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# Why Change Management Should Be a Top Compliance Priority

## Ensure Compliance by Automating and Documenting Your Processes

The impact of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act continues to hit home as companies realize that its mandated audit capability is no simple order to fill – especially if they don't have strong change management processes in place. Even simple changes to an extensive business information system can have unanticipated consequences.

Say you're planning to enhance your visibility and reporting capabilities – which are key to maintaining compliance. These changes require auditable change management processes to ensure the revised reporting capability changes are approved and documented in accordance with a company's internal control processes. Change management is no longer just a technical issue – it is now business critical.

### Automate to Ensure Compliance

You likely already have change management processes in place, perhaps based on widely accepted best practices from the Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL).<sup>1</sup> The logical next step in using change management to ensure compliance is to automate these processes. Eliminating manual processes can help guarantee that deviations from the change control process won't go undetected – and that they don't happen in the first place!

**Rev-Trac** from Revelation Software Concepts is a solution that allows users to automate and enforce their change management processes, such as workflow, change control, transport migrations, electronic signature authorizations, and document referencing. This automation frees users to focus on managing changes rather than adhering to processes, ensures that they follow robust procedures, and assures change control teams that everyone who touches any aspect of change management within the organization is using a consistent and fully auditable process.

Additionally, Rev-Trac's process automation prevents accidental system disruptions by providing built-in extended object

and configuration locking – even across multiple landscapes – and incorporated overtake and overwrite prevention.

### Leave a Fully Auditable Change Trail

Since compliance regulations require firm policies for processes, authorizations, and documentation, Rev-Trac is designed to enforce your policies so compliance is independent of everyday practices. With Rev-Trac, for example, you can always trace technical changes back to their specific change requests. Rev-Trac also prevents processes from progressing before all proper approvals are gained, necessary documents are completed, or test results are fully documented. Nothing falls through the cracks as it might have when using manual, paper-based processes.

Automating your change management processes also means that these processes will be enforced and that every change made in your system will be documented. This is key since, at its core, compliance is about proving the success of your internal controls and making them fully visible – to an auditor, for example. With Rev-Trac, you'll be able to approach compliance issues assured that all technical changes have been referenced. A full audit trail – including the process followed, approvals received, and approvers for each status – will also be generated for each change.

Rev-Trac makes all information available – complete with drill-down capabilities to key levels of detail – from the Rev-Trac console, where an auditor can easily identify changes requiring inspection and drill down into the audit trail to make certain compliance requirements were met.

### Conclusion

Rev-Trac change control management ensures you can prove your compliance measures. There are no additional network security, disaster recovery plan, database administration, or desktop rollout requirements; if you're running SAP solutions, you've got all you need to run Rev-Trac. And since Rev-Trac lives in the SAP system, it comes with a low TCO. For more information, visit [www.xrsc.com](http://www.xrsc.com). ■

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*With Rev-Trac's automated signature verification processes, you'll no longer have to chase after signatures only to be told somebody just left for lunch...or for a conference in Hong Kong.*

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<sup>1</sup> For more information about ITIL best practices, see [www.best-management-practice.com](http://www.best-management-practice.com).