

MOBIUS APPROACH TO IDENTITY AND ACCESS GOVERNANCE CAPABILITY MATURITY ASSESSMENTS

Controlling access to information in order to grant the right person the right level of access to information at the right time has become one of the most important initiatives within organisations are extending their operations and user base and must ensure efficient management of user identities and access. In addition, audit and regulatory requirements continue to expand and penalties for non-compliance are substantial.

The common term associated with the management of user profiles and related system access is Identity and Access Governance (IAG). IAG can be defined as a framework for business processes and technology that facilitates the management of electronic identities to enable the initiation, capturing, recording and management of user identities and their related access permissions in an controlled and auditable manner. This ensures that access privileges are granted according to a single interpretation of policy and all individuals and services are properly authenticated, authorised and audited.

The Mobius Consulting approach to IAG is focused on helping clients reduce the costs of their operations and improve efficiency, risk management and security and is closely aligned to global best practices such as COBIT and ITIL. The Mobius Consulting IAG framework recognises that IAG occurs at a strategic / design level which is driven from a top-down approach (these governance and compliance elements are reflected as the orange base in the diagram alongside) as well as on a day to- day basis within the IT and Business Operations themselves (these management and operational processes are reflected as the grey wedges in the diagram alongside).

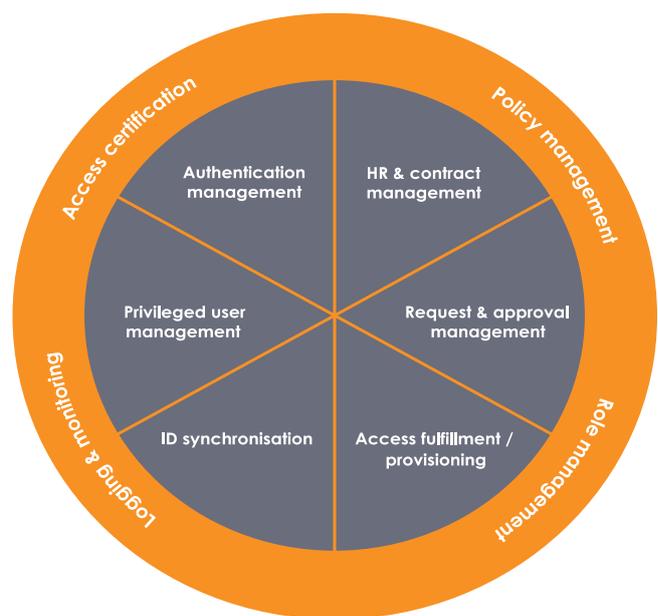


Figure 1: The Mobius Consulting IAG framework

A capability maturity model is a relatively simple representation of the sophistication / maturity of an organisation's processes, policies, people and technology. It describes several characteristics that may be exhibited by an organisation at each of the five maturity levels.

As an organisation progresses up the maturity model, the amount of risk that they are exposed to within the process decreases while the efficiency and effectiveness of the process increases. The diagram below illustrates this, as well as giving a high-level overview of the types of characteristics at each level:

Each maturity level builds on earlier levels, with more advanced capabilities being added at each level. The capability maturity model can thus be seen as describing the evolutionary stages that an organisation would progress through as they define, formalise, implement, measure and manage their IAG capabilities. As each level builds on the capabilities of the previous levels, an organisation would typically move from one level to the next without "skipping" levels.



Figure 2: The Mobius Consulting Capability maturity model

The Mobius IAG maturity assessment is typically conducted during a workshop or meetings with IT management. In order to determine the maturity for each of the IAG capabilities, Mobius facilitates a debate to determine the current state of maturity as well as the desired state of maturity for each capability.

Due to the nature of the assessment, little verification by means of control testing of the maturity levels agreed upon by management is performed.

The deliverable from this assessment includes a summary diagram of the current and desired maturity for each of the capabilities of the Mobius IAG framework, recommendations for the organisation to progress from the current to desired state as well as a strategy and roadmap for this transition.