

Executive overview

Streamlining recertification and access reviews with Axiomatics

Recertification, also known as access review or attestation, is primarily based on a [role-based access control \(RBAC\)](#) approach and is commonly tied into an identity governance and administration (IGA) solution. It is a lengthy, repeatable process and depending on the industry, is usually done on a monthly or quarterly basis.

In short, it is the process by which an application owner, data owner or manager is asked to review a list of identities who have access to a specific application or data and “recertify” whether they should still retain that access, or have it removed.

The traditional recertification process is often siloed and in many cases relies on the use of spreadsheets. While some applications may be connected to an IGA solution, other applications need to be managed separately – and all by different people. This can make recertification time consuming, as you must consolidate all data from disparate and isolated sources (which may be out-of-date) to capture a complete, enterprise-wide view.

Additionally, recertification is static and only addresses one moment in time – when the process is done. This means if any roles are changed within even a few hours of when the process is completed, this change isn’t considered until the next time the recertification process happens.

The result can be over provisioning (or under provisioning) for employees, which can pose significant risk to the organization.

We believe that authorization should not be dependent on the normal, in-the-moment process of recertification. Things can happen at a rapid pace that could endanger your system if you rely on the typical periodic recertification processes.



Axiomatics automates the recertification process

We believe authorization should not be dependent on a static recertification process, which can leave the organization open to risk outside of when this process is completed.

Leveraging the Axiomatics [Orchestrated Authorization](#) solution, access decisions are made in real-time at the point of access and are based on attributes collected at that exact point in time. This makes recertification a quick and automatic activity that is simply part of policy as opposed to a costly, resource-intensive activity repeated on a monthly or quarterly basis.

Using the Axiomatics solution means access decisions are made based on the policies, conditions and context of the moment in time of each request. This relieves stress as our solution always runs in the background and doesn't wait for the next time a recertification process occurs.

Our award-winning solution provides a safety net for our customers as they know access is based on real-time information, which makes recertification processes more efficient and effective.

It's likely legal and compliance teams at most organizations will still require the recertification process in the near term as part of a 'rubber stamp' approach.

However, relying on the recertification process in its current form no longer satisfies the intended purpose and moving to an [attribute-based access control \(ABAC\)](#) approach makes more sense for the dynamic identity and access governance needs of enterprises.



Enterprise use case example

A typical example would be when an employee changes roles in between access recertification intervals. While the RBAC approach should capture such changes, in reality deprovisioning access from a former role is an often overlooked step in the process.

Unless the employee is leaving the company, it's not uncommon for employees to retain past access entitlements they acquired over the course of their career as they are not viewed as a threat.

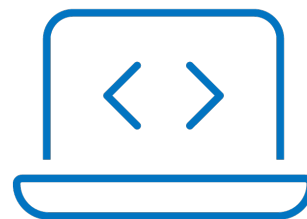
A good example is the 2008 case of Society Generale which suffered from [one of the biggest financial frauds in history](#). A rogue employee executed a series of “elaborate, fictitious transactions” that cost the company more than \$7 billion, and they did so with access from a former role that was never deprovisioned.

While this was 15 years ago, most people would be surprised to hear that a survey conducted of 1,000 employees in 2022 showed that [83% of respondents said they still had access to digital assets of their previous employer](#).

So this issue hasn't gone away and it's fair to say the current recertification process is simply not working as intended.

Take the next step with us

[Meet with our experts for a demo](#) of our Orchestrated Authorization solution and discuss how our approach can save your organization time and money on your recertification efforts.



FURTHER READING

[Read our blog article](#) to learn more about the difference between static and dynamic recertification, and how to mitigate your risks and increase your confidence.



Policy-based access control solutions for enterprise

Axiomatics has been solving the challenge of authorization for organizations since 2006. Their solution and proven approach simplifies the orchestration of fine-grained authorization to organization's applications, information, and processes via a central, dynamic, Zero Trust policy engine. This centralized approach removes the burden of coding and managing authorization functionality for each application separately while ensuring a consistent set of compliance and security policies are properly engaged across the organization.

For more information or to request a demo, please visit axiomatics.com.

About Axiomatics

Axiomatics is the originator and leading provider of runtime, fine-grained, dynamic authorization delivered with Attribute Based Access Control (ABAC) for applications, data, APIs, and microservices.

The world's largest enterprises and government agencies use the Axiomatics Dynamic Authorization Suite to enable digital transformation, share and safeguard sensitive information, meet compliance requirements and minimize data fraud. Our innovative solutions enable enterprises to share sensitive, valuable and regulated digital assets – but only to authorized users and in the right context.

Learn more or request a demo:

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