



## HITRUST December 2024 quarterly newsletter

As we wrap up 2024, we're excited to share our final newsletter of the year, highlighting key updates on the HITRUST program and reflecting on the most significant developments from the past quarter.

### Assurance program updates

#### Introducing the HITRUST AI Security Assessment and certification

Building on the recent launch of the [AI Risk Management Assessment](#), HITRUST now offers the [AI Security Assessment](#) and accompanying certification – an innovative solution addressing the unique security challenges of AI systems, tailored specifically for organizations deploying AI technologies.

As part of the HITRUST CSF® v11.4 framework, this certification includes [44 prescriptive controls](#) designed to safeguard various AI deployment scenarios, ensuring resilience against emerging threats.

By integrating leading standards such as those from National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), International Organization for Standardization (ISO), and Open Worldwide Application Security Project (OWASP), the AI Security Assessment delivers a practical, streamlined approach to compliance. Additionally, organizations can use shared responsibility and inheritance features to simplify their compliance journey, enhancing efficiency while building stakeholder trust in AI adoption.

Crowe actively participates in HITRUST's AI working committee, contributing to the development of the AI assessment framework. If you have questions or feedback about the HITRUST AI Risk Management Insights Report or the AI Security Assessment, get in touch with us.

#### Is the HITRUST AI certification right for you?

With AI at the forefront of innovation, it's essential to determine whether the HITRUST AI certification aligns with your organization's needs. Ask yourself:

- Has your organization deployed AI systems?
- Is your organization planning to implement AI in 2025?

If you answered yes to either question, exploring an AI assessment or certification could be a valuable next step, but you should consider the following:

- The organization must manage or control the AI technology – whether the organization uses its own solution or uses application programming interfaces from major providers to enhance its systems.
- The AI Security certification can be pursued as a stand-alone option or added to an existing or new e1, i1, or r2 assessment starting in 2025.

The AI Security Certification Report is being offered now through Dec. 31, 2024, with discounted rates from HITRUST for both new and existing customers:

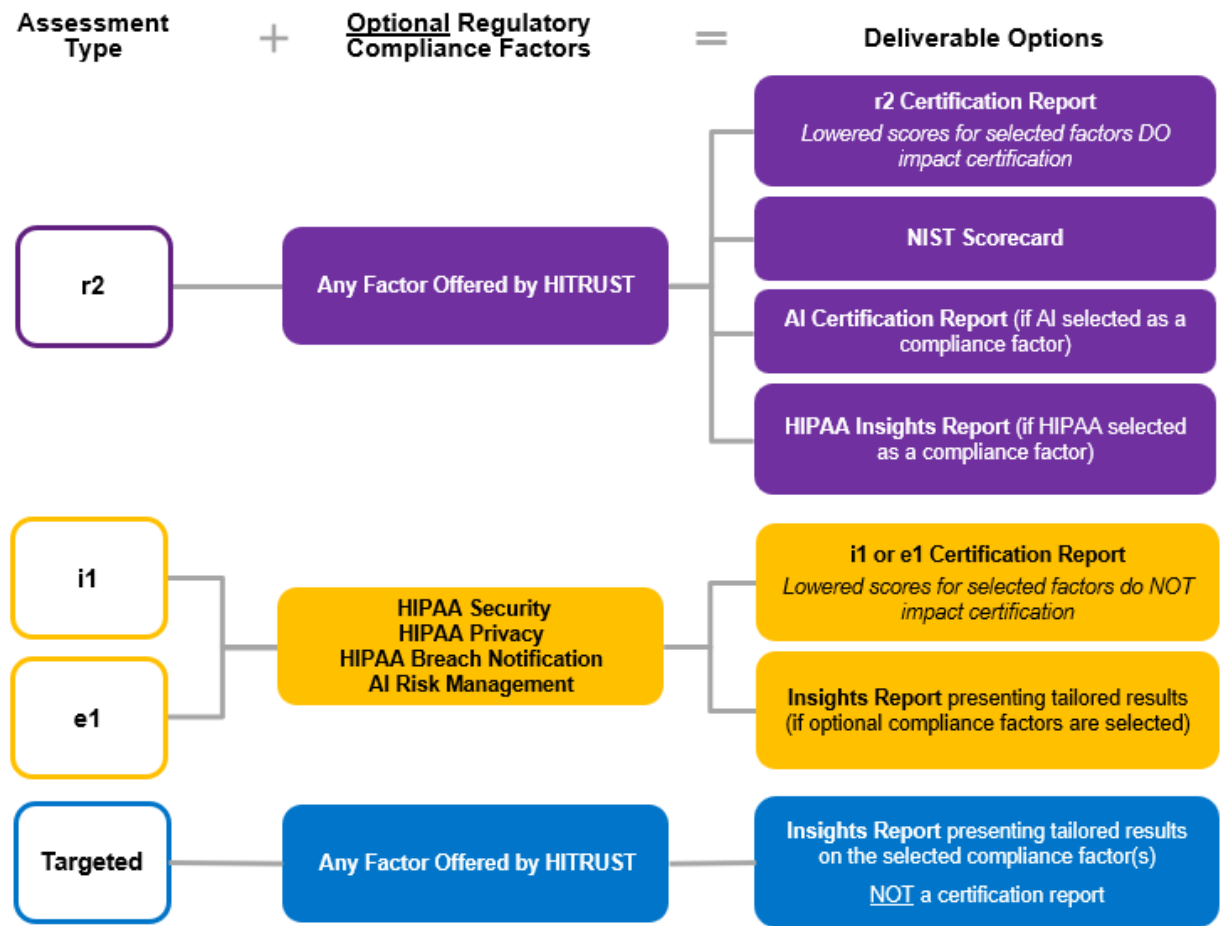
- **Add-on for existing customers:** Starting at \$3,250
- **New customers adding AI to an e1 assessment:** Starting at \$14,995

Don't miss this opportunity to strengthen your AI systems and demonstrate your commitment to security and compliance. Reach out to us and we will set up a call with HITRUST to discuss this deal.

**Navigating HITRUST's assessment options**

In the past, HITRUST offered just one assessment. Today, with multiple assessment types – including the new combined assessments – understanding the compliance factors and deliverables tied to each can become overwhelming.

To simplify this, Crowe has created the following graphic to clarify the compliance factors and deliverable options associated with each of HITRUST's four assessments: Targeted, e1, i1, and r2.



As an Authorized External Assessor firm, Crowe specializes in aligning the right assessment type, compliance factors, and deliverables to meet your organization's unique needs. If you'd like assistance, we're here to help.

# Crowe insights

## Enhancing assurance: Integrating HITRUST e1 with SOC 2

Many organizations are seeking more robust frameworks to strengthen cybersecurity and build customer trust. Combining HITRUST e1 with SOC 2 offers a compelling path forward with approximately **80% to 90% of HITRUST e1 controls overlapping with SOC 2**. This alignment allows organizations to repurpose existing SOC 2 efforts to gain HITRUST certification, thereby minimizing redundancy, simplifying the certification process, and reducing resource strain.

Key features of SOC 2 and HITRUST e1:

- SOC 2 attestation:
  - Focuses on the Trust Services criteria (for example, security, availability, and confidentiality)
  - Provides an attestation report detailing an organization's adherence to chosen criteria
  - Allows flexibility in control selection, making it adaptable to various industries
- HITRUST e1 certification:
  - Provides a one-year validated certification based on a prescriptive framework with 44 essential security controls
  - Is tailored for smaller organizations or those with lower risk profiles, offering a streamlined yet comprehensive approach
  - Complements the SOC 2 control set well, allowing organizations to achieve certification with ease

Benefits to combining HITRUST and SOC efforts:

- **Increased stakeholder confidence:** The HITRUST e1 certification provides a standardized approach that is recognized across industries, signaling a robust commitment to data security.
- **Scalability:** The e1 assessment is ideal for organizations starting their HITRUST journey, with the flexibility to scale to i1 or r2 certifications as they grow or face more stringent regulatory requirements.
- **Efficiency:** Organizations can use their SOC 2 experience to accelerate the transition to HITRUST e1, saving time and effort.
- **Comprehensive coverage:** HITRUST's prescriptive framework addresses emerging threats and evolving compliance needs, ensuring an organization is well prepared.

Crowe specializes in guiding organizations to achieve both SOC 2 and HITRUST efforts. Our expertise can help you maximize your existing compliance efforts while achieving the highest levels of security and assurance.

If you're considering this combined effort, contact us to explore how HITRUST e1 certification with SOC 2 can enhance your cybersecurity program and build trust with your stakeholders.

## Join us at HIMSS25 – stop by the Crowe booth

Crowe practitioners will be on-site at [HIMSS25](#) in Las Vegas, March 3-6. It will be held at the Venetian Convention & Expo Center. If you're looking to stay at the forefront of industry trends, network with peers, and discover innovative solutions shaping the future of healthcare, this is the event for you.



If you are attending, be sure to let us know so we can connect in person. If you are thinking of attending, ask us about **discounted registration**.

## Questions?

As an Authorized External Assessor firm and a current HITRUST Assessor Council member, the Crowe team is here to keep you apprised of the most current changes. We also regularly provide insights and participate in discussions concerning the growth and evolution of HITRUST.

Crowe has relationships with firms that can help with remediation of gaps and implementation of necessary controls identified during the readiness assessment and before you're ready for the validated assessment. If you're finding remediation time-consuming, we are happy to make an introduction.

We look forward to hearing your questions and comments.

Visit our [HITRUST](#) page to learn more.

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