
Are we fundamentally dealing with a
DATA problem or a *CULTURE* problem?



The Root Issues:

- Outdated, Redundant, Conflicting, Unclear Classification Guidance
- The Way Users Use or Don't Use Classification Guidance



Root Issue 1: Classification Guidance

Solutions:

- A full review of all classification guidance to:
 - Reduce the overall number of line items
 - Improve the utility of guidance
 - Update information classification with the goal to lower levels (higher walls around fewer secrets)
- Consolidate all classification guidance into one, easily searchable location



Root Issue 2: Users

Solutions:

- Update government Derivative Classification training to encourage marking information at the lowest level possible
- Establish a “Safe Harbor” policy as users shift their thinking and learn how to use new classification guidance
 - Reduce or eliminate penalties for Unauthorized Disclosures (UDs) for a period of time



Way Forward:

1. Fund government-wide Security Classification Guidance modernization
2. Update Derivative Classification training with a focus on changing the information security culture
3. Fund technology demonstrations to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of classification / de-classification processes

