

BDO KNOWS

# SSPA INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENTS

## STRONG PRIVACY AND SECURITY PRACTICES ARE THE FOUNDATION OF TRUST

As a Microsoft Preferred Assessor, BDO helps current and prospective Microsoft Suppliers meet Supplier Security and Privacy Assurance (SSPA) program requirements as they seek to initiate or renew contracts. Having collaborated with the Microsoft SSPA team on the latest program updates, our team of professionals is equipped—and trusted by Microsoft—to counsel clients throughout each stage of the SSPA compliance process.

Leveraging BDO's full suite of cybersecurity and data privacy services, we can help you understand the evolving SSPA program, educate and coach on security and privacy gaps, and maximize your Independent Assessment engagement to support ongoing data protection efforts—beyond SSPA.

#### **OUR APPROACH**

Our team of experienced data privacy and security professionals takes pride in providing our clients with value beyond compliance. If you're looking for a partner with a dedicated team who will hold your hand through the SSPA compliance process, take the time to understand your company, and help you become a better organization through improved data security and privacy practices, we would love to talk! Applicable to all Suppliers who handle Microsoft personal or confidential data on the company's behalf, Microsoft's SSPA initiative is designed to standardize and strengthen the handling of sensitive information on a global scale.

### **BDO'S PROVEN PROCESS FOR SSPA INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENTS:**

Four to eight week timeline.

|         | <ol> <li>BDO collaborates with Supplier to determine scoping, pricing,<br/>and timing of Independent Assessment</li> </ol>  |
|---------|---|
|         | 2. BDO schedules Independent Assessment inquiry and artifact inspection dates   |
|         | 3. BDO provides Supplier with BDO's SSPA Client Collaboration<br>Tool, a preliminary artifact request list, and an inquiry request list   |
| <b></b> | 4. BDO performs Independent Assessment inquiries and artifact inspections (can typically be performed remotely)   |
|         | <ol> <li>BDO provides a list of identified compliance gaps for Supplier's<br/>remediation (as needed) and an updated list of artifacts needed<br/>to complete the Independent Assessment</li> </ol> |
|         | 6. BDO completes Independent Assessment artifact inspections  |
|         | 7. BDO performs final follow-up inquiries based on completed artifact inspections (as needed)   |
|         | 8. BDO provides Supplier with Independent Assessment Letter   |
|         | 9. Supplier provides Independent Assessment Letter to Microsoft   |
|         | 10. BDO is available throughout the year for ongoing support and questions regarding SSPA compliance  |

#### **ASSESSMENT SCOPING AND PRICING**

Accurately scoping your SSPA Independent Assessment is critical for a successful engagement. Additionally, engagement pricing is heavily dependent on the scale and scope of services you supply to Microsoft. Key considerations for scoping include:

- ▶ Breadth of requirements applicable per Microsoft-approved DPR self-attestation
- Number of Microsoft Supplier IDs requiring an Independent Assessment
- Number of current SOWs that involve the Processing of Personal and/or Microsoft Confidential data
- Complexity of services performed for Microsoft
- Complexity of information systems involved with the Processing of Personal and/or Microsoft Confidential data
- Maturity of data privacy and security posture

#### **CONTACT:**

The information contained in this document is made by BDO Chartered Accountants and Advisers ("BDO") and contains information that is commercially sensitive to BDO, which is being disclosed to you in confidence and is not to be disclosed to any third party without the written consent of BDO.

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