr. Rieger supports all FedRAMP, FISMA/RMF and CMMC projects for both Commercial and Federal Agencies. Mr. Rieger has supported multiple 3PAO's and has over 20 years of progressive information systems experience including active duty with the US Navy.



**Max Aulakh**  
Managing director  
Ignyte Assurance Platform

Max Aulakh is the managing director at Ignyte Assurance Platform. He started his career in the US Air Force and spent the majority of his time in the Middle East during his enlistment. He brings 15+ years of hands-on working experience from global enterprises on automating risk management and cyber security frameworks. Prior to working with the commercial sector, he focused on automating traditional A&A packages under DITSCAP and DIACAP frameworks. His team was responsible for executing 100+ ATOs on various types of classified and unclassified government networks. His work currently focuses on automating the risk management framework through the use of language analysis for commercial enterprises struggling with cloud and FedRAMP compliance. His experience is formally supplemented by graduate-level education in business with an undergraduate in systems security and computer science from American Military University. Max enjoys cloud engineering and helping compliance professionals adopt to modern agile compliance principles. When he is not working, Max enjoys spending time with his wife Farah and three kids in Ohio.



**Valinder Mangat**  
CIO  
DRT Strategy

Valinder Mangat is the Chief Innovation Officer at DRT Strategies Inc. supporting the Idea Lab, where we leverage emerging technologies to solve customer business problems. Valinder is a 30-year veteran in the Information Technology systems implementation for various Government Agencies and Fortune 100 clients. With a diverse experience in implementation of enterprise systems, Valinder brings a unique perspective preparing organizations for OSCAL adoption.



# AUTOMATION



**Travis Howerton**  
Co-Founder and CTO  
RegScale

As co-founder and chief technology officer of RegScale, Travis Howerton is responsible for product development and R&D for our continuous compliance automation platform. RegScale is focused on eliminating paper and helping organizations achieve an always audit ready posture with real-time risk and compliance management. Prior to joining RegScale, Howerton served as the global director for strategic programs within Bechtel Corporation and was the Bechtel lead for the merger, cost savings and transformation programs at Consolidated Nuclear Security. Prior to joining Bechtel, Howerton had a long and diverse career consisting of senior executive assignments throughout the U.S. Department of Energy. He served as the Deputy Director for the IT Services Division at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Chief Technology Officer for the National Nuclear Security Administration and as Chief Information Officer for Y-12. Howerton holds a Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Management from Tusculum College and a Master's Degree in Computer Information Systems from Boston University. He holds multiple certifications, including the CISSP, ITIL, PMP, Scrum Master, Harvard Credential of Readiness and AWS Certified Developer. He is an accomplished public speaker, has authored or been cited in over 50 publications and supports multiple non-profit associations and educational institutions by serving as a board member.



**Jet Ryan**  
XACTA Solution Architect  
Telos

Jet is a Solution Architect for Xacta360 and has supported Telos in variety of roles which have had helped him establish a strong foundational understanding of cybersecurity and cloud. He graduated from Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering. Jet began his career at Telos four years ago supporting cybersecurity research and development, since then he has gained experience and knowledge across a variety of compliance frameworks, disruptive technologies, networking protocols, encryption schemes, and system architectures. Jet has been instrumental in supporting Xacta's adoption of OSCAL.