

PRESS RELEASE

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ABOUT MACOMB-OU INCUBATOR

The Macomb-Oakland University Incubator supports economic development in Southeast Michigan by accelerating high-tech businesses, cultivating academic innovation and encouraging research & development. To help small businesses grow, the incubator creates customized success strategies for startup and emerging companies in the niche industries of defense, homeland security, advanced manufacturing and technology. For more information, visit the incubator website at oakland.edu/macombouinc.

ABOUT SECURITY VITALS

Security Vitals is a cyber security solutions firm that helps organizations identify and effectively mitigate risk. Offering a blend of technology and consulting services, Security Vitals helps clients address the many challenges related to ongoing compliance and IT risk. For more information, visit securityvitals.com. For Security Vitals interviews, contact Ashleigh Laabs at (989) 780-4090 or via email at ashleigh@avictoriamae.com.

Macomb-OU Incubator Client Security Vitals Partners with Duo Security to Assist Manufacturers with NIST 800-171 Compliance

STERLING HEIGHTS, MI - Macomb-OU Incubator (Mac-OU Inc) client company Security Vitals is partnering with Ann Arbor-based Duo Security to enhance their Compliance as a Service (CaaS) offering, helping manufacturers retain government contracts by complying with the looming NIST 800-171 cyber-security standard.

Duo Security's two-factor authentication (2FA) technology enhances Security Vitals' NIST 800-171 services, making implementation and use of 2FA easier for IT administrators and end-users alike. This joint program will help protect Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) from being accessed by unauthorized individuals and organizations, thus making the process of becoming NIST compliant for Security Vitals customers as smooth as possible.

NIST 800-171 is a collection of technical and process controls designed to protect Department of Defense (DoD) product data from being accessed by unauthorized individuals and organizations. This CUI data must be secured using a blend of security technologies and policies.

Manufacturers that produce parts or assemblies that fall under the CUI designation, including those working with the DoD, General Services Administration (GSA) or NASA, must comply with the NIST 800-171 standard by December 31, 2017. If compliance is not met, companies are at high risk of losing government contracts and jobs.

"We are really excited about the partnership with a recognized industry leader like Duo and the continued support from Mac-OU Inc. It's great to have reliable resources to help drive the success of our program," said Rob Cote, CEO of Security Vitals.

To further assist local businesses in understanding and meeting the NIST 800-171 standards, Security Vitals is offering its "7 Steps to Help you Achieve NIST 800-171 Compliance" webinar, scheduled for August 22. Registration for this free informational session is available at nistnow.com/nist-800-171-compliance-webinar-registration-2. In addition, a "7 Step Compliance Road Map" guide is available for download at nistnow.com/download-guide-request.

For many of these manufacturing companies, conventional wisdom is to assess the environment and identify gaps in current security programs. With the tight timeframe for addressing compliance requirements, Security Vitals offers a results-driven solution. The company provides a subscription-based program that delivers the hardware, software, and consulting services necessary to achieve compliance.

Industry estimates indicate there are between 800-1300 Michigan-based manufacturing firms that need to meet the requirements; organizations that do not comply risk losing their government contracts. Lost contracts could have a significant impact on the economy as companies may be forced to cut expenses and employees to make up for the revenue loss.



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