

Fast-Track Your ATO with Kion

A guide to managing your organization's security



Have you ever noticed the complexity involved in obtaining an Authority to Operate (ATO) for your cloud environment? From manual processes to varying security requirements, navigating the ATO journey can be daunting.

Read the guide below and discover how Kion can help you continuously scan, automate compliance, and eliminate drift.



Challenges to ATO



MANY MANUAL PROCESSES

The traditional ATO process is heavily manual, involving extensive documentation, compliance audits, evidence gathering, and remediation.



HUMAN RESOURCE INTENSIVE

Manual processes have too many steps that require human intervention.



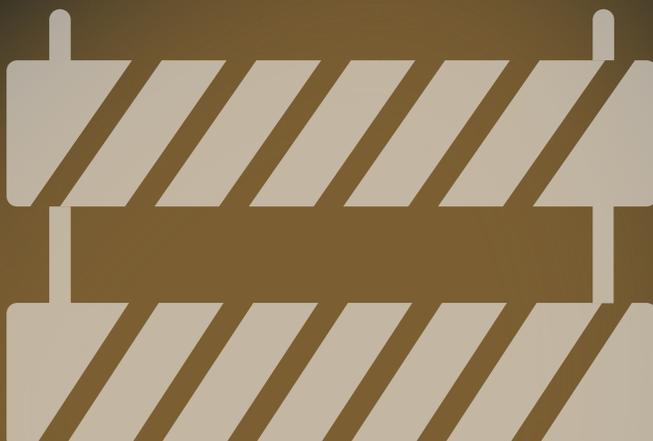
DIVERSE SECURITY REQUIREMENTS

Agencies may have different compliance standards and unique requirements that can complicate the ATO process.



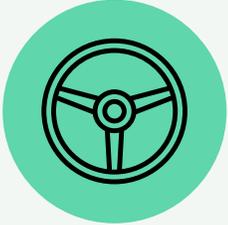
DYNAMIC CLOUD ENVIRONMENT

Cloud environments are highly dynamic, with frequent changes in resources and configurations that, while beneficial for flexibility, pose significant challenges in maintaining continuous compliance and necessitate ongoing monitoring and rapid adjustments.



Kion: Your Express Lane to ATO

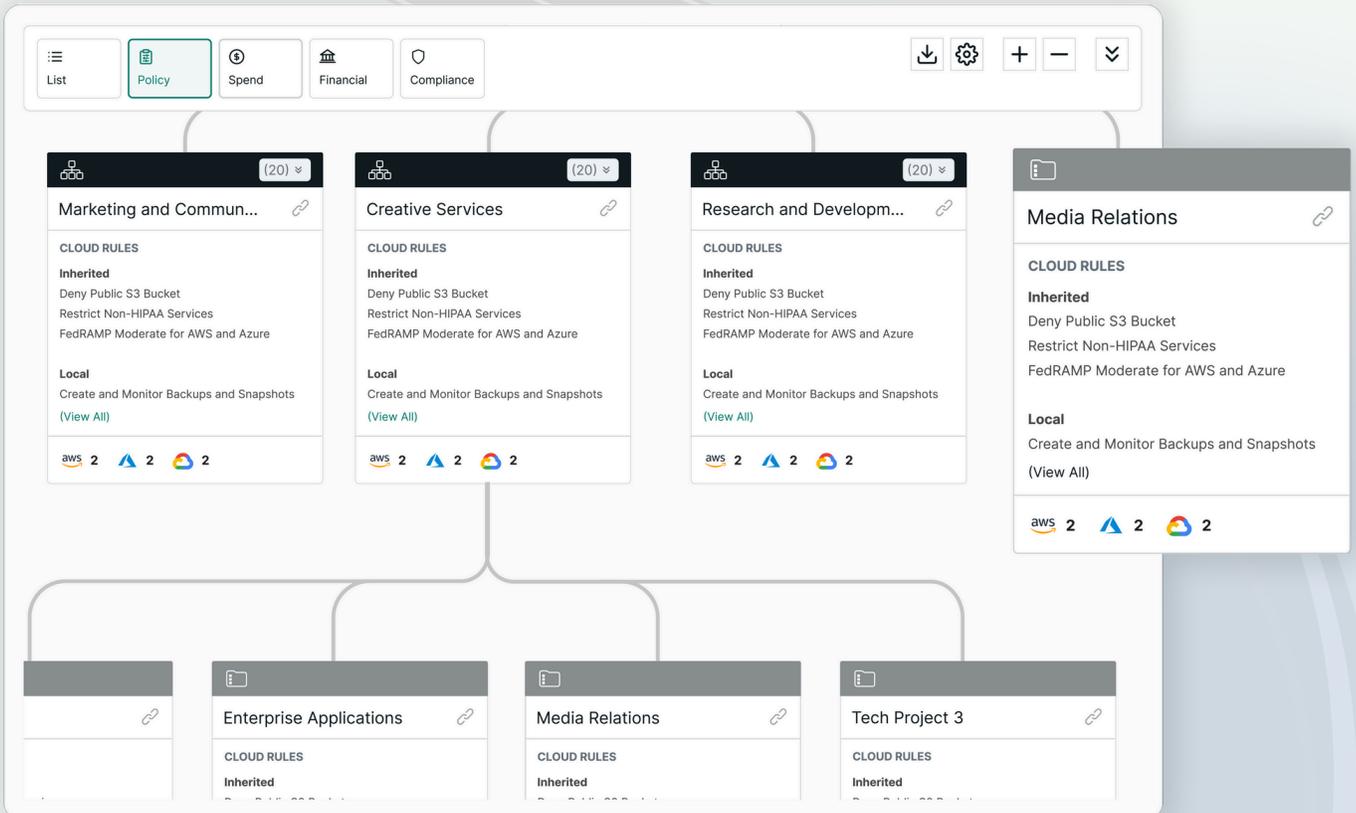
Kion accelerates the ATO process by providing a comprehensive platform that streamlines cloud compliance, security, and access management. With Kion, you can institute a "compliant-by-default" posture in your multi-cloud environment to eliminate manual effort and to stay secure and compliant no matter how you scale or evolve.



Policy-Driven Guardrails

Kion's policy-driven guardrails translate your organizational policy to cloud policy. They enforce security best practices automatically, preventing unauthorized actions or configurations that do not comply with ATO requirements.

This proactive approach eliminates drift and reduces the effort needed to maintain a secure environment, accelerating the ATO process by minimizing potential security roadblocks.



The screenshot displays a dashboard with a top navigation bar containing tabs for 'List', 'Policy', 'Spend', 'Financial', and 'Compliance'. Below the navigation, there are several panels representing different organizational units, each with a 'CLOUD RULES' section. The units shown include 'Marketing and Commun...', 'Creative Services', 'Research and Developm...', 'Media Relations', 'Enterprise Applications', 'Media Relations', and 'Tech Project 3'. Each panel lists 'Inherited' and 'Local' rules, such as 'Deny Public S3 Bucket', 'Restrict Non-HIPAA Services', and 'FedRAMP Moderate for AWS and Azure'. At the bottom of each panel, there are icons for AWS, Azure, and Google Cloud, each with a '2' next to it, indicating the number of resources affected by the rules.



One-Click Compliance Jumpstarts

Kion's "Jump Start" packages provide prebuilt resources and templates that can be deployed in one click to meet specific compliance frameworks like FedRAMP, NIST, and CIS.

By using these continually updated resources, organizations can rapidly set up compliant environments, significantly reducing the time and effort required to prepare for ATO.



Continuous Compliance Monitoring and Auto Remediation

Kion's continuous scanning of the cloud environment for compliance with relevant standards like NIST 800-53 helps identify and rectify issues quickly. If Kion identifies non-compliant findings, it can auto-remediate them or escalate them for intervention.

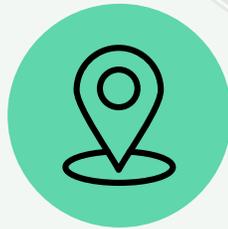
This ongoing monitoring reduces the effort required to prepare for ATO by maintaining a consistently compliant environment and minimizing the risk of last-minute compliance issues.



Robust Integrations for Vulnerability Scanning

Kion can integrate with tools like Tenable.sc to bring vulnerability data directly into the platform and allow users to view vulnerability assessments as part of the continuous compliance monitoring process.

This integration streamlines the ATO process by providing a comprehensive view of the environment's security posture, making identifying and addressing potential vulnerabilities easier.



Centralized Identity and Infrastructure Entitlements Management

Kion simplifies access management and enhances security by managing permissions and mapping your users and groups in your identity provider to the correct least privileged roles based on account and task. It provides Role-based access control (RBAC) and Attribute-based access control (ABAC), further improving scalability and granularity for your cloud permissions.

This control streamlines the ATO process by reducing complexity and ensures your multi-cloud environment is least-privileged by default.

Accounts					Add +
Account Name	Account Number	Cloud Provider	Cloud Access	Status	
Asthma Research Active since January 1, 2019	[REDACTED]	aws AWS	Select a cloud access role ▾	● Active	
Google Account Active since January 1, 2020	[REDACTED]	Google Cloud	Admin Google	● Active	
EA-SBX2 Active since January 1, 2023	[REDACTED]	Azure EA	Developer	● Active	
CSP RG 1 Active since January 1, 2023	[REDACTED]	Azure CSP RG	Read Only Role	● Active	
			Power User Plus		
			Global Administrator	● Active	
			Global Security Auditor		

Kion has a proven track record

of supporting civilian, defense, and intelligence agencies with their multi-cloud operations, helping them to achieve and maintain ATO more efficiently. By providing a comprehensive platform that addresses critical aspects of cloud security, compliance, and access management, Kion empowers organizations to navigate the complex ATO process with greater ease and confidence.

If you're looking to streamline your ATO journey and optimize your multi-cloud environment, [request a briefing](#) to learn more about how Kion can accelerate your ATO process and help you achieve your cloud initiatives.