



OCTAVE FORTE

Establish a More Adaptable and Robust Risk Program

THE OCTAVE FORTE is an approach for delivering a **Facilitated** process for managing **Operational Risks Tailored** for the **Enterprise**. OCTAVE FORTE updates the original OCTAVE program and its derivatives to a new model that delivers tailorable training and facilitation for effective risk program implementation.

OCTAVE FORTE educates executives on how to communicate risks using a tiered governance structure and a quantitative risk appetite. Similarly, OCTAVE FORTE's structure provides managers with a practical direction to assist practitioners in managing the complete risk lifecycle. If your organization is in need of a risk program, is in the stages of building a program, or is mature and seeking new strategies to manage risk, then OCTAVE FORTE can assist in raising the standard.

This OCTAVE update includes the following features:

- Baseline OCTAVE FORTE training provides all executives, managers, and practitioners with a common understanding of the risk management lexicon and practices. The training educates the workforce in risk management processes, tools, and program management.
- OCTAVE FORTE uses classic enterprise risk management practices to identify, analyze, respond to, monitor, and control risks regardless of their categorization. As a result, C-suite executives are empowered to execute sound business decisions in a world where all business processes rely on personnel, information, technology, and facilities.
- OCTAVE FORTE helps organizations establish a risk management framework that scales to the size and strategy of the organization with limited overhead.

- Subsequent to completion of the training portion of OCTAVE FORTE, the program provides SEI facilitation for the customer to assist in program development and the risk management process.

OCTAVE FORTE uses a new process that now accounts for key standards while adhering to the fundamental principles of the CERT Resilience Management Model (CERT-RMM). Compared to the former OCTAVE ALLEGRO process, *OCTAVE FORTE addresses all forms of risk with a holistic approach where cyber risks are analyzed and managed in the same manner as all other risks within an enterprise risk portfolio*. Additionally, OCTAVE FORTE establishes a more robust framework for risk management by providing a feedback loop for complete risk lifecycle management. This holistic approach enables CISOs and other cyber professionals to communicate threats and opportunities more effectively across the enterprise. In summary, when followed properly, the OCTAVE FORTE process delivers a more robust level of risk analysis and prioritization for improved resource utilization and surety of operations.

About the CERT Division

The CERT® Division of Carnegie Mellon University's Software Engineering Institute studies and solves problems with widespread cybersecurity implications, researches security vulnerabilities in software products, contributes to long-term changes in networked systems, and develops cutting-edge information and training to help improve cybersecurity.

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