The USS Enterprise must uphold the highest ethical standards in all its GDPR compliance actions.

As our Cyber Posture and Protection series of blogs continues, the crew of the USS Enterprise travels through the galaxy exploring new worlds and seeking out new life.

Its mission is also to ensure compliancy with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (UK DPA).

The GDPR is a set of regulations that govern the handling of personal data for individuals within the European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA) and the UK DPA is the UK's implementation of it.

You have two minutes to confirm your compliance. Refusal to do so will result in your obliteration. And if you test me, you will fail. - Captain Hikaru Sulu, Star Trek Into Darkness



The United Federation of Planets must ensure its Starfleet is fully compliant with the GDPR in all of its data handling practices, and it must appoint a Data Owner for the USS Enterprise – usually the most senior member of the crew.

Captain Hikaru Sulu will be held accountable for any data breaches. He must ensure valid consent from life forms, whether human or extraterrestrial, is obtained before collecting their personal data during the Enterprise's deep space exploration.

This means that his crew must clearly explain to the life forms what data will be collected, why it is collected and how it will be used. They must also give them the right to withdraw their consent at any time.

In addition, any personal data collected must be accurate, up-to-date, and relevant for the purposes for which it was collected. Only the minimum amount of data necessary for its purposes must be collected.

Furthermore, the United Federation of Planets must ensure that its Starfleet have appropriate security measures in place to protect personal data from unauthorised access, disclosure, or destruction – especially from any hostile alien species!



This includes implementing encryption and access controls, as well as conducting regular security audits and assessments.

If the USS Enterprise or the United Federation of Planets experiences a data breach, they must report it to the relevant supervisory authority within 72 hours of becoming aware of the breach.

Plus, affected life forms must be notified without undue delay if the breach is likely to result in a high risk to their rights and freedoms.

As a Starfleet vessel, the USS Enterprise must uphold the highest ethical standards in all its actions. GDPR and UK DPA compliance are not just legal requirements, but also a matter of respecting the privacy and dignity of all life forms.

By adhering to the GDPR, Captain Sulu can continue his mission to boldly go where no one has gone before, while also ensuring that he does so in a responsible and ethical manner.



Luckily you won't get obliterated on Planet Earth if you fall foul of a data breach but the GDPR gives supervisory authorities the power to issue fines of up to €20 million or 4% of an organisation's global annual turnover.

Phishing attacks are responsible for the majority of all successful cyber-attacks.

They continue to be a major threat and it's business critical to conduct regular assessments and staff training to mitigate this risk.

Identify which users or departments require additional training, and what advanced threat protection you may require, with the Quantum Evolve Phishing Capability Assessment.

"Insufficient facts always invite danger." — Spock, Space Seed

