

May 2007 Audit Project 07-001

**Information Technology Events Analysis** 





**DATE**: May 11, 2007

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Michael E. Bartell

**Chief Information Officer** 

Director, Division of Information Technology

/Signed/

FROM: Russell A. Rau

Assistant Inspector General for Audits

**SUBJECT:** Information Technology Events Analysis

(Audit Project 07-001)

The results of the subject analysis are provided for your information and use. Please refer to the Executive Summary for the overall results of the assignment. We appreciate the feedback that you and your staff provided to us on a draft version of the subject analysis and have incorporated those comments as appropriate. A written response was not required.

We are providing copies of this analysis to members of the Board of Directors and Audit Committee. We will also make the analysis publicly available.

If you have any questions concerning the assignment, please contact me at (703) 562-6350 or Mark F. Mulholland, Director, Corporate Management and Security Audits, at (703) 562-6316. I appreciate the courtesies extended to my staff during the assignment.

#### Attachment

cc: James H. Angel, Jr., Director, OERM Rack Campbell, DIT



## **Background and Purpose of Project**

The Corporation's risk management program emphasizes guidance provided by the Treadway Commission's Committee of Sponsoring Organizations (COSO)<sup>1</sup> for implementing individual division/office risk management programs. The FDIC's Division of Information Technology (DIT) is in the early stage of adopting the Control Objectives for Information and Related Technology (COBIT<sup>©</sup>) framework, created by the IT Governance Institute, as part of the division's risk management program. The COBIT<sup>©</sup> framework links DIT's information technology (IT) control program objectives to the risk management activities defined by COSO.

COBIT<sup>©</sup> organizes IT activities into business-oriented processes with control objectives to help organizations ensure that IT investments align with business goals and objectives and that IT-related risks and opportunities are appropriately managed.

The purpose of the FDIC's Office of Inspector General (OIG) project was to develop an events-based approach for planning and prioritizing audit coverage of the FDIC's IT program and operations.<sup>2</sup> We considered the principles defined in COBIT<sup>©</sup> in developing our approach.

- <sup>1</sup> COSO is a voluntary private-sector organization dedicated to improving the quality of financial reporting through business ethics, effective internal controls, and corporate governance.
- <sup>2</sup> An event affects achievement of objectives and can have a negative impact, a positive impact, or both. Events with negative impact represent risks. Events with positive impact may offset negative impacts or represent opportunities.

To view the full report, go to www.fdicig.gov/2007reports.asp

#### Information Technology Events Analysis

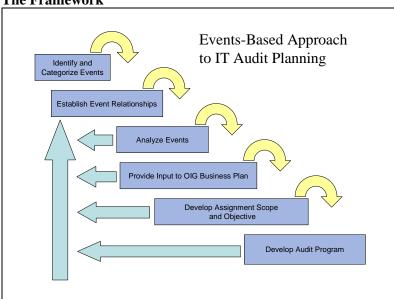
#### **Results of Project**

We developed an events-based approach (the Framework) to help plan and prioritize audit coverage of the FDIC's IT program and operations. The Framework is intended to provide increased assurance that IT audit resources are used consistent with, and promote the achievement of, the FDIC's business goals and objectives.

The Framework (see the figure) consists of six phases:

- identifying IT-related events that may warrant audit attention and categorizing these events using defined criteria;
- establishing relationships among IT-related events;
- analyzing IT-related events using various parameters;
- developing, prioritizing, and approving audit proposals as part of the OIG's business planning process;
- leveraging information generated by the Framework and the FDIC's internal control program to scope audits; and
- developing audit programs that leverage COBIT<sup>©</sup> concepts and the results of the FDIC's internal control assessments.

The Framework



Source: OIG analysis of COBIT<sup>©</sup> and IT-related events.

The Framework links corporate goals and initiatives and IT practices impacted by IT events and will be used to identify areas where IT audit resources can most effectively address IT opportunities and help mitigate risks. The events-based approach to IT audit planning is an iterative process, and potential enhancements may include expanding the framework to other audit areas.

#### **Management Response**

We received feedback on a draft of our project results from the FDIC's Chief Information Officer and DIT staff and incorporated those comments as appropriate.

### Information Technology Events Analysis

Audit Project 07-001

FDIC Office of Inspector General
Office of Audits
Corporate Management and Security Audits

May 11, 2007

#### Introduction

- The purpose of the assignment was to develop an events-based approach for planning and prioritizing audit coverage of the FDIC's information technology (IT) program and operations.
- According to the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO), an event is an incident or occurrence, from internal or external sources, that affects achievement of objectives. Events can have negative impact, positive impact, or both. Events with negative impact represent risks. Events with positive impact may offset negative impacts or represent opportunities. The FDIC emphasizes corporate-wide use of guidance provided by COSO.
- · We conducted our work from January through April 2007.

#### Introduction, Cont.

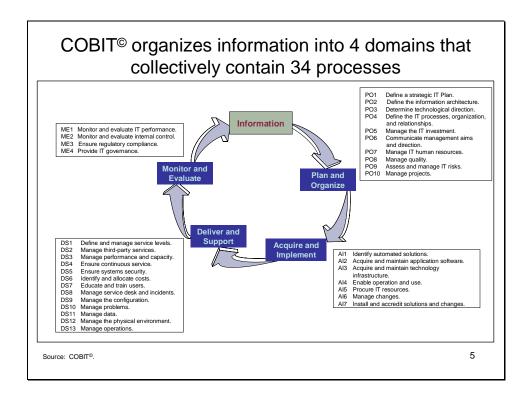
We performed the assignment to:

- Help ensure that the Corporation's investment in audit resources contributes to achieving the FDIC's goals and objectives.
- Develop a framework that provides increased assurance that IT audit resources are consistently aligned with high-priority elements of the FDIC's IT program and operations.

3

#### Background

- The FDIC's Division of Information Technology (DIT) is in the early stages
  of adopting the Control Objectives for Information and Related Technology
  (COBIT®) framework as part of the division's internal control program. DIT
  has structured its internal controls assessment process around the
  COBIT® framework for purposes of making the annual internal controls
  assurance statement required by the Chief Financial Officers Act.
- COBIT<sup>®</sup> is an international IT controls and governance framework that has
  organized IT activities into 34 processes. COBIT<sup>®</sup> helps managers to
  ensure that their IT investments are aligned with their organizations'
  business goals and objectives and that IT-related risks and opportunities
  are appropriately managed.
- We considered the principles defined in COBIT<sup>®</sup> in developing an eventsbased approach for planning and prioritizing future IT audit assignments.

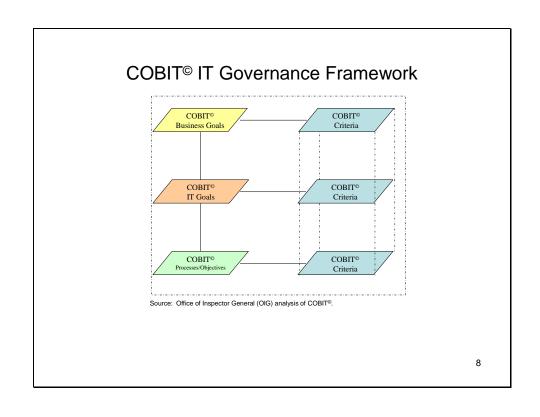


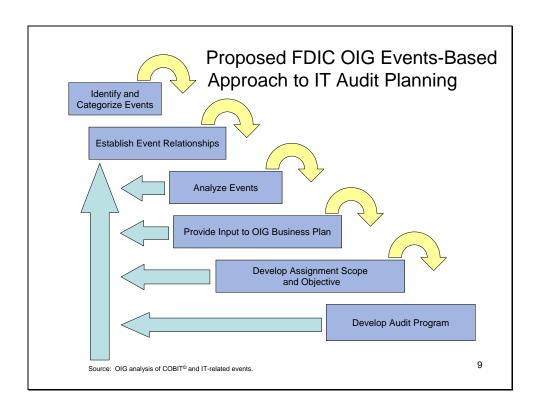
# COBIT<sup>©</sup> defines Information Criteria for IT governance and control

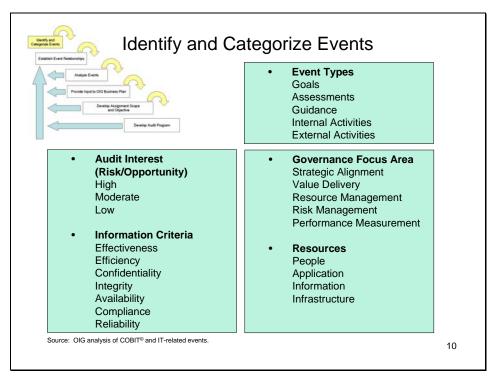
- <u>Effectiveness</u> deals with information being relevant and pertinent to the business process as well as being delivered in a timely, correct, consistent, and usable manner.
- **Efficiency** concerns the provision of information through the optimal (most productive and economical) use of resources.
- <u>Confidentiality</u> concerns the protection of sensitive information from unauthorized disclosure.
- <u>Integrity</u> relates to the accuracy and completeness of information as well as to its validity in accordance with business values and expectations.
- <u>Availability</u> relates to information being available when required by the business process now and in the future. Availability also concerns the safeguarding of necessary resources and associated capabilities.
- <u>Compliance</u> deals with complying with those laws, regulations, and contractual arrangements to which the business process is subject, i.e., externally-imposed business criteria as well as internal policies.
- <u>Reliability</u> relates to the provision of appropriate information for management to operate the entity and exercise its fiduciary and governance responsibilities.

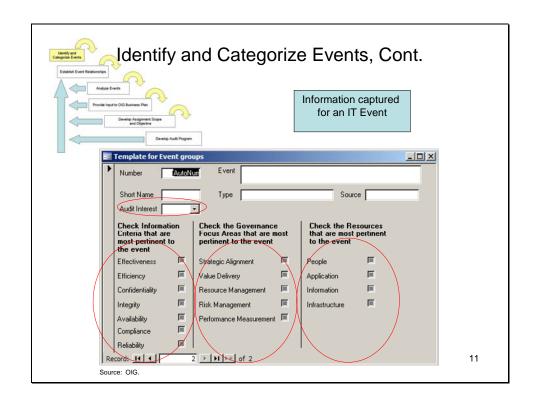
Source: COBIT®. 6

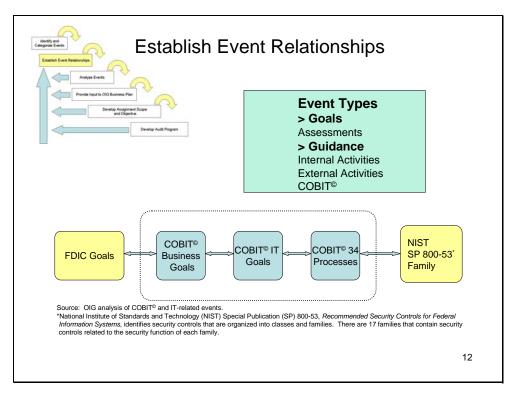
	Information Criteria							
	Pffertiueness	9	emdenoy	Corridentiality	Integrity And skiller	Compliance	Reliability	
Processes								
Plan and Organize								
PO1 Define a Strategic IT Plan	pa	S						
PO2 Define the Information Architecture	Sp	P	S	P				
PO3 Determine Technological Direction	P	P	-	-	_	_		
PO4 Define the IT Processes, Organization and	_	-	-	+	-	1		
Relationships	P	P						
POS Manage the IT Investment	P	P					S	
PO6 Communicate Management Aims and Direction	P	Ė				S		
PO7 Manage IT Human Resources	P	P				1		
PO8 Manage Ouality	P	P		S			S	
PO9 Assess and Manage IT Risks	S	S	P	P	P	S	S	
PO10 Manage Projects	P	P						
Acquire and Implement								
AI1 Identify Automated Solutions	P	S		$\overline{}$	$\overline{}$	$\overline{}$		
AI2 Acquire and Maintain Application Software	P	P		S			S	
AI3 Acquire and Maintain Technology Infrastructure	P	P		S	S			
AI4 Enable Operation and Use	P	P		S	S	S	S	
AIS Procure IT Resources	S	P				S		
AI6 Manage Changes	P	Р		Р	P		S	
AI7 Install and Accredit Solutions and Changes	P	S		S	S			
Deliver and Support								
DS1 Define and Manage Service Levels	P	P	S	S	S	S	S	
DS2 Manage Third-party Services	P	P	S	S	S	S	S	
DS3 Manage Performance and Capacity	P	P			S			
DS4 Ensure Continuous Service	P	S		_	P	-		
DS5 Ensure Systems Security			Р	P	S	S	S	
DS6 Identify and Allocate Costs		P		_	_	-	P	
DS7 Educate and Train Users	P	S						
DS8 Manage Service Desk and Incidents	P	P	-		-			
DS9 Manage the Configuration	P	S	-	_	S	-	S	
DS10 Manage Problems	P	P	_	_	S	-		
DS11 Manage Data		_	_	P	_	_	P	
DS12 Manage the Physical Environment		-	-	P	P	-		
DS13 Manage Operations	P	Р		S	S		_	
Monitor and Evaluate								
ME1 Monitor and Evaluate IT Performance	P	P	S	S	S	S	S	
ME2 Monitor and Evaluate Internal Control	P	Р	S	S	S	S	S	
ME3 Ensure Regulatory Compliance	-	-		-	-	P	S	
ME4 Provide IT Governance	P	P	S	S	S	S	S	

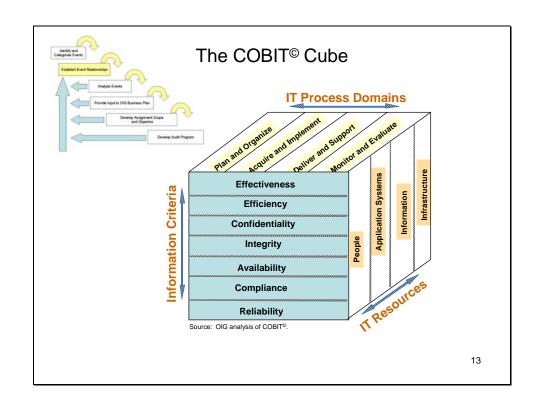


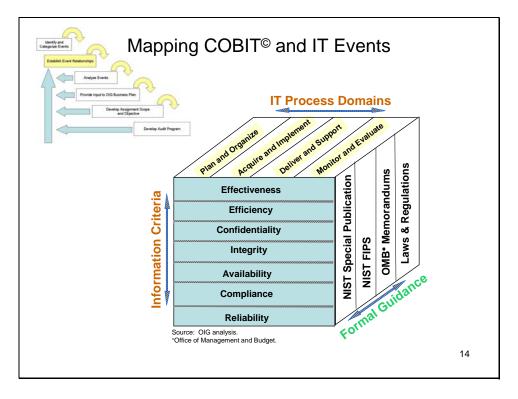


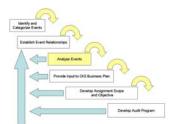








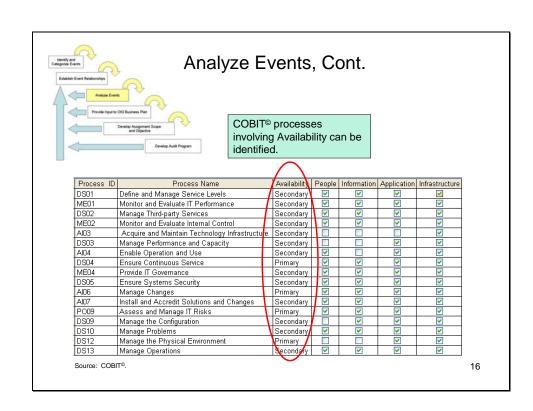


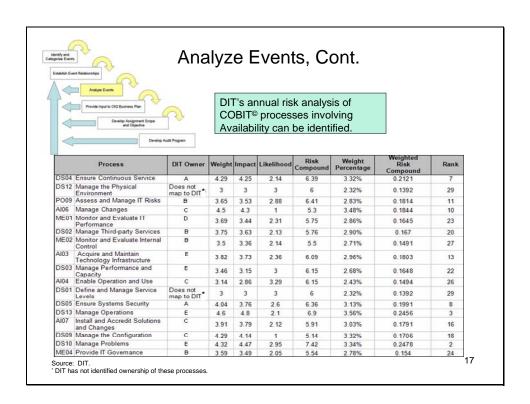


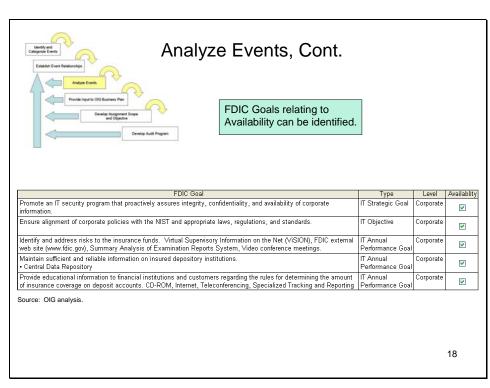
#### **Analyze Events**

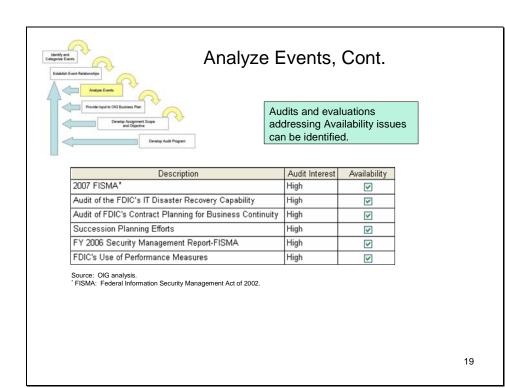
Analyze events using various parameters such as common audit interest or event characteristics.

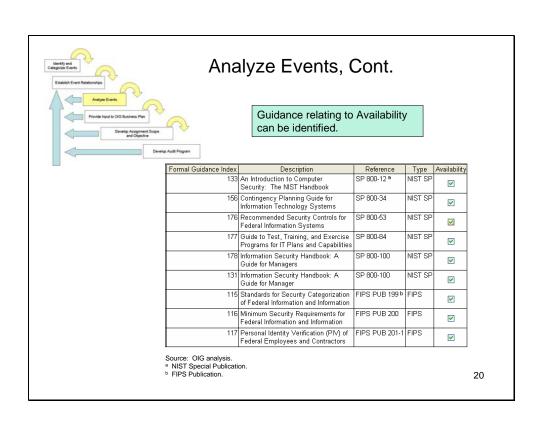
The following information illustrates how a set of IT events can be grouped using "Availability" as a common information criterion. This set of events then can be analyzed for consideration during the OIG's business planning.









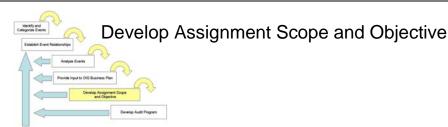




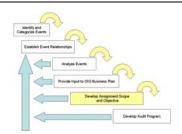
# Provide Input to OIG Business Plan

- Develop audit assignment proposals based on the results of events analysis.
- Discuss audit assignment proposals and their priority with OIG and FDIC management.
- Prepare background information, resource requirements, and preliminary objective and milestones for approved assignments.

21



- Relationships in the framework can be leveraged in developing audit assignment scope and objective(s).
- Survey internal controls using the results of DIT's annual COBIT® questionnaire that identifies IT process risks, maturities, activities, resources, and IT governance areas.

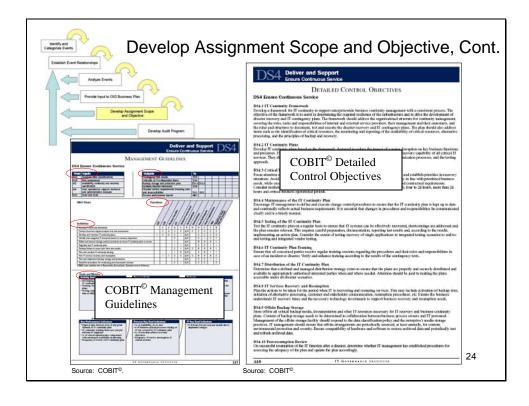


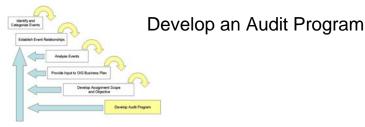
# Develop Assignment Scope and Objective, Cont.

Using IT Disaster Recovery as an example audit assignment:

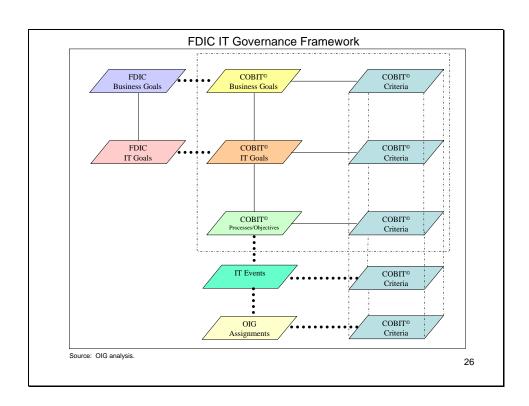
- Develop assignment scope considering a review of applicable COBIT<sup>©</sup> process documentation when developed by DIT.
  - COBIT<sup>©</sup> Management Guidelines
    - · related process inputs and outputs
    - activities and functions (RACI chart\*)
    - · goals and metrics
- Develop assignment objectives considering COBIT<sup>®</sup> high-level and detailed control objectives corresponding to the scope established.

\*The RACI Chart defines who should be responsible (R), accountable (A), consulted (C), and informed (I) for specific control activities. The RACI model is a tool that can be used for identifying roles and responsibilities during an organizational change process.





- Develop detailed testing steps:
  - Specific control objectives related to COBIT<sup>®</sup> processes
  - Specific events
- Reporting results of test steps:
  - Process improvements
  - Specific control improvements
- Assignment is entered into the OIG framework as a categorized event.



#### In Summary

- The events-based approach to IT audit planning identifies:
  - Corporate goals and initiatives impacted by IT events.
  - IT processes impacted by IT events.
  - Areas where IT audit resources can effectively address IT opportunities and risk mitigation.
- The OIG's events-based approach to IT audit planning is an iterative process.
  - Potential enhancements include:
    - expansion of the events-based framework to audit areas outside of IT.
    - linking of the methodology to OIG assignment management.