

## IN BRIEF

### Industry

- Construction

### Challenges

- Undefined cyber practice
- Undefined security roadmap
- Limited cyber risk visibility
- Leadership & IT alignment for risk mitigation

### Solution

- Fortify1's MyCyber360
- Risk Assessment Activity

### Benefits

- Identified cyber risk
- Establish cyber practice
- Establish security roadmap
- Track cyber activities
- Demonstrate continued diligence



Garney teams with Fortify1 to transform their cyber security practice and implements Fortify1's MyCyber360 as their cyber program management platform.

## Garney Companies

**The Challenge:** As a rapidly growing company, Garney's infrastructure footprint had grown significantly without a cyber security program or cyber risk strategy.

The Garney IT staff had done an excellent job of meeting business demand in supporting and scaling infrastructure, however the team faced the common challenge of finding time and resources to establish a manageable security practice allowing them to assess their security posture, identify risk, security technology solutions, establish a security roadmap **and lastly, track security activities in way in which they could demonstrate the diligence applied to their effort and provide their leadership with the proper insight to the program and required resources.** The IT department found itself becoming very reactive to an increasing number of threats in which their security technologies were not appropriately defending.

**Another challenge was the absence of a security strategy.** The team was very solid at executing operational projects and tasks. Within every project or task, security activities were being executed but the team had not approached security with a holistic view due to the continuous growth of the company and their limited resources. In addition, cyber risk and security was not a priority topic. However, the team was confident that company leadership would support their effort and provide resources if they were able to appropriately identify risk and adopt a practice that would clearly demonstrate that diligence was being applied and that any investment toward security activity would be properly leveraged and would reduce risk.

*"We just didn't have a structured program to follow or to find the steps we needed to bring our program up to speed...leadership understood we needed something in place."*

*Kipp Connell, Garney IT Director*



## Case Study

Garney Companies transforms their cyber security program utilizing Fortify1's MyCyber360 platform and positions its program for sustainable management and demonstration of diligence.

*"Our biggest challenge was having a direction and knowing where to start."*

*Tim Vallejos, IT Specialist*

*"Having Fortify1 as a resource and to provide guidance has been great...it makes it easy for me to see where we are at and where we are going with our cyber security effort?"*

*Kipp Connell, IT Director*



## Kipp Connell – Garney IT Director

*"Fortify1 provided the framework and expertise to help us with our program"*

### **The Solution: Fortify1's Cyber security Program Manager Plus and activity to identify addressing validated risk.**


With the rising volume of threats being detected in the environment and the increasing amount of time the IT team was spending to defend and troubleshoot, the team realized it had to research options and act.

Garney contacted Fortify1 and learned of Fortify1's holistic approach to cyber security program management. Fortify1's MyCyber360 application provides a framework for managing cyber security activity holistically and enables an organization to demonstrate due diligence and good faith actions taken to address cyber risk.

The Garney IT team started their cyber security initiatives by partnering with Fortify1. After learning of Garney's environment, Fortify1 provided guidance for establishing a cyber security strategy. Fortify1 brought in an assessment partner to perform vulnerability assessment services which provided insight to the remediation actions Garney would need to seek support for. Utilizing MyCyber360, Fortify1 began to work with Garney to structure their cyber security practice and capture the critical information related to their security environment including policies, procedures, defense technologies, governance activities and other key information. As assessment activities were completed and final reports were issued, Fortify1 utilized MyCyber360 to capture the assessment activities, summarize the results and place them into easy to comprehend timelines for leadership consumption. The remediation activities were identified and placed into MyCyber360's project management module with tasks and milestones which would serve as the team's roadmap and project focus.

Kipp presented the program activities to leadership. The results were received with support and understanding of the findings and proposed initiatives. The IT team was able to demonstrate for the first time, they had a program with mapped activities that were focused on mitigating risks and had taken the necessary steps to enhance security with a diligent approach. Their projects were approved by management and budget was allocated for the team to proceed.

*"We have a clear direction now, we know where we were lacking in direction and have a plan in place to move forward." Tim Vallejos, Garney, IT Specialist*



## Fortify1 partners with construction industry.

**The Benefits:** Garney now has a holistic cyber security practice and can easily demonstrate their effort and diligence for mitigating risk and enhancing its security posture.

Within a few short months, the Garney IT team moved their cyber security approach from a reactive unstructured operational task driven effort to a holistic cyber security practice. Their practice now consists of a structured framework with which they can move forward and know they are able to easily demonstrate their actions, prove value and justification for the decisions made to mitigate risk. They now have an actionable plan that includes remediation actions, identified technology solutions for implementation, a cyber security incident response plan and an application to facilitate tracking their progress. Their roadmap is now defined with supportable documentation and is understood and supported by leadership.

***“We are now organized, and we are making good progress whereas before we were flying by the seat of our pants...we now have an actual cyber security program in place.” Kipp Connell, IT Director***

Moving forward, the introduction of end user awareness programs, future assessments, demonstration of compliance requirements, governance actions and other key security activities will be captured within MyCyber360. Their ability to prove diligence to internal and external stakeholders will continue to be enhanced as their effort continues and matures.

Garney's success lies in the IT team's recognition of needing to take a significant step in changing their approach to security. They understood a true cyber security practice requires sustainability and includes many other components such as governance, incident response, controls, assessments and the ability to prove and justify their actions. They had been educated to the fact that litigation is a real threat that lies in the cyber landscape and figured it should be encompassed in their effort in order to truly defend the company assets and its stakeholders.

***“We can now look to ensuring compliance with state data privacy laws, and our ability to show management that we are working to implement security and have a forward plan.” Tim Vallejos, IT Specialist.***

Garney has achieved a major milestone in moving their program forward and are well positioned for tracking and identifying future security initiatives. Fortify1 values its partnership with Garney and is proud to be an important part of Garney's success story. Fortify1 also looks forward to future success with Garney as their relationship continues.

### About Fortify1

Fortify1 provides a suite of software solutions built to help businesses diligently manage their cyber security programs.

Now more than ever, cyber security program management effectiveness requires insight, holistic management and organizational alignment.

Litigation is now a threat in the cyber landscape that demands attention.

Fortify1 provides a platform for enhancing security posture and proving diligence within your cyber security program in addition to helping maintain security compliance and manage data privacy risk.



## Summary

### About the Client

Garney Companies was founded in 1961 and is employee owned by 1,380 employees. Garney specializes in water and wastewater construction for public, private, industrial and federal clients. Its operating subsidiaries are Garney Companies, Inc., Garney Pacific, Inc., Garney Federal, Inc., and Garney P3, LLC.

### Challenge

- Undefined cyber practice
- Undefined security roadmap
- Limited cyber risk visibility
- Leadership and IT alignment for risk mitigation

### Solution

- Implementation of a holistic cyber security practice utilizing Fortify1's MyCyber360 platform
- Assessment activity to identify vulnerabilities and validate threat risk
- Partner with Fortify1 for program structure and guidance

### Benefits

- Established sustainable cyber practice for managing risk and demonstrating diligence
- Established trackable roadmap for cyber initiatives and risk mitigation
- Provide program and risk insight for garnering leadership support and alignment for IT support and resource
- Now demonstrating diligence to increase defense against litigation threat

## Quick Facts

FOUNDED – 1961

EMPLOYEE OWNERS – 1,380

REVENUE - \$841 Million

LOCATIONS:

- HQ – Kansas City
- Arizona
- California
- Colorado
- Florida
- Georgia
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Virginia
- Washington

# FORTIFY1

*'Changing the way businesses demonstrate diligence in managing cyber security risk'*

1-888-212-6187

[salesteam@fortify1.com](mailto:salesteam@fortify1.com)

[www.fortify1.com](http://www.fortify1.com)

© Fortify1 Corporation, 2021. This publication was produced by Fortify1's marketing team in collaboration with Garney Companies. All content was edited and approved by both entities and is property of and copyright protected by Fortify1 Corporation.