# ProcessUnity Risk Index

## The Controls-Driven Risk Rating for Third-Party Risk Management

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# Introduction

Did you know that over **60%** of organizations must wait four months or longer to receive a response to their assessment?*

It's no surprise, then, that TPRM teams are drowning under assessment backlogs and mounting pressure to accelerate cycle times. The key reason for this backlog is that today's assessments demand massive amounts of data from multiple sources just to piece together a complete picture of risk, slowing decisions and potentially exposing your organization to unnecessary gaps. Worse, the data can lack the controls-based context necessary to satisfy compliance requirements and understand how a vendor fits within your risk tolerance.

What if all the third-party risk insights you needed lived in one place, in a single, actionable view?

ProcessUnity State of Third-Party Risk Assessments 2026
https://info.processunity.com/resources-reports-state-of-third-party-risk-assessments-2026.html

# What Is ProcessUnity Risk Index?

ProcessUnity Risk Index is an actionable 100-point risk rating that unifies internally informed control data with externally observed security signals. The score blends a unique combination of two essential perspectives typically referenced for a complete third-party risk assessment.



Unlike static questionnaires or external-only ratings, ProcessUnity Risk Index comes embedded directly into best-in-class TPRM workflows for:

- **Smarter Prioritization:** Rank vendors by their risk level during intake.
- **Faster Onboarding:** Prioritize vendors into risk tiers for pre-contract due diligence and post-contract monitoring.
- **Accelerated Assessments:** Reduce questionnaire fatigue with targeted evidence and data requests focused on known information gaps.
- **Always-On Monitoring:** Detect external threat signals and ratings changes to launch mitigation plans rooted in immediate, up to date information.

## ProcessUnity Risk Index is Backed by Third-Party Participation

ProcessUnity Risk Index is the only rating model that actively involves third parties in the scoring process - and that makes it a dramatically better experience for them, too.

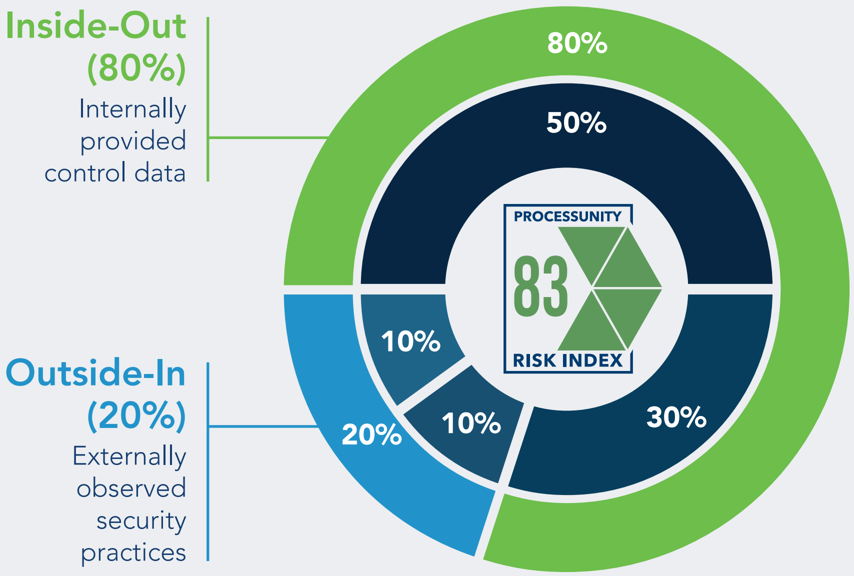
Why third parties prefer Risk Index:

- Protects their reputation by letting them present accurate control evidence instead of being judged by external scans alone.
- Saves significant time by reducing repetitive due diligence requests or limiting them to only the most focused, relevant follow-ups.
- Gives them full control by allowing vendors to retain authorization rights over their responses, comments, documents, and validation results.

When you lead vendor conversations with Risk Index, you empower your third parties with to participate, validate, and manage how they are represented, creating a faster, more informed deal cycle.

# Actionable, Multi-Level Risk Insights

The ProcessUnity Risk Index rating reflects true vendor risk posture by taking a uniquely holistic approach to risk scoring. Rather than summarizing a third party's risk posture based on external observed signals or internally informed control data alone, Risk Index combines both data sets. This unique scoring methodology provides third-party risk insights at an overall cybersecurity level, risk insights for each risk domain, and risk insights for each individual control level. The multi-level insights model allows customers to quickly gain context, drill down when necessary, and action on areas of concern.




**50% Security Controls**

How well a company implements cybersecurity controls.

**30% Vulnerability Resiliency**

How well a company addresses common cybersecurity weaknesses.

**10% Perimeter Scanning**

Security vulnerabilities from outside the company's network.

**10% Threat Intelligence**

The company's exposure to current and emerging threats.

# A Controls Driven, Multi Level View of Third Party Cyber Risk

Consumable for executives and actionable for analysts, ProcessUnity Risk Index is organized into three levels. These three data levels range from the summary-level view to the control domain analysis to control-level intelligence. Each level is designed to fit appropriately within the lifecycle:

### L1: Risk Index Rating

A single, objective 100 point score that ranks third parties from Very Weak to Very Strong, based on all available evidence. This tier enables fast, consistent prioritization during onboarding, due diligence, and ongoing monitoring—without unnecessary noise.

### L2: Risk Domain Analysis

A contextual drill down across key cybersecurity domains, combining:

- Risk Domain Index – the third party's control performance in each domain
- Risk Domain Impact – how critical that domain is to your specific business relationship

This balanced view ensures teams focus remediation efforts on weaknesses that truly matter, rather than chasing low impact gaps.

### L3: Risk Controls Intelligence

The deepest level of insight, providing control level scores and finding severity. Controls are mapped to frameworks, regulations, and real world attack techniques, enabling targeted assessments and precise follow-up.

# Transform the TPRM Lifecycle with ProcessUnity Risk Index

### Stage 1: Onboarding, Prioritization & Tiering

Onboarding traditionally involves manual tiering based on questionnaires and subjective judgment, slowing down the process and introducing inconsistencies. With these details alone, it's difficult to maintain a fast and objective evaluation.

Risk Index automates tier assignment using L1 and L2 scoring, routing vendors into appropriate workflows for pre- and post-contract due diligence based on your defined tiers. This ensures that high-risk vendors receive deeper scrutiny, while low-risk vendors move quickly through the onboarding process. Vital data points for proper onboarding are centralized for the analyst within a single view, including the ProcessUnity Risk Index score, firmographic data, and the domain-level analysis.

#### Before vs. After

**Before:** Manual tiering delays onboarding

**Before:** Inconsistent risk categorization across teams.

**Before:** Business users lack the insight to complete an Inherent Risk Questionnaire. The TPRM team does not have complete confidence in their responses.

**After:** Automated tiering based on objective scoring.

**After:** Faster onboarding with clear prioritization.

### Stage 2: Due Diligence & Risk Assessment

Due diligence often means lengthy questionnaires and redundant evidence requests, creating friction for both internal teams and vendors. It's the longest stage of the lifecycle for a reason – it demands droves of data to get it right.

With ProcessUnity Risk Index, assessments become targeted and efficient. Domain-level risk signals guide dynamic scoping, enabling you to hone in on critical domains relevant to your relationship with a third party. The relational aspect of the domain-level analysis reveals areas of control weakness in the domains critical to your business relationship. With this level of focus, you target evidence collection around the areas that matter, reducing questionnaire fatigue and focusing on critical controls.

#### Before vs. After

**Before:** Generic questionnaires sent to every vendor.

**Before:** Excessive back-and-forth for evidence.

**After:** Targeted requests based on actual risk indicators.

**After:** Audit-ready documentation with less effort.

### Stage 3: Continuous Monitoring

Static assessments leave organizations blind to evolving risk. Worse, frequent alerts and  misattributed signals cause you to unnecessarily chase signals that your vendor could easily explain.

ProcessUnity Risk Index delivers always-on monitoring by combining external threat feeds with internal control updates, filtering alerts down to only those that warrant your attention. When a vendor's risk posture changes, automated workflows support mitigation plans, ensuring real-time visibility and proactive risk management. You don't just get the alert. You get structured workflow steps to create an issue and follow it through to remediation.

### Before vs. After

**Before:** Annual reviews fail to catch emerging threats.

**Before:** Manual monitoring creates blind spots.

**After:** Continuous monitoring detects changes instantly.

**After:** Automated mitigation keeps risk under control.

# Why ProcessUnity Risk Index is Different

Most risk ratings rely solely on external signals or static questionnaires, creating blind spots and stale data. ProcessUnity Risk Index is controls-driven, combining a vendor's provided evidence with real-time threat intelligence, and proprietary control intelligence backed by millions of real control responses, for a holistic view of vendor risk. It's not just a score - it's embedded in your workflows, enabling automated tiering, targeted assessments, and continuous monitoring. This integration transforms risk management from reactive to proactive, delivering speed, accuracy, and coverage across the entire TPRM lifecycle.

# Get Straight to the Risk Data that Matters with ProcessUnity Risk Index

Ready to advance your program towards a holistic, unified measure of risk? ProcessUnity is here to help. Reach out to our team here to learn more about how you can revamp your program with actionable ProcessUnity Risk Index data and workflow automation.

## ABOUT PROCESSUNITY

ProcessUnity provides leading enterprises with comprehensive end-to-end cybersecurity and third-party risk management solutions. Fueled by best-in-class workflow software, a universal data core for all TPRM information, the world's largest cyber risk exchange database,  and powerful artificial intelligence capabilities, ProcessUnity enables organizations to quickly identify security gaps, reduce vendor onboarding and offboarding time, and proactively mitigate first- and third-party risks. As a result, organizations can more effectively safeguard their critical assets while lowering program costs. ProcessUnity is trusted by major brands around the globe and is backed by Marlin Equity Partners. To learn more or request a demo, visit www.processunity.com.

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