Category

Data & AI

Data Literacy for Risk Assessment & Controls Design Playbook

Designing controls around where the data actually shows risk concentrating, not where it's assumed to be

- Practitioner
- Intermediate
- Template Included

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- 3 minute(s)

Overview

A framework for building data literacy specifically for risk assessment and internal controls design — data-driven risk prioritization, control effectiveness measurement, and avoiding control design based on assumed rather than data-evidenced risk concentration.

Isn't risk assessment traditionally a qualitative judgment

exercise rather than a data-driven one? Qualitative judgment remains valuable, but genuinely data-informed risk assessment — using actual incident and control failure data to identify where risk genuinely concentrates — often reveals priorities that differ from assumption-based qualitative assessment alone, making the combination more reliable than either approach in isolation.

How do we know if our current controls are actually effective,

beyond their existence? Through genuine control effectiveness measurement — tracking whether a control has actually caught or prevented the risk it was designed for, not just confirming the control exists and was executed as documented.

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