

The CISO's Guide

to Choosing an Automated Security Questionnaire Platform





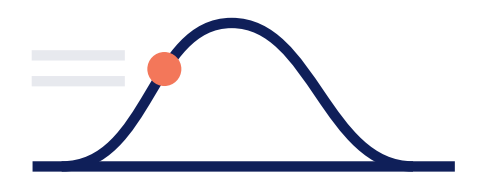
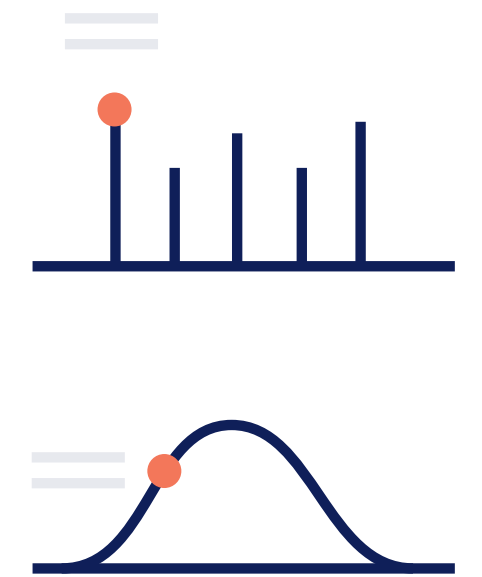
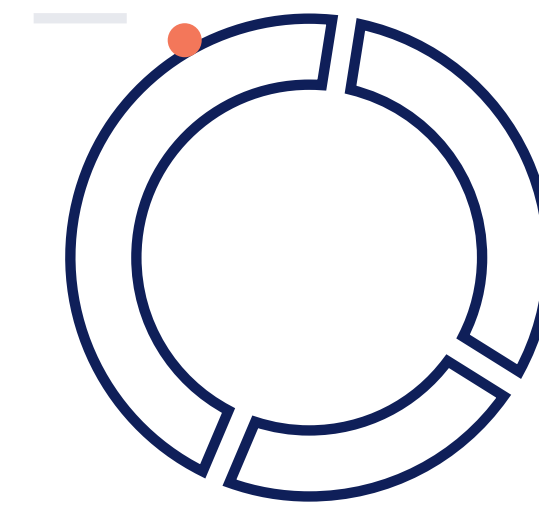
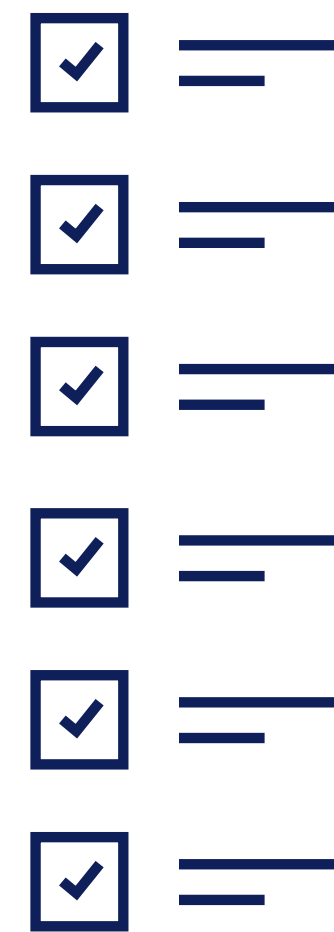
In this day and age of cyber risk and data privacy regulations, automated third-party questionnaires are a must. Organizations can no longer simply hire vendors without proof of a strong cyber posture, and a comprehensive questionnaire can demonstrate that vendors' internal security policies are up to par.

Yet not all questionnaires are the same. The benefits of automated questionnaires can vary, depending on the solution.

What features should CISOs be sure are included in their security questionnaires? Read on for the top six.

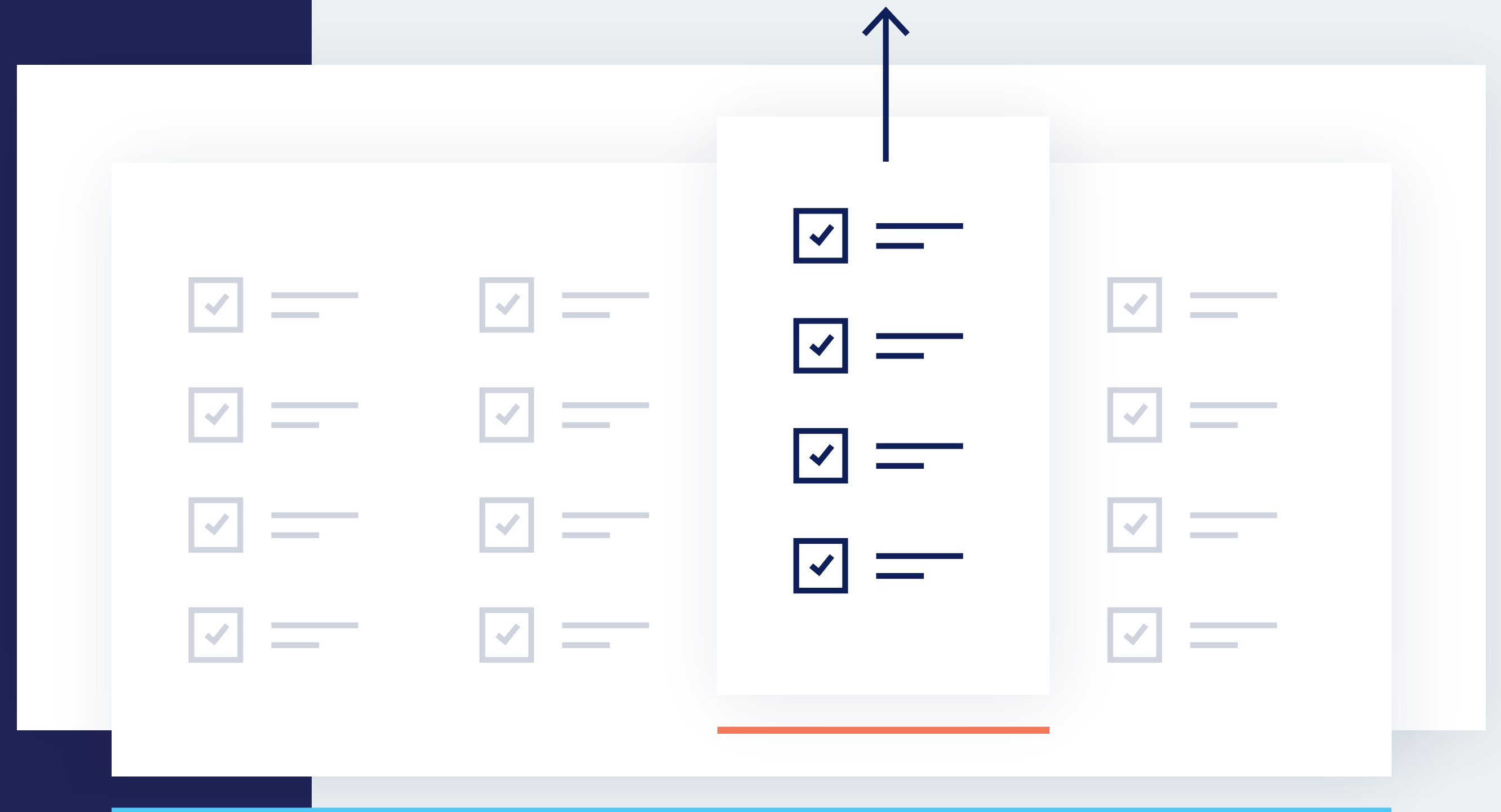
Scalable & Rapid Responses

Automated questionnaires should allow you to easily send and track hundreds of automated questionnaires. You should also be able to receive answers within eight days and immediately view ratings while using your existing staff and resources.



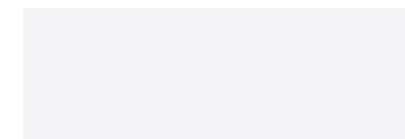
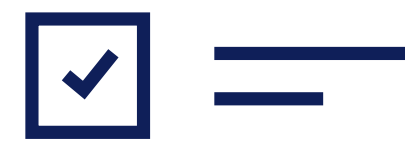
Questions Based on Context

The right automated questionnaire should be context-based. This means that your questions are determined based on your business and technology relationship with the vendor, so you only send questions that are relevant to your company. Eliminating unnecessary questions saves time for you and the vendor.



Choosing Your Own Questionnaire

The most advanced automated questionnaires are fully customizable. You can use a standard SIG or a built-in security questionnaire, upload your own customized internal policies and create conditional questions to clarify answers. You can even enforce regulatory policies such as GDPR and NYDFS.



Write Here



Adjustable Question Weighting

In addition to choosing your questions, you should be able to decide how your questions should be calculated, according to your company's internal standards. You should also be given the option to flag your important "deal-breaker" questions so you can quickly identify vendors that don't comply with your key policies.

The diagram illustrates adjustable question weighting using three overlapping cards. Each card shows a checkbox icon, an equals sign, and a weight value. The top card shows a small checkbox icon, an equals sign, and the value 50. The middle card shows a larger checkbox icon, an equals sign, and the value 25. The bottom card shows a small checkbox icon, an equals sign, and the value 0. To the right of the cards is a vertical scale with horizontal lines, and a blue arrow pointing up and down, indicating the range of possible weights.

Weighting Option	Weight Value
Small checkbox icon	50
Large checkbox icon	25
Small checkbox icon	0

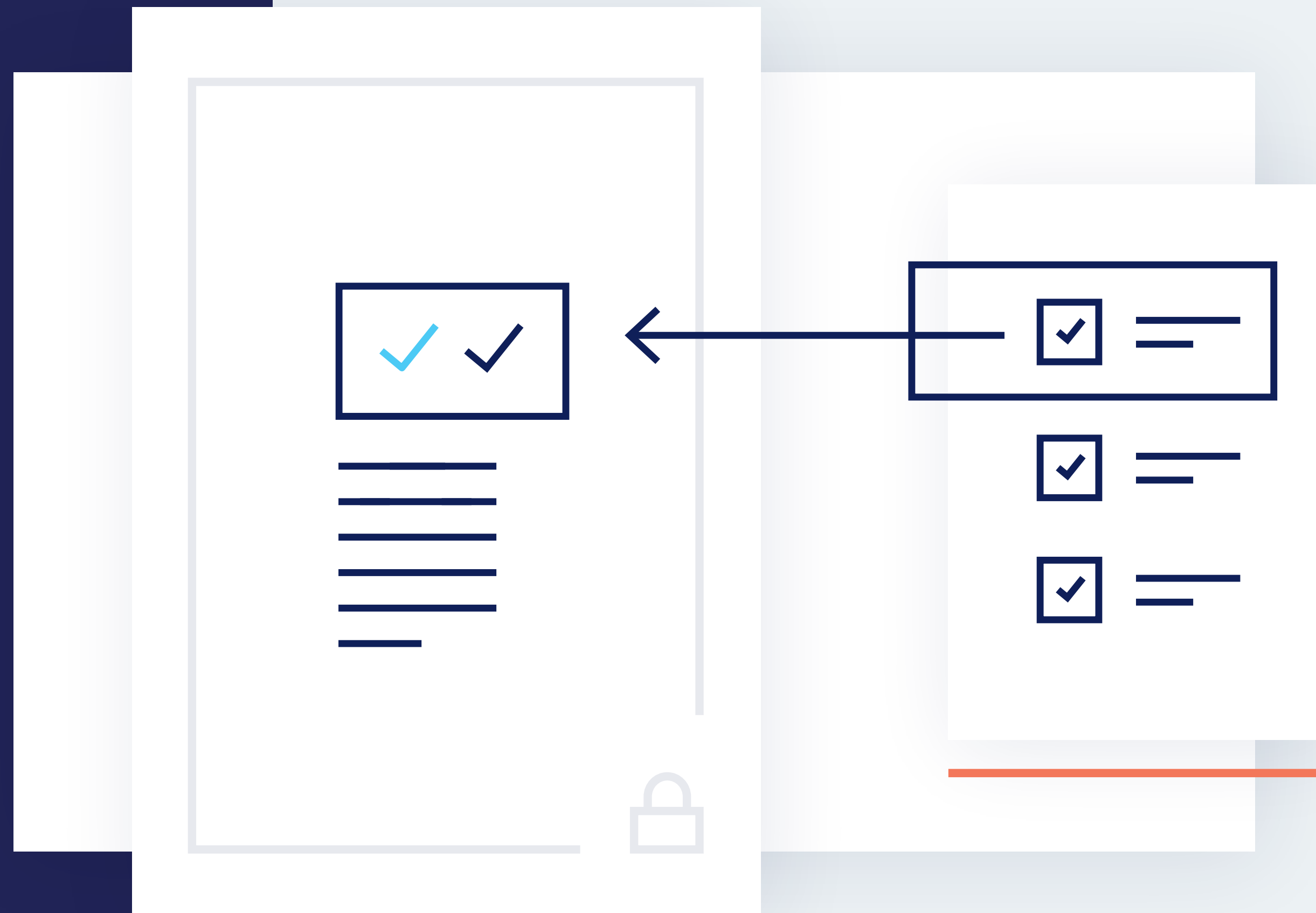
Multi-Language Translation

The ideal automated questionnaire should ensure that no more questions are lost in translation. This means that you should be able to send the questionnaire in your suppliers' native languages, and then view their responses in your own language.



Verification of Responses to Inquiries

Ideally, your security questionnaire should be easy to corroborate; for example, by performing an exterior scan of a vendor's assets. A customer may claim PCI compliance, but that can be negated by discovering an old encryption on one of their servers.





Summing Up

As companies continue to depend on third parties, the need for efficient and effective vendor cybersecurity assessments is growing. With these features, CISOs can be assured that their companies' automated security questionnaires are both efficient and comprehensive.

About Panorays



Panorays automates third-party security lifecycle management. With the Panorays platform, companies dramatically speed up their third-party security evaluation process and gain continuous visibility while ensuring compliance to regulations such as GDPR and NYDFS. It is the only platform that enables companies to easily view, manage and engage on the security posture of their third parties, vendors, suppliers and business partners. Panorays is a SaaS-based platform, with no installation needed.



Want to learn more about how Panorays' automated questionnaires can help your third-party security process?
Contact your Panorays sales rep or email us at info@panorays.com