**---- IMPORTANT INFORMTION ----**

Notice to all CSP and commercial customers of NIST Assist

Microsoft and its Partners are aware of increased cyber threats and an increase in the overall threat landscape for commercial customers and especially for customers who serve directly or indirectly the interests of government contractors, their partners and affiliates, and those who provide services either directly or indirectly to government agencies, partners, or affiliates.

For these and other reasons we are revising the Microsoft Customer Agreement and recommending additional control measures that customers should take to protect themselves and their constituents.

In keeping with changing requirements Customers will be required to read and acknowledge the new Microsoft Customer Agreement by Jan 30, 2020.  We will facilitate acceptance using a new digital experience and notify you when that is ready.

**How Does This Affect Me?**

First, you will notice that your Overall Risk Score has decreased.  This is a direct result of the increase in recommended actions and is not a reflection of your actual [Secure Score](https://security.microsoft.com/securescore?viewid=overview) or other risk measuring technologies.  This decreased rating is meant to highlight the need for additional controls in an environment and landscape where threats to you and your company have increased, effectively raising the bar for all customers to aspire to.

Second, these changes will now focus less on implementing potentially costly control measures, and instead focus on implementing existing capabilities that by their nature are more secure.  These include ramping up your Training and Awareness program, establishing Records Management and File Plans, instituting Labels for classifying data, and using Office 365 features to manage and secure your communications through policy management in [Security and Compliance](https://protection.office.com/homepage).

NIST Assist has updated your Roadmap to include these goals and objectives and will work with you through 2020 to effectively make your company more efficient, and by virtue, more secure.

**What Do we Need to Do?**

* Establish a Compliance Officer in your organization
* Review and Save your Audit Logs each week
* Establish Digital Policies
* Review your need for internal written policies  
    
  Customers who need assistance with these goals and objectives should contact us.  As always, NIST Assist is standing by to help you become more efficient and secure, and we appreciate your business.

If you need assistance with this task you can [Book Time Now](https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/ReadyTech%40nistassist.com/bookings/).

**Updated Billing Process**

Customers can now choose to forgo a processing fee and instead