University **Information Security Office**
University of South Carolina

Security News

December 1st implementation deadline for Spirion & FireEye HX

What are Spirion and FireEye HX?

Spirion (*formerly Identity Finder*) and FireEye HX are two software clients required by the University's **Minimum Security Standards**.

- **Spirion** is software that searches files for high-risk data, such as Social Security Numbers, health info, and credit card numbers.
- **FireEye HX** is the University's incident response tool. It gives our responders the data they need to determine how an attack happened. It also gives them the ability to find other computers at risk.

Why are these required?

There are several reasons these tools are so critical, but the major benefits include:

1. **Identifying high-risk data.** These tools help our responders find computers under attack and determine if sensitive data is at risk.
2. **Helping meet compliance requirements.** The University must follow several laws and regulations, such as HIPAA and PCI DSS. To meet requirements, a quick response is key. In some cases, the University must report incidents within 24 hours.
3. **Reducing IT security risk.** Spirion shows departments where their risky data lives, and it gives them the ability to secure (or remove) it. Securing sensitive data means lower risk.
4. **Speeding up the incident recovery process.** Without these tools, incident response can take days—or weeks. For researchers, faculty, or staff, this is time away from their computers. Time they simply cannot afford.

Why December 1st?

While these tools are essential, so is the need to be flexible. This deadline gives IT staff time to work with their department's operational demands and priorities.

What if I cannot install these clients on certain computers?

We certainly understand there are purpose-specific systems, such as high-performance computers, where these tools may not be appropriate.

In those cases, simply account for those systems and document your department's decision and rationale.

Where can I download Spirion and FireEye HX?

You can download these two tools on the University Technology Services software distribution site at http://my.sc.edu/software.

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