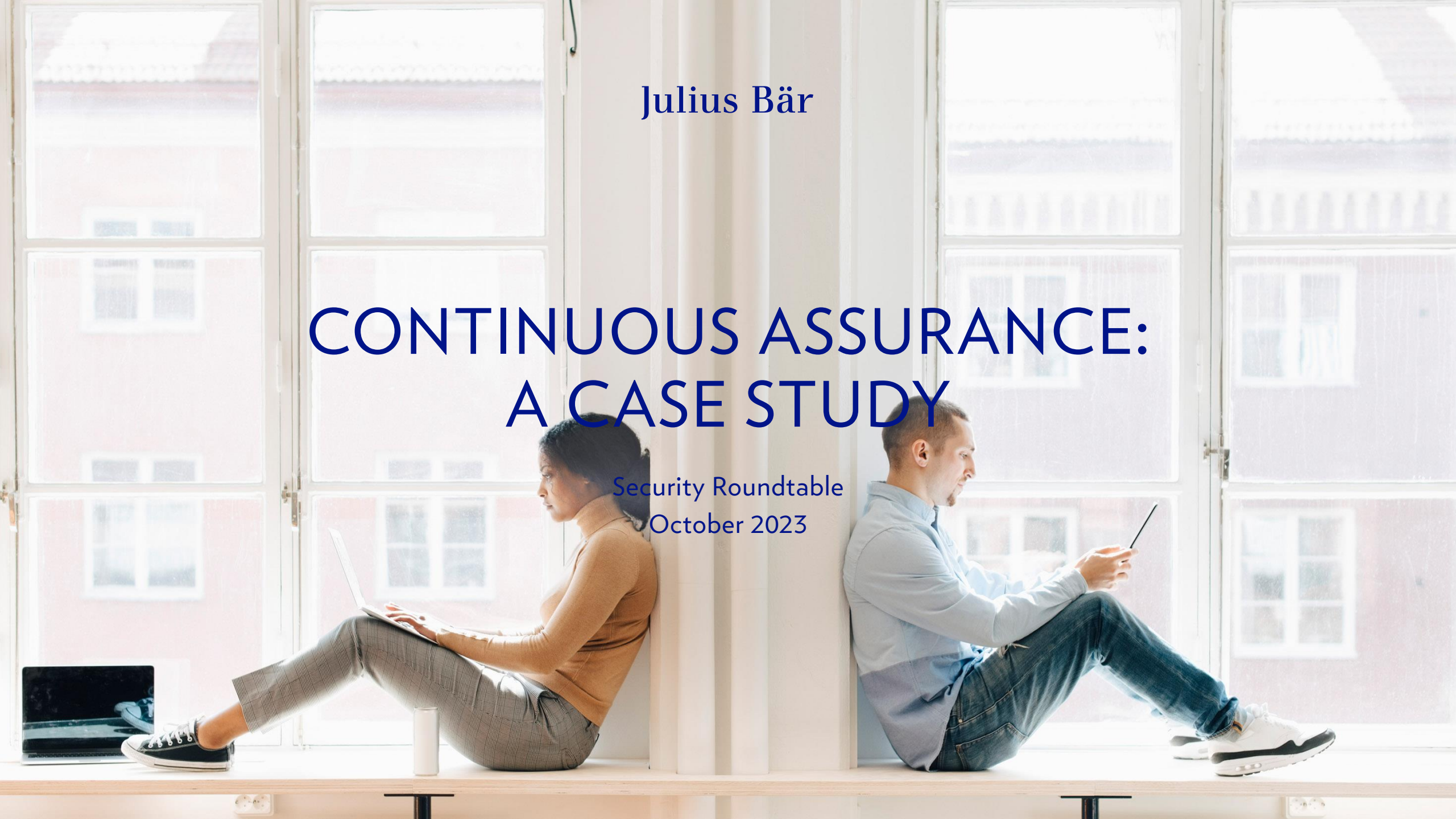


Julius Bär

# CONTINUOUS ASSURANCE: A CASE STUDY

Security Roundtable  
October 2023



# Case Study: Continuous Assurance

Bank Julius Bär



## 1. PROBLEM

An impossible problem?  
Introduction



## 2. SOLUTION

The Continuous Assurance Dashboard  
Concept



## 3. SUMMARY

Measure Information Security  
Takeaways



# About Bank Julius Bär

Julius Baer is the leading Swiss wealth management Bank.

We focus on providing holistic and personal advice tailored to the needs of each valued client.

Within Information Security the data of our clients is of most value. Therefore an early onset of threats and risks helps us to stay protected and remain vigilant.

# Poll #1

Does your organization have the ability to measure Information Security?

- (A) Yes!
- (B) Somewhat
- (C) Not yet
- (D) Don't know

# Scenario

To effectively manage IT and Information Security risks Bank Julius Baer looked for a way to assess the effectiveness of its implemented strategy, risks and processes in order to reach a state of Continuous Assurance.

Continuous assurance gives peace of mind that a state of compliance is ongoing rather than just an expired snapshot.



# Simply Put



# Simply Put



Derived Security Requirements	
Technology Neutral	Technological
Phishing	Vulnerability and Patch Management
Information Security Training	Baseline Compliance
Security Project Involvement	SIEM Operational Effectiveness
IAM Role Assignment Status	Firewall Rule Recertification
Incident Report	Red Team Exercises Completed
Risks	Transport Layer Security
etc.	etc.

# Problem

The challenge with measuring information security is to assess your current state and take a comprehensive approach in bringing together existing measurements into an understandable format.

An impossible challenge?





# Key Challenges

- 1 Understandable**  
Define relevant Security Controls with associated KRIs
- 2 Complete**  
Identify Information Need
- 3 Automated**  
Establish a sustainable measurement model



## Poll #2

When measuring Information Security what are the most important aspects to consider:

- (A) Management Buy In
- (B) Easy to understand Reporting
- (C) Complete measurability
- (D) Automation



# Strategy / Approach



## Know your Stakeholders

Senior Management, IT, HR, Audience, etc



## Create a simple visualization

Test your ideas and involve expert user interface creators



## Ensure updated raw data

The underlying data which is sourced needs to be trustworthy





## Solution

We have established an aggregated scorecard visualizing technical and non-technical information security requirements with a daily automated feed to ensure an up-to-date view on all relevant risks related to information security.

We are now able to detect issues within information security and take corrective action.

## CONTINUOUS ASSURANCE - OVERVIEW



Continuous Assurance KRI			KRI Ranking	
Mouse over to see more details (L4) and click on a circle or a row to select			Worst to Best	
SC002	Media Handling	MED	CRE	20.0
SC003	Security Operations Center	MON	COM	37.5
SC004	Security Assessment and Testing	SAS	NBD	43.3
SC005	Password Management System	CRE	ISM	48.0
SC006	Information Security Organisation	ISM	DBC	50.0
SC007	Human Resource Security	HRS SAW	MAL	50.0
SC008	Information Classification	DAT INV	ABC	60.0
SC009	Access Control	IAM	VPM	61.8
SC010	Cryptography	CRY	SAS	70.0
SC011	Physical Security	PHY	INV	72.5
SC012	Operations Security	ABC DBC LOG MAL SBC VPM	MON	73.1
SC013	Communications and Network Security	NBD	SAW	73.3
SC014	System Acquisition, Development and Maintenance	CON SSD	IMR	77.5
SC016	Information Security Incident Management	IMR	IAM	78.3
SC017	Cyber Resiliency	CYB	CRY	80.0
SC018	Compliance	COM	SBC	82.2
			LOG	95.0
			CON	100.0
			DAT	100.0

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SC007	Human Resource Security	HRS	MAL	50.0
SC008	Information Classification	DAT		60.0
SC009	Access Control	IAM		61.8
SC010	Cryptography	CRY		70.0
SC011	Physical Security	PHY		72.5
SC012	Operations Security	ABC	DBC	73.1
SC013	Communications and Network Security	NBD		73.3
SC014	System Acquisition, Development and Maintenance	CON	SSD	77.5
SC016	Information Security Incident Management	IMR		78.3
SC017	Cyber Resiliency	CYB		80.0
SC018	Compliance	COM		82.2
			CON	95.0
			DAT	100.0

Security Requirements KRI in this Category:			
L4 Security Requirement	Weight	L4 Score	
SAW (1.1) Information Security Introduction Com..	0.5	8	
SAW (1.2) Information Security Introduction Pendi..	0.5	1	
SAW (1.3) Information Security Introduction Over..	0.5	10	
SAW (1.4) Annual Information Security Refresher ..	1.0	6	
SAW (1.5) Annual Information Security Refresher ..	1.0	1	
SAW (1.6) Annual Information Security Refresher ..	1.0	10	
SAW (2.1) Phishing campaign	1.0	7	
SAW (2.2) E-Mail reported during Phishing Exercise	0.5	5	
SAW (2.3) Phishing double clickers	1.0	10	
SAW (2.4) Phishing triple clickers	1.0	10	
SAW (2.5) Phishing quadruple clickers	1.0	10	

# Business Benefits

- 1 Increased transparency
- 2 Evidence of meeting requirements
- 3 Support decision-making
- 4 Reduction of attack surface



# Key Take Aways



## Information Need

What do you want to measure?



## Governance

With whom will you discuss your results?



## Be patient

Measurability only gets one shot





# Key Take Aways



Measure



Information



Security



# Julius Bär

Information Security  
Bank Julius Baer & Co. Ltd.

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