

The birth of SOX





The word is rocked to its core by accounting scandals and lack of ownership by Management. Enter Paul Sarbanes and Michael Oxley....





Timeline

2000



Dot com bubblebursts

2001-2002



Corporations face fraud charges

2002



Congress passes Sarbanes-Oxley Act for financial oversight 2019



IT departments must ensure compliance for financial files and records



Objectives

Attempts to strengthen Corporate oversight.

Improve internal controls.

Provides the foundation for new Corporate Governance rules, regulations and standards issued by the SEC.



Key clauses of the SOX Act

Section 301 Whistleblower Hotline

 Requires companies to set-up procedures for the confidential, anonymous submission by employees with concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters

Section 302 CEO, CFO Certification

 Requires management to quarterly evaluate the design and operational effectiveness of disclosure controls and procedures (disclosure controls include internal controls)

Section 404 Internal Controls

 Requires companies to annually test the effectiveness of internal controls over financial reporting and the external auditors to audit internal controls

Section 906 Criminal Penalties

 Imposes criminal penalties if the information contained in the Forms 10-Q and 10-K do not fairly represent the financial condition and results of the operations of the Company



SOX Compliance



Comprehensive testing procedures

Helps To verify whether controls are operating effectively



High-Quality
Documentation
of the test
procedures

Data organized, documented, and accessible for SOX auditors



Identifications of shortcomings

Every hitch is referenced to the related paper, providing evidence and remediation for the deficiencies



Cutting Edge Technology

Real Time reporting, implementing a data security software platform for SOX auditors and management



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