valiantys
federal.

Digital Efficiency in Government: Modernizing Workflows for Mission Acceleration

www.valiantysfederal.com

Introduction

Every week, a program manager at a federal agency spends three hours compiling status reports from five different systems. A technical architect waits days for security approvals, moving through email chains. An IT leader manually reconciles data across platforms that should talk to each other, but don't.

These incidents aren't isolated, they're symptoms of a systemic challenge facing government agencies nationwide. The true cost isn't measured in software licenses or infrastructure investments. It's measured in mission time lost to friction, in delayed decisions that impact citizens, and in the cumulative weight of workarounds that have become standard operating procedure.

Let's examine the hidden costs of disconnected systems in government operations and demonstrate how modern, secure, and compliant workflows can transform these time drains into mission momentum.

The Friction You've Learned to Live With

What if your biggest inefficiencies are hiding in plain sight?

Government agencies have become adaptation experts. When systems are disparate, and many systems are set up to answer the call of one task,, teams create manual bridges. When visibility requires multiple dashboards, they schedule more meetings. When compliance slows workflows, they build in buffer time. This adaptability, while admirable, masks a critical issue: the friction you've learned to live with is compounding daily, creating an invisible tax on your time and therefore impacting the mission.

According to Deloitte's 2025 Government Trends report, agencies focusing on operational efficiency and cost management see a direct correlation between streamlined workflows and mission delivery speed. Yet, many organizations continue accepting inefficiency as the price of security and compliance, which is a false dichotomy that modern systems have made obsolete.

The Snowball Effect: How Hidden Friction Becomes a Big Problem

Small inefficiencies compound exponentially. That 15-minute daily data entry task becomes 65 hours annually per team member. Multiply this across an agency, and you're looking at thousands of hours and entire Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) that are dedicated to maintaining the gaps between systems rather than advancing the mission.

The Congressional Research Service highlights that federal contracting expenses often balloon, not from the core requirements, but from the administrative overhead of managing disconnected processes (IF12058). This administrative burden doesn't just cost money; it costs opportunity and keeps your time and resources bound.

Does This Sound Like Your Agency?

Manual Data Entry Across Multiple Systems

Your analysts update project status in one system, budget tracking in another, and compliance documentation in a third. Each entry point represents not just time spent, but potential for error, inconsistency, and security vulnerabilities. When the same information lives in multiple places, which version is the truth?

The "Status Update Meeting" Trap

How many of your meetings exist solely because information isn't visible in real-time? Program managers schedule weekly syncs not for strategic discussions but for gathering basic information. Technical teams present the same updates to multiple stakeholders because there's no single source of truth. These meetings don't advance the mission, they maintain the status quo.

Chasing Approvals Through Email Chains

Critical decisions languish in inboxes. Security clearances, budget approvals, and technical reviews move at the speed of email, which is to say, unpredictably and opaquely. Without workflow automation, every approval becomes a potential bottleneck, and tracking accountability becomes another full-time job.

Security Compliance as a Workflow Bottleneck

In the name of security, many agencies have accepted that work must move slowly. But what if compliance requirements were built into the workflow itself? What if FedRAMP authorization and DISA compliance accelerated rather than decelerated your operations?

The True Cost of "Making it Work"

Quantifying The Time Drain

Let's quantify the problem. When Deloitte analyzed government operations seeking cost optimization, they found that agencies spend an average of 30% of their time on administrative tasks that modern systems could automate or eliminate. For a 100-person IT organization, that's 30 FTEs worth of capacity locked into maintenance rather than being utilized for innovation.

Consider the cascade effect:

3 hours weekly per manager on status compilation	**156 Hours** *Annually*
5 hours weekly per technical lead on cross-system coordination	**260 Hours** *Annually*
2 hours daily across teams waiting for approvals	**4160 Hours** *Annually*

That's over **4500 hours**, more than two full-time positions, lost to preventable friction.

Mission Impact of Delayed Decisions

Every hour spent reconciling data or chasing approvals is an hour not spent on mission-critical work. When a cybersecurity threat emerges, response time matters. When citizens need services, delivery speed affects lives. When Congress requests reports, timeliness influences funding. The USF Contract Resources analysis shows that agencies with integrated workflows respond to requirements 40% faster than those relying on manual processes.

Risk of Human Error in Manual Processes

Manual data entry is associated with a 1-3% error rate per field, according to industry standards. Across thousands of entries, these errors compound into significant risks:

- ◆ **Compliance violations from inconsistent documentation**
- ◆ **Budget overruns from data entry mistakes**
- ◆ **Security vulnerabilities from access control errors**
- ◆ **Mission failures from incorrect information**

Compliance Vulnerabilities from Workarounds

Every workaround creates a shadow IT problem. Excel spreadsheets tracking sensitive data? That personal email used to expedite approvals? These aren't just inefficient, they're enabling and empowering attack vectors. Modern systems eliminate the need for workarounds by building compliant paths that are also the simplest.

What Modern Systems of Work Actually Look Like

Single Source of Truth for Project Data

Imagine opening one dashboard and seeing everything: project status, budget utilization, compliance posture, team capacity, and mission metrics. Not five systems, not ten spreadsheets, but one authoritative source that everyone trusts because it's always current, always accurate, and always accessible to those who need it.

A modern platform, like Atlassian Government Cloud (AGC) creates this reality. They consolidate disparate data streams into unified workflows where information flows seamlessly from requirement to delivery.

Automated Workflows That Maintain Compliance

Compliance isn't bolted on, it's built in. Every action is logged, every access is controlled, every change is tracked. FedRAMP and DISA requirements serve as guardrails that guide work, rather than gates that slow it down. Automated workflows ensure that security protocols are followed not through manual checklists but through system design.

When approval chains are automated:

◆ **No request gets lost in an inbox**

◆ **Escalation happens automatically after defined periods**

◆ **Audit trails generate themselves**

◆ **Compliance evidence accumulates without additional effort**

Real-Time Visibility Without the Meetings

Status updates become obsolete when everyone can see progress in real-time. Dashboards tailored to different stakeholders allow executives to view mission metrics, managers to track team velocity, and technicians to monitor system health, all eliminating the need for information-gathering meetings. Time previously spent presenting can be redirected to advancing the mission.

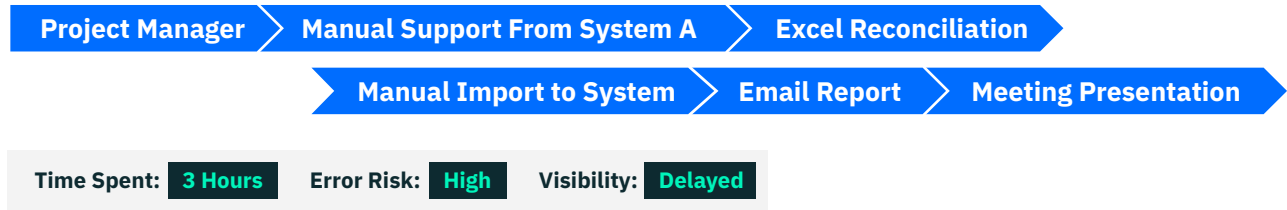## Integrated Security That Speeds Up, Not Slows Down

Security in modern systems is a continuous endeavor. Zero-trust architectures, automated vulnerability scanning, and integrated compliance monitoring mean that security enhances rather than impedes velocity. When security is automatic, teams can move at the speed of mission, not at the speed of manual review.
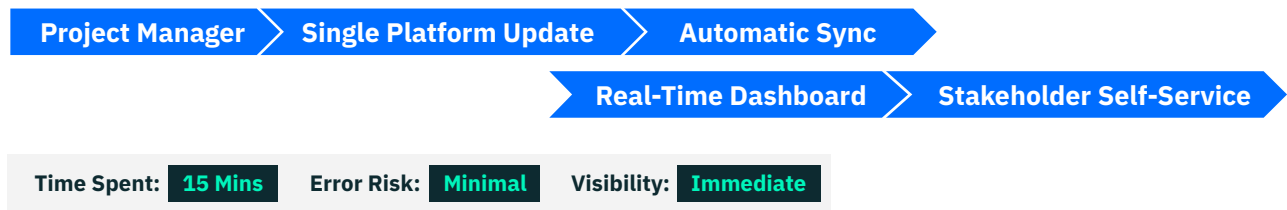
Visual Transformation: Before and After

Before: The Disconnected Reality

Project Manager ⟩ Manual Support From System A ⟩ Excel Reconciliation ⟩

Manual Import to System ⟩ Email Report ⟩ Meeting Presentation ⟩

Time Spent: `3 Hours`   **Error Risk:** `High`   **Visibility:** `Delayed`

After: The Integrated Workflow

Project Manager ⟩ Single Platform Update ⟩ Automatic Sync ⟩

Real-Time Dashboard ⟩ Stakeholder Self-Service ⟩

Time Spent: `15 Mins`   **Error Risk:** `Minimal`   **Visibility:** `Immediate`

Why Change Feels Impossible (But Isn't)

Addressing the "Too Expensive" Assumption

The sticker shock of modernization often stops agencies before they start. But consider the true cost calculation. Those 4,500 hours of lost productivity? At an average federal IT professional rate, that's over $400,000 annually in hidden costs. Modern platforms typically pay for themselves within the first year through efficiency gains alone, as noted in Deloitte's cost management analysis.

Debunking the "Too Complex for Government" Myth

Government requirements are complex, but modern platforms are built for complexity. FedRAMP-authorized solutions have already solved for:

◆ **Multi-level security requirements**

◆ **Cross-agency collaboration needs**

◆ **Hybrid cloud architectures**

◆ **Legacy system integration**

◆ **Stringent audit requirements**

The complexity has been addressed at the platform level, so agencies can focus on configuration, not construction.

Reality Check on Implementation Timelines

Full transformation doesn't happen overnight, but meaningful progress happens faster than most expect. Agencies typically see:

◆ **Week 1:** Platform provisioning and initial configuration

◆ **Week 2-4:** First workflow migration and team onboarding

◆ **Month 2:** Multiple workflows operational, early efficiency gains visible

◆ **Months 3-6:** Systematic migration, growing adoption, measurable ROI

◆ **Months 6-12:** Ongoing troubleshooting and customization, and total adoption across the agency

FedRAMP/DISA Compliance as an Accelerator, Not a Barrier

Pre-authorized platforms eliminate months of security reviews. When your solution already meets IL4/IL5 requirements, has FedRAMP authorization, and maintains continuous ATO, you're not starting from zero. You're building on a proven foundation that accelerates rather than delays implementation.

Quick Wins Agencies See in the First 30 Days:

50% reduction in status meeting time

75% faster approval cycles for standard requests

90% elimination of data entry duplication

100% audit trail coverage without manual documentation

Immediate visibility into project health and resource utilization

From Friction to Mission Focus

You Don't Have to Accept Friction as Normal

The inefficiencies you've adapted to aren't immutable laws of government operation. They're solvable problems with proven solutions. Every hour your team spends on workarounds is an hour that could advance your mission.

Modern, Secure, Compliant Solutions Exist Today

The technology is ready. FedRAMP-authorized, DISA-approved platforms designed specifically for government use are operational and proven. These aren't just theoretical solutions, they're running in agencies today, delivering measurable results while maintaining the highest security standards, and evolving continuously to adapt to mission needs.

Start by Identifying Your Biggest Time Drain

Transformation begins with recognition. Where does your team lose the most time? Is it:

- **Status reporting and meeting overhead?**

- **Cross-system data reconciliation?**

- **Approval and review processes?**

- **Compliance documentation?**

- **Security clearance workflows?**

Identifying your primary friction point focuses your modernization effort where it will deliver the most immediate impact.

Taking the First Step

Reclaim time for what matters most. Every manual process automated, every integration completed, every workflow streamlined returns hours to your mission.

The question isn't whether to modernize but how quickly you can afford to transform. With proven platforms, experienced partners, and clear ROI, the path from friction to flow is clearer than ever.

The Atlassian Ecosystem: Your Efficiency Epicenter

FedRAMP-authorized and DoD-approved, Atlassian is a force multiplier for government and non-government agencies. Atlassian isn't just an epicenter for agency efficiency, its Interconnected capabilities empower your agency with total transparency and insight.

Create a Digital Library with Confluence: Your Single Source of Truth

Confluence serves as your digital library and knowledgebase, creating a single source of truth across your enterprise. Confluence ensures critical information does not get lost in disparate systems or inconsistent communications, and is the first line of defense to maintain historical knowledge.

Meticulously Manage Projects & Inventory with Jira

Jira serves as your all-in-one project management tool. Across projects of varying sizes and complexities, Jira enables teams to stay on task, in the loop, and empowered with a project management tool that is designed with the end user in mind.

Service Management with JSM

Jira Service Management (JSM) unites development, IT, and business teams for unparalleled support for your enterprise. With IT Service Management (ITSM), you can organize intake request tickets, set up alerts, escalate incidents, and resolve issues for your team quickly and efficiently. Plus, optional AI assistance is available to predict issues, suggest actions, and automate resolutions, freeing up your support team from repetitive requests.

Separately, these tools are powerful enough to revolutionize operational efficiency without tapping your team's resources. Together, they keep your agency operating at peak efficiency, eliminating friction and enabling you to focus on driving progress and making decisions at the speed of mission.

Conclusion: The Mission Imperative

The Urgent Case for Efficiency

Government agencies face unprecedented challenges requiring unprecedented efficiency. The hidden costs of disconnected systems, measured in time, accuracy, security, and mission impact, are no longer acceptable or necessary.

The agencies that recognize and address these hidden costs won't just save money, they'll accelerate their missions, empower their teams, and better serve their stakeholders. In an environment where every resource matters and every minute counts, eliminating workflow friction isn't just an operational improvement, it's a mission imperative.

The tools exist. The path is proven. The only question remaining is: How much longer will you accept friction as the cost of doing business?

About Valiantys Federal

Valiantys Federal leads the industry in modern, mission-critical digital transformations for government and regulated industries. As the premier partner for secure, compliant systems of work, we empower agencies to deliver on their missions with confidence and agility. Our expertise in Atlassian and other enterprise platforms, combined with deep understanding of government requirements, enables us to eliminate friction and accelerate mission success.

References:

Deloitte. (2025). "Cost Management in Government Operations." Deloitte Insights.

Deloitte. (2025). "Government Trends: Delivering on Lower Cost." Deloitte Insights.

U.S. Federal Contractor Registration. "Understanding Federal Contracting Expenses." USF Blogs.

Congressional Research Service. "Federal Contracting and Acquisition." Report IF12058.

valiantys
federal.

Address	Phone:	(877) 882-0411

Valiantys Federal
1500 K. Street, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005

Email: sales@valiantysfederal.com
Website: www.valiantysfederal.com