

SMARTCRYPT & HIPAA COMPLIANCE

WHAT IS HIPAA?

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996 established a set of security standards used to protect the confidentiality of Personal Health Information (PHI). Recent regulations and mandates from the Department of Health and Human Services apply to HIPAA covered entities and any of their business associates that "access, maintain, retain, modify, record, store, destroy, or otherwise hold, use, or disclose unsecured PHI."

In addition to protecting medical records, prescription details, and personal information, the standards outlined in HIPAA are intended to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the U.S. healthcare system by encouraging the use of electronic data exchange.

HOW DOES HIPAA AFFECT MY ORGANIZATION?

To improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the healthcare industry, vast amounts of patient information are now being handled electronically, creating a need for stronger data security. HIPAA requires that Protected Health Information (PHI) remains secure at all times. If your organization is responsible for handling any form of PHI, you may be required to meet HIPAA requirements. If you are an associate of a HIPAA-covered entity, a related law, the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, applies to you.

HOW CAN SMARTCRYPT HELP MEET HIPAA COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS?

PKWARE's Smartcrypt reduces the risk of data being lost or stolen as it is transferred amongst doctors' offices, labs, hospitals, and billing departments. Smartcrypt helps organizations meet HIPAA compliance requirements using algorithms verified to the U.S. government's FIPS 140-2 encryption standard.

Encrypted data remains protected at its origin or destination, both in movement and storage. Smartcrypt encrypts the data itself rather than the storage device, so data remains protected even if placed on removable media that is lost or stolen during transit.

CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY: HIPAA COMPLIANCE

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the agency responsible for enforcing HIPAA requirements, uses PKWARE's smart encryption software to meet its own compliance requirements. CMS also uses their encryption solution to securely exchange sensitive information with hundreds of external partners, including other government agencies, research labs, universities, and large corporations.

In addition to meeting the standards outlined within HIPAA, Smartcrypt helps solve several other data security issues that government agencies and other organizations face today. Please visit our website to learn more about how Smartcrypt can help solve your data security issues.

www.PKWARE.com

PKWARE provides a data-centric audit and protection platform that automates policy-driven discovery, classification, and encryption wherever sensitive data is used, shared, or stored.

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