Arrow S3 Improves Reporting and Conflict Identification with Fastpath

Situation

Arrow Electronics is a publically traded global provider of products, services and solutions to industrial and commercial users of electronic components and enterprise computing solutions. In the summer of 2010, they purchased Shared Technologies and Cross Telecom now know as Arrow S3 and were suddenly faced with the challenge of becoming Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX) compliant in a short amount of time.

Arrow S3 needed the ability to deliver specialized reporting to Arrow Electronics' internal SOX audit team, but they lacked the staff and tools to deliver. As such, they solicited other Microsoft Dynamics AX users for advice on potential solutions. "Fastpath was recommended time and again from other Microsoft Dynamics AX users as THE solution to our problems," said Annette Price, Microsoft Dynamics AX System Administrator at Arrow S3.

After reviewing the software, they determined that Fastpath's Assure, Audit Trail and Audit View tools were exactly what they needed to provide them with detailed audit reporting on user and role permissions along with potential conflicts.

Solution

Rapid Implementation, Quicker Reviews and Easier Identification of Conflicts

Within two months of the initial demo, Arrow S3 was up and running on Fastpath's solutions. "The integration with our current systems was easy and I can train my team on the solutions very quickly," said Price.

The standard reporting out of Microsoft Dynamics AX 2009 was not sufficient enough to satisfy Arrow's internal audit team. But with Fastpath's Assure module, the Arrow S3 team was able to quickly access a standard Segregation of Duties (SOD) rule set specifically designed for AX by Fastpath's team of Certified Internal Auditors and audit partners.

Not only were they able to efficiently gain visibility into their conflicts at the User and Group levels, but they were able to establish mitigations at the User level as well as easily generate the reporting they needed.

ARROW

Company Profile

Arrow S3, a wholly owned subsidiary of Arrow Electronics, Inc., is a uniquely-capable total solutions provider specializing in unified communications, voice and data technologies, contact center and network security.

Business Situation

As a recently purchased company of a large, public organization, Arrow S3 needed to be SOX compliant quickly.

Solution

Arrow S3 turned to Fastpath for audit and compliance reporting with direct integration to Microsoft Dynamics® AX.

Fastpath solutions included:

- Fastpath Assure™
- Fastpath Audit Trail™
- Fastpath Audit View™

Benefits

• Easy integration with current systems

• Time and Cost Savings –
  - Almost immediately saw a return on investment
  - Trained on the software in 30 minutes
  - Able to review permissions on a quarterly instead of daily
  - From demo to deployment in two months
  - No need to create headcount for a SOX position
  - Brought efficiency and confidence to otherwise tedious internal processes

Efficient and Comprehensive Audit Trails

Arrow S3 was able to track data from some areas using the standard database log within AX 2009, but identifying specific fields and activities was cumbersome. Utilizing a risk-based approach, the company leveraged Fastpath's template audit schemes. This approach allowed Arrow S3 to focus on the most critical data for tracking, not only improving process efficiency but the effectiveness of the reviews.

Robust Reporting and Custom Scheduling

Creating all of the reports that Arrow Electronics required was out of question with the current staff and systems in place at Arrow S3. They needed to be up and running and able to pull reports quickly and efficiently with the current staff. Through Fastpath's Audit View module, Arrow S3 was able to easily set up the critical reports they needed and them schedule them to run automatically with just a few clicks. "I am no longer spending hours trying to make sure security in AX is compliant," said Price. "This solution has taken security down to a minimal part of my daily job duties."

Results

A Rapid Return on Investment and SOX Compliance without Increasing Staff

From demo to full rollout, Arrow S3 was up and running within 2 months, with no issues. "Fastpath implementation was seamless, I don't recall a single problem during installation," said Price.

Instead of spending hours and days working through reports, the team now reviews them on a quarterly basis. Fastpath's solutions brought confidence and efficiencies to an otherwise tedious internal process that would have required the addition of at least another person to handle security reviews.

About Fastpath

Fastpath is recognized as a leader in security, audit and compliance specializing in access certification and segregation of duties reviews and monitoring. Designed by auditors for auditors, our solutions enable continuous controls monitoring helping companies meet regulatory requirements without dramatically changing their business processes. With our solutions, customers can automate their IT and financial controls while simultaneously improving their security and lower their costs. Fastpath is Microsoft Gold Certified Partner and all of our solutions are Certified for Microsoft Dynamics.

For more information, visit www.gofastpath.com or call (877) 893-6295.

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Annette Price
Dynamics AX System Admin
Arrow Electronics

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