

# IPSWITCH SURVEY RESULTS

## Preparing for the EU's General Data Protection Regulation

### THE BUSINESS BURDEN

### FOR IT PROFESSIONALS

[ipswitch](#) commissioned technology research firm [Vanson Bourne](#) to poll 300 European IT professionals from businesses with over 1,000 employees. The survey was conducted in July 2015 in the UK, France and Germany with 100 responses from each country.

The survey reveals that businesses are really feeling the financial burden of preparing for the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

#### KEY FINDINGS

- **Almost a fifth of businesses still have no idea whether changes in the regulation will apply to them, despite confirming they do store and process personal data**
- **69% say their business will need to invest in new technologies or services to help prepare the business for the impact of GDPR**
- **Two thirds say that keeping up to date with changing data protection regulatory requirements is a burden on their business**
- **Just over half report that their business has already allocated training budget to help staff understand and comply with GDPR, however, just under a third have not**

The full survey findings are listed below:

#### 1. Which of the following methods are used by your business to share personal data files?

- **Email**
  - Overall: 62%
  - UK 50% / FR 69% / DE 67%
- **Secure managed file transfer (MFT)**
  - Overall: 54%
  - UK 63% / FR 53% / DE 43%
- **Files sent through a business system:**
  - Overall 52%
  - UK 55% / FR 49% / DE 53%
- **FTP transfer**
  - Overall: 43%
  - UK 40% / FR 49% / DE 37%

- Cloud sharing sites: Dropbox/Box/Hightail
  - Overall: 43%
  - UK 33% / FR 47% / DE 50%
- External storage such as USB keys or CDs
  - Overall: 28%
  - UK 18% / FR 35% / DE 30%
- Post/mail
  - Overall: 22%
  - UK 28% / FR 20% / DE 17%
- Other
  - Overall: 1%
  - UK 3% / FR 0% / DE 0%

## 2. Does your business trade with/operate internationally in:

- EU member countries
  - Overall: 81%
  - UK 80% / FR 77% / DE 85%
- The United States
  - Overall: 59%
  - UK 68% / FR 56% / DE 52%
- Asia
  - Overall: 38%
  - UK 48% / FR 31% / DE 36%
- The Middle East
  - Overall: 32%
  - UK 44% / FR 30% / DE 21%
- Africa
  - Overall: 24%
  - UK 24% / FR 31% / DE 18%
- Other
  - Overall: 2%
  - UK 1% / FR 1% / DE 4%
- We only operate in our own country
  - Overall: 13%
  - UK 16% / FR 2% / DE 11%

## 3. The General Data Protection Regulation is currently a draft regulation, due to come into effect by the end of 2015, designed to unify and simplify data protection across the 28 member countries of the European Union (EU). Will it impact your business?

- Yes
  - Overall: 69%
  - UK 73% / FR 71% / DE 64%
- No
  - Overall: 13%
  - UK 10% / FR 14% / DE 15%

- Not sure
  - Overall: 18%
  - UK 17% / FR 15% / DE 21%

**4. Is keeping up to date with changing global data protection regulatory requirements and their relevance a financial burden to your business?**

- Yes
  - Overall: 68%
  - UK 77% / FR 66% / DE 61%
- No
  - Overall: 20%
  - UK 15% / FR 19% / DE 25%
- Not sure
  - Overall: 12%
  - UK 8% / FR 15% / DE 14%

**5. Which of the following technologies do you believe your business will need to invest in to prepare for GDPR?**

- Encryption technologies
  - Overall: 62%
  - UK 60% / FR 59% / DE 66%
- Analytic and reporting technologies
  - Overall: 61%
  - UK 66% / FR 54% / DE 65%
- Perimeter security technologies
  - Overall: 53%
  - UK 47% / FR 70% / DE 41%
- File sharing technologies
  - Overall: 42%
  - UK 38% / FR 52% / DE 35%
- Mobile device management
  - Overall: 39%
  - UK 47% / FR 31% / DE 40%
- Other: Overall
  - 0%
  - UK % / FR 0% / DE 0%
- Don't know
  - Overall: 3%
  - UK 3% / FR 4% / DE 3%

**6. Do you think your business will need to invest in new technologies or services or services to help prepare the business for the impact of GDPR?**

- Yes
  - Overall: 69%
  - UK 68% / FR 71% / DE 68%

- No
  - Overall: 16%
  - UK 15% / FR 12% / DE 20%
- Not sure
  - Overall: 15%
  - UK 17% / FR 17% / DE 12%

**7. Has training budget been allocated to help staff understand and comply with the new GDPR?**

- Yes
  - Overall: 51%
  - UK 48% / FR 56% / DE 49%
- No
  - Overall: 30%
  - UK 37% / FR 22% / DE 30%
- Not sure
  - Overall: 19%
  - UK 15% / FR 22% / DE 21%

**8. Has training resource been allocated to help staff understand and comply with the new GDPR?**

- Yes
  - Overall: 50%
  - UK 47% / FR 56% / DE 46%
- No
  - Overall: 32%
  - UK 40% / FR 24% / DE 33%
- Not sure
  - Overall: 18%
  - UK 13% / FR 20% / DE 21%

**9. Data protection is currently a talking point between Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) and their US counterparts. Which of the following statements best describes how you feel:**

- EU and US alignment is a good thing and will simplify the burden on business for compliance across international borders
  - Overall 33%
  - UK 37% / FR 36% / DE 25%
- Whilst perhaps much needed, an alignment of data protection regulations between the US and EU will increase the burden of compliance on business
  - Overall 40%
  - UK 40% / FR 36% / DE 45%
- I have no idea what the implications for closer alignment between the US and EU on data protection regulation could mean for my business
  - Overall 18%
  - UK 18% / FR 17% / DE 18%

- None of the above statements describe how I feel
  - o Overall 9%
  - o UK 5% / FR 11% / DE 12%

## 10. Does your business collect, store, process or share personal data for the following groups of people?

Results for overall base sample...

### Staff personal data...

- Collect 68%
- Store 69%
- Process 59%
- Share 14%

### Customer personal data...

- Collect 65%
- Store 71%
- Process 68%
- Share 22%

### Supplier personal data...

- Collect 53%
- Store 60%
- Process 54%
- Share 18%

### Partner personal data...

- Collect 41%
- Store 46%
- Process 39%
- Share 15%

### My business does not do this...

- Collect 15%
- Store 10%
- Process 14%
- Share 60%

To learn more about how managed file transfer technology can help you become more GDPR secure, compliant and automated, download our Managed File Transfer Kit and receive our popular eBook, white paper and **a free, trial version of Ipswitch MOVEit managed file transfer software.**