News Release

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Study Reveals Data Security and Data Management Remain Top Concerns of Federal IT in Era of Big Data

Symantec Research Highlights Information Governance Priorities and Challenges for Federal Agencies

Washington, D.C. – November 6, 2014 – A new study commissioned by Symantec finds that government agencies remain challenged to address the growing data security and data management risks associated with the rise of big data. Released today by Symantec Corporation at its EDGE Summit in Washington, D.C., Navigating Information Governance: What's Your Strategy? highlights the top concerns of government agencies as they try to implement information governance strategies.

The study—conducted with marketing research firm, O'Keeffe & Company—found that government agencies are increasingly focused on securing and managing data, yet many are still struggling to find an information governance strategy that works. Although 63 percent of government agencies have made investments in security technology in the last two years, only 40 percent of respondents would give their organization an "A" for data protection. The study found that 76 percent of government agencies have a formal, enterprise-wide information governance strategy, yet just 22 percent say it is very effective.

Recent policy initiatives, like the Executive Order on Records Management and guidance on email retention, reflect the critical nature of these issues. For the federal government,

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successful information governance requires the right tools for data protection, transparency and accessibility.

When it comes to eDiscovery and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, the government's biggest technology weaknesses include: data collection (39 percent), data processing and filtering (36 percent), and review (30 percent). Government respondents estimate that an effective system could save them more than three days' time in a routine eDiscovery scenario.

To ensure effective, enterprise-wide information governance programs, respondents believe their organization should take the following steps: educate end users on the importance of records management (48 percent), improve training (46 percent), and improve technology (45 percent). Over the next two years, organizations say they are most likely to invest in security software, document management, data loss prevention, and backup.

"Government agencies continue to see rapid growth in information," said Rob Potter, Vice President of Federal Sales at Symantec. "The variety, velocity, and volume of data has resulted in more complexity in governance, along with the need for speed in responding to eDiscovery requirements, FOIA requests and internal investigations. Agencies need tools to enable compliance with records management regulations and disclosure. Providing more meaningful visibility and analysis into information governance and existing data will result in more intelligent use of the data, and insure success in delivering business value."

The 2014 "Navigating Information Governance: What's Your Strategy?" study surveyed 152 Federal government and 153 private sector attorneys, IT executives, FOIA agents, and records managers to examine barriers to and benefits of achieving true enterprise-wide information governance. Symantec announced the study results at the EDGE Summit in Washington, D.C.

To download the full study, visit: www.navigatinginfogov.com.

About Symantec

Symantec Corporation (NASDAQ: SYMC) is an information protection expert that helps people, businesses and governments seeking the freedom to unlock the opportunities technology brings -- anytime, anywhere. Founded in April 1982, Symantec, a Fortune 500 company, operating one of the largest global data-intelligence networks, has provided leading security, backup and availability solutions for where vital information is stored, accessed and shared. The company's more than 20,000 employees reside in more than 50 countries. Ninety-nine percent of Fortune 500 companies are Symantec customers. In fiscal 2014, it recorded revenues of $6.7 billion. To learn more go to www.symantec.com or connect with Symantec at: go.symantec.com/socialmedia.

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