PolicyCortex

RMF & CONTINUOUS ATO

Continuous ATO and NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 5 Authorization

Maintain Low, Moderate, and High baseline evidence continuously and export complete RMF packages on demand.

Federal information systems and agency cloud enclaves operating under the Risk Management Framework spend months compiling System Security Plans, Security Assessment Reports, and Plans of Action and Milestones, only for the evidence to go stale the day after authorization.

Manual RMF Assembly Slows Authorization Decisions

When control narratives live in static Word files while cloud infrastructure changes daily, ISSOs and system owners must chase screenshots across Azure, AWS, identity providers, and ticketing queues. Continuous monitoring under CA-7 degrades into quarterly spreadsheet drills.

Live Control Traceability Across All 20 NIST Families

PolicyCortex maps live resource observations across 1,196 NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 5 controls and control enhancements covering Low, Moderate, and High baselines. Every control statement links directly to timestamped collector evidence, inherited control boundaries, and open milestones.

When an Authorizing Official or Security Control Assessor requests an updated package, PolicyCortex exports synchronized SSP, SAR, eMASS-formatted POA&M spreadsheets, and NIST OSCAL 1.1.2 JSON from the exact same as-of snapshot.

ARCHITECTURAL PILLARS

1,196 Controls Tracked

Full NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 5 catalog coverage across Low, Moderate, and High baselines with per-enhancement evidence rows.

Synchronized RMF Exports

Generate SSP, SAR, eMASS POA&M workbooks, and OSCAL 1.1.2 JSON together so narratives and findings never contradict.

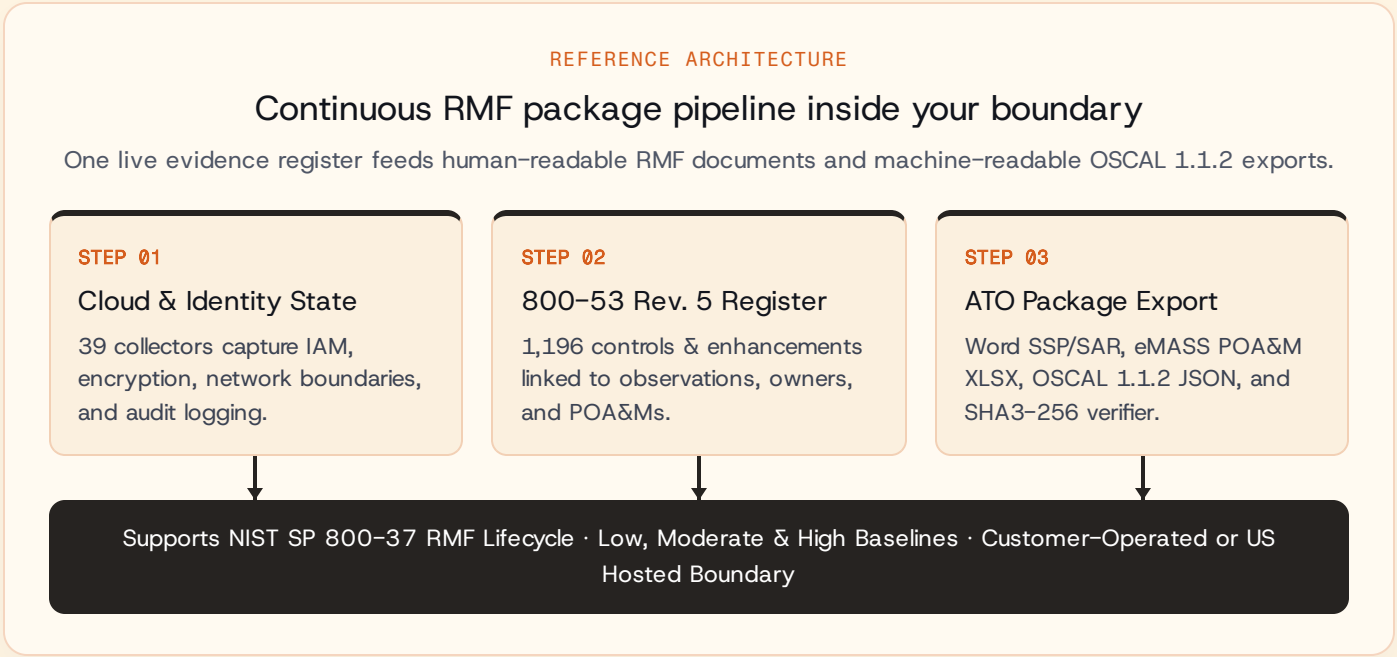
CA-7 Continuous Monitoring

Scheduled collectors detect configuration drift, open linked POA&M milestones, and preserve historical as-of snapshots.

Solution overview

PolicyCortex turns RMF steps Prepare through Monitor into a continuous engineering workflow without removing human authorization sign-off:

- **Control inheritance and responsibility matrices:** Distinguish cloud-provider inherited controls, shared controls, and customer-implemented controls across Azure Government, Azure Commercial, and AWS.
- **eMASS-compatible POA&M workbooks:** Failed checks and accepted exceptions flow directly into structured POA&M rows with scheduled completion dates, milestones, and source finding IDs.
- **Historical as-of package snapshots:** Reconstruct the exact control posture and evidence digests from any prior assessment window without overwriting current continuous monitoring state.
- **Independent SHA3-256 evidence verification:** Every exported RMF archive carries manifest.v2.json and ledger.jsonl so assessors confirm zero post-export tampering offline.



Solution components

Core modules, delivery options, and machine-readable handoff artifacts included in the platform:

RMF & Control Capabilities

- **Baseline Tailoring:** Select NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 5 Low, Moderate, or High baselines with documented overlays and scoping notes.
- **CA-7 Drift Cadence:** Continuous collector runs flag regressions on AC, AU, CM, IA, SC, and SI families as they occur.
- **Evidence Provenance:** Each observation stores raw resource attributes, collector version, timestamp, and SHA3-256 digest.

Assessor & Agency Deliverables

- **System Security Plan (SSP):** Exported in Word DOCX, PDF, and schema-valid OSCAL 1.1.2 system-security-plan.json.
- **Security Assessment Report (SAR):** Control-by-control assessment findings in Word DOCX and OSCAL assessment-results.json.
- **eMASS POA&M Workbook:** 23-column XLSX export structured for agency continuous monitoring workflows.

POA&M Lifecycle Management

- **Automated Finding Linkage:** Control regressions attach to existing or new POA&M items with owner accountability.
- **Closure Evidence:** POA&M completion requires a passing collector observation rather than manual status toggles.

Federal Contracting Readiness

- **SAM Registered Vendor:** Active SAM registration (CAGE 19CQ3) with cleared founder-led delivery engagements.
- **No Black-Box Scoring:** Assessors inspect raw JSON configuration payloads alongside every pass or fail determination.

20	1,196	OSCAL 1.1.2	eMASS
NIST SP 800-53 Control Families	Controls & Enhancements Mapped	SSP, SAR & POA&M JSON Schemas	Compatible 23-Column POA&M XLSX

Evaluation and onboarding

Start with read-only permissions and verify exported packages before granting any write scope:

Step 01

Select RMF Baseline

Configure your system boundary and select NIST SP 800-53 Low, Moderate, or High baseline controls.

Step 02

Connect Read-Only Collectors

Map live Azure and AWS configuration state to control enhancements and surface open POA&M items.

Step 03

Deliver Verifiable ATO Bundle

Export synchronized SSP, SAR, POA&M, and OSCAL 1.1.2 files backed by offline cryptographic verification.

Additional resources

Review NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 5 solution capabilities	policycortex.com/solutions/nist-800-53
Inspect ATO and authorization package workflows	policycortex.com/platform/ato-authorization
Download a complete sample ATO package with OSCAL 1.1.2 files	policycortex.com/sample-package
Explore federal agency deployment and procurement paths	policycortex.com/federal

Review ATO Package Capabilities →

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