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How Do Blancco Erasure Solutions Help Organizations Comply with the National Electronic Security Authority (NESA) Compliance Requirements?

In a technology-driven world, cybercrimes are on the rise and organizations face the continual threat of critical data loss. This not only includes sensitive customer data, but also relevant legal, statutory, financial and operational data necessary for business operations. This is why NESA compliance requirements were introduced and implemented.

NESA is a federal authority responsible for cyber security strategy in the UAE and NESA requirements include three distinct areas: ISO 27001, PCI DSS and Cyber Essentials. Compliance is mandatory for all UAE government entities and entities identified as 'Critical National Service' by NESA.

Compliance is also applicable and mandatory for all other participating stakeholders who support and deal with critical national information, or provide such services. For all other UAE entities, NESA recommends to follow the guidelines on a voluntary basis, in order to participate in raising the nation's minimum security level.

The objective of NESA compliance is not only to keep critical data safe, but also to:

- Strengthen security of critical information infrastructure and reduce corresponding risk levels;

- Detect, respond, and recover from significant cyber security incidents and reduce its impact upon society and the UAE economy;

- Increase cyber security awareness among its workforce and thus build a national capability;

- Foster collaboration at sector and national level.

How Can Blancco Help?

Blancco data erasure solutions can remove data from IT assets in both active and inactive environments to meet compliance with NESA guidelines and provide them with proof of erasure of sensitive information in the event of a data breach. Each erasure is verified and certified with an audit-ready, tamper-proof Certificate of Erasure, which can be recorded, tracked and easily accessed within the Blancco Management Console when it's time to prove compliance.

By securely erasing the data you no longer need, your organization can reduce its attack surface to ensure sensitive data isn't within the reach of hackers. And with a proper audit trail, you can ensure compliance and notify customers as soon as possible which data has been affected.

H3 Secure works with Blancco to distribute data erasure solutions that support compliance with cyber security frameworks such as NESA.

The following Blancco erasure solutions help organizations comply with this framework in the following ways:

NESA Standard	Overview	Blancco Solution(s)
M4.4.2: Return of Assets **Priority:** P1 **Applicability:** Always Applicable	In cases where an employee, contractor, or third-party user purchases the entity's equipment or uses their own personal equipment, procedures should be followed to ensure that all relevant information is transferred to the entity and securely erased from the equipment.	Blancco Drive Eraser, Blancco 8 Bay Drive Eraser, Blancco Mobile Device Eraser
T1.4.2: Disposal of Media **Priority:** P2 **Applicability:** Based on Risk Assessment	**CONTROL:** The entity shall dispose media when no longer needed. **SUB-CONTROL:** 1. The entity shall establish procedures for secure disposal of media containing confidential information based on the sensitivity of that information. 2. The entity shall destroy media, both paper and digital, when no longer serving the entity. **The following items should be considered:** A. Media containing confidential information should be stored and disposed of securely and safely, e.g. by incineration or shredding, or erasing data for use by another application within the entity. B. Procedures should be in place to identify the items that might require secure disposal. C. It may be easier to arrange for all media items to be collected and disposed of securely, rather than attempting to separate out the sensitive items. D. Many entities offer collection and disposal services for media; care should be taken in selecting a suitable external party with adequate controls and experience. E. Disposal of sensitive items should be logged where possible in order to maintain an audit trail.	Blancco Drive Eraser, Blancco Removable Media Eraser, Blancco Mobile Device Eraser, Blancco Management Console
T7.5.2: Protection of Systems Test Data **Priority:** P3 **Applicability:** Based on Risk Assessment	**CONTROL:** The entity shall ensure the protection of system test data. **SUB-CONTROL:** The entity shall erase any data from test applications immediately after testing is completed. Operational information should be erased from a test application system immediately after the testing is complete.	Blancco File Eraser
M1.4.3: Documentation **Priority:** P2 **Applicability:** Always Applicable	Documents are disposed of in accordance with the procedures applicable to their classification.	Blancco File Eraser
T2.3.6: Secure Disposal or Reuse of Equipment **Priority:** P3 **Applicability:** Based on Risk Assessment	**CONTROL:** The entity shall ensure that any sensitive data and licensed software has been removed or securely overwritten prior to disposal. **SUB-CONTROL:** The entity shall establish procedures for secure disposal or reuse of equipment based on the sensitivity of stored information.	Blancco Diver Eraser, Blancco 8 Bay Drive Eraser, Blancco Mobile Device Eraser, Blancco Removable Media Eraser
T1.4.1: Management of Removable Media **Priority:** P1 **Applicability:** Based on Risk Assessment	The entity shall establish media management procedures along its life cycle (setup, distribution, utilization, and disposal). The following guidelines for the management of removable media should be considered: A. If no longer required, the contents of any re-usable media that are to be removed from the entity should be made unrecoverable; data wiping software could be used for instance. B. Where necessary and practical, authorization should be required for media removed from the entity and a record of such removals should be kept in order to maintain an audit trail.	Blancco Drive Eraser, Blancco Removable Media Eraser, Blancco Management Console

[Contact us today](link) for additional information about how we can help you pass your next data or cyber security audit.