

The Public Contract Law (PCL) Section’s Cybersecurity, Privacy, and Data Protection Committee, and the Science & Technology Law (SciTech) Section’s Homeland Security Committee are co-sponsoring a joint program focusing on federal cybersecurity rules and the opportunity for harmonization.

**The Cyber Patchwork of Federal Agency Rules & Unpublished Policies:
How Do Contractors Comply, What Are the Risks for Federal Agencies, and
Why Is the Cybersecurity Executive Order’s Harmonization Objective a Good Idea?**

“The largest buyer of IT on the planet” is the U.S. Government.
(Vivek Kundra, Federal Chief Information Officer, OMB (2010))

A dozen different cyber acquisition regulations – and dozens upon dozens of unpublished cyber policies governing federal acquisitions: this is the current regulatory regime governing cybersecurity for federal agencies and contractors in public-sector procurements. Why does this matter? Because the federal Government is a dominant information technology (IT) buyer and data user/consumer with its \$86 billion IT budget, massive IT critical infrastructure, and enormous caches of highly sensitive data. As a result, its cyber buying rules and practices have a fundamental impact on the nation’s cybersecurity.

For IT sellers, this multiplicity of agency cyber regulations and unpublished policies creates compliance pitfalls and imposes greater burdens for implementing sound cybersecurity safeguards, especially for small businesses. To this end, the Cybersecurity Executive Order required that the acquisition regulators review the current regime and “address what steps can be taken to harmonize and make consistent existing procurement requirements related to cybersecurity.”

This program will explore key issues of what compliance risks that IT sellers may face in doing business under this regulatory patchwork and how federal agencies may benefit from greater harmonization and transparency in cybersecurity acquisition regulations and policies.

Panelist

- David Z. Bodenheimer (Partner, Crowell & Moring LLP; SciTech Secretary and Division Co-Chair for Security, Privacy, and Information Law; PCL Committee Co-Chair for Cybersecurity, Privacy, & Data Protection)

Logistics

- Date & Time: May 11, 2015 (noon to 1:00 pm)
- Location: Dial-in (866) 646-6488 Conference Code: 307 146 7606