

# C&A DocWriter™

Certification  
and  
Accreditation  
(C&A)  
Software

Starpoint Software, Inc. • 7027 Windword Way, Suite 246 • Cincinnati, OH 45241  
www.compliancenasnavigator.com • reardon@compliancenasnavigator.com • 513-755-7624

## C&A Defined

**C&A DocWriter**  
Lowers the cost  
of C&A by  
making it a  
**reproducible,  
repeatable data  
centric process**  
and enforcing  
consistency  
across the entire  
enterprise

**Certification and Accreditation (C&A)** is a required element when securing IT systems under the federal requirements of FISMA. **Certification** is a standard, proven methodology that ensures all applicable tests are systematically performed and applicable **information assurance (IA)** controls are put in place for an information technology operating environment. **Accreditation** is a management decision by a senior official in the organization to authorize the operation of the IT system based on the results of certification and other factors. It is crucial this senior official have up to date information concerning test outcomes and identified vulnerabilities and remedial activities. Certification activities *must* provide this information in a timely manner. The cost of C&A activities can be staggering, especially when it comes to keeping this information up to date as new threats emerge. Currently, most C&A activities produce documents of data and test results. **C&A DocWriter** (a COTS application) changes this by tracking C&A artifacts in a client-server data-centric environment. C&A becomes a reproducible, repeatable process on the enterprise level. Managers gain access to real-time information across all of C&A projects. This lowers cost by enforcing consistency across the enterprise and reusing information across multiple C&A projects.

---

*“Move away from a document centric process to a data centric process found in C&A DocWriter to markedly increase efficiency, lower costs and improve access to real time information.”*

---

## C&A Drivers

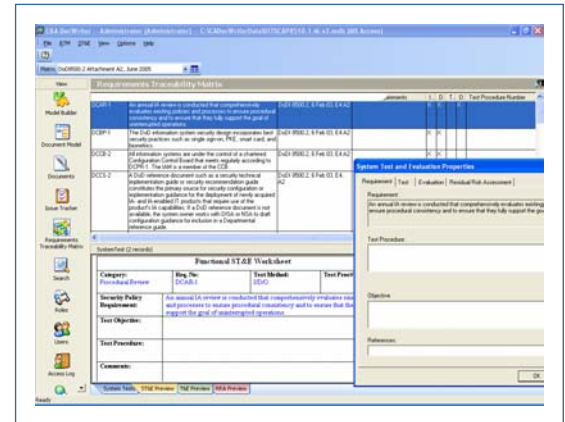
**The National Institute of Technology (NIST)** and **Department of Defense (DoD)**, as well as other organizations, have developed standards for conducting C&A. Many organizations are looking for C&A software that gives them ready access to structured methodology for implementing and ensuring compliance with these standards. C&A DocWriter provides NIST, DoD (DIACAP/DITSCAP), and other common templates for standardizing System Security Plans (SSPs). It also includes all the IA controls, test and validation procedures from NIST 800-53/53A and DoD 8500.2.



## C&A DocWriter Highlights

The primary highlights of C&A DocWriter include:

- Supports IT system security lifecycle
- Client Server and web versions available
- Hierarchical SSP template provides a consistent approach to collaborative development of content across the enterprise
- Tightly integrated with Microsoft Office products. SSP templates can contain embedded Word tables, Excel spreadsheets or Visio diagrams and are automatically outputted to Microsoft Word. ST&E, RTM, POA&M and scorecard can be outputted to Word or Excel
- Never start from scratch on a C&A project. Reuse templates and test results from previous C&A projects. If you're certifying similar systems all you'll have to do is tweak the data from one to another
- Compliance dashboard (both Windows and web based) for generating compliance reports, including FISMA quarterly report. Generate real-time status reports for POA&M results, Privacy (SAOP), IA controls, security test results, etc. Supports custom reporting
- Knowledgebase for SSP content and security tests. Existing content and tests can be reused across multiple C&A projects. The knowledgebase is accessible by all C&A projects
- Open database architecture allows for custom development and integration with other tools. Uses commercially available databases - Microsoft SQL Server, Microsoft Access and Oracle
- C&A DocWriter databases can be loaded on laptops and taken to the field for building SSP content and conducting security tests at the site of the system being certified and automatically synchronized with the master database back on the primary server to maintain centralized management and reporting
- C&A DocWriter includes compliance tools, such as task management and issue tracking. Use these with email notifications to ensure proactive compliance with the C&A process.



*System Security Testing of IA Controls*

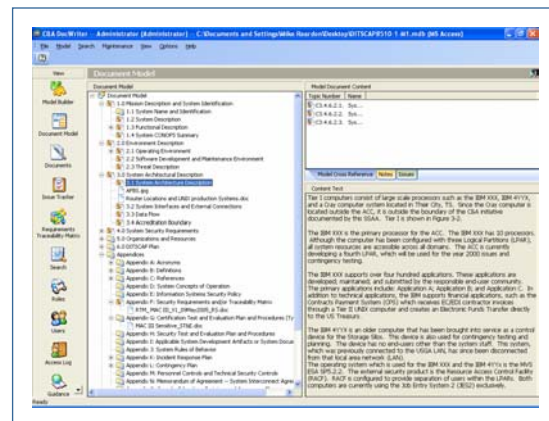
---

*“Conduct security testing in the field at the site of the system to be certified and synchronize the results with a master database back at the central office to maintain centralized reporting”*

---

## The Benefits of C&A DocWriter

- Improve FISMA and DIACAP scorecards
- Save time thereby reducing costs by providing a data centric collaborative environment for encouraging a consistent, reproducible and repeatable C&A process that can be standardized throughout an organization
- Provide a centralized reporting platform through a compliance dashboard capable of providing real-time compliance information on system vulnerabilities and remedial activities across the organization
- Reduce time an effort for system testing by giving users the ability to work independently in the field at the site of the system to be certified with the ability to synchronize at a later date
- Maintain ongoing preparedness (annual reviews) by making it easier to update content and system test results. Use compliance management tools to provide notification of required reviews and updates
- Prepare guidance with instructions and templates to build the SSP
- Quickly build C&A packages by reusing templates. Knowledgebase provides a foundation for accessing content and test procedures from previous C&A projects



*Hierarchical SSP template provides a structured approach to collaborative development of content*

## Starpoint Software

- Founded in 1994
- Developed over twelve commercial products to date, including both Windows and web database applications
- Customer base ranges from small firms to Fortune 500 companies. Includes government agencies and universities around the world.

Starpoint Software, Inc. • 7027 Windword Way, Suite 246 • Cincinnati, OH 45241  
reardon@compliancenaavigator.com • 513-755-7624 (phone) • 513-451-5889 (fax)

[www.compliancenaavigator.com](http://www.compliancenaavigator.com)