

P05 · 04 · Vendor Technology Governance Worked Assessment

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Populated illustrative case. Every organization, date, metric and evidence reference is fictional.

CASE PROFILE

Enterprise	System and supplier	Assessment scope	Review period
Northstar Distribution Group	Order orchestration platform delivered by Meridian Systems	Production readiness, technical ownership and continuity	October 2026

EXECUTIVE FINDING

The solution conforms to its approved architecture. Security clearance is conditional. A failed restoration exercise and insufficient internal deputy capability prevent production authorization and full ownership acceptance. The incumbent also remains essential to a critical transition exercise.

ASSESSMENT DISPOSITION

Dimension	Evidence observed	Disposition
Architecture	Approved architecture matches observed integrations and deployment topology	PASS
Security	Two high findings remediated; one bounded residual awaits risk authorization	CONDITIONAL
Operations	Recovery exceeded the approved objective; restoration integrity passed	FAIL
Internal competence	Primary operator demonstrated capability; deputy required vendor assistance	INSUFFICIENT
Supplier continuity	Blackout rehearsal could not complete an independent change	FAIL

DECISION

PRODUCTION AUTHORIZATION BLOCKED

Evidence and Ownership Assessment

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Source identifiers below refer only to the fictional assessment evidence register.

THREE CONDITIONS OF OWNERSHIP

Condition	Tested observation	Evidence reference	Result
Legal rights	Custom deliverables covered; proprietary release plugin requires continuing license	EV 01 rights schedule	QUALIFIED
Technical control	Enterprise owns repositories and cloud accounts; plugin license limits rebuild path	EV 02 build inventory	PARTIAL
Demonstrated competence	Internal primary passed restore review; deputy failed independent recovery task	EV 06 capability log	FAIL

EVIDENCE REGISTER

Reference	Evidence and scope	Observed outcome	Validator
EV 01	Signed rights schedule, version 3, custom code and vendor tooling	One plugin renewal dependency	Legal and ATO
EV 02	Build and environment inventory for release 2.4	Build passes with licensed plugin	Platform owner
EV 03	Architecture reconciliation for release 2.4	All material paths conform	Architecture authority
EV 04	Security verification for release 2.4	One residual awaiting approval	Security authority
EV 05	Recovery drill, production equivalent environment	RTO missed; data reconciled	Operations owner
EV 06	Internal primary and deputy capability exercises	Deputy required supplier intervention	Independent assessor
EV 07	Supplier blackout rehearsal	Change cannot complete without vendor	Transition owner

Evidence references represent illustrative retained records. They are not links to actual customer systems or claims of completed BBS client work.

Control Results and Decision Logic

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Illustrative observations use service specific objectives rather than universal scoring thresholds.

POPULATED CONTROL RESULTS

Control area	Acceptance condition	Observed result	Assessment
Architecture	Implemented topology agrees with approved baseline	Architecture inventory reconciled for release 2.4	PASS
Security	Release findings assessed and residual risk authorized	One residual has no final risk owner approval	CONDITIONAL
Recovery	Restore within 60 minutes with verified data integrity	87 minutes; reconciled data integrity	FAIL
Internal capability	Primary and deputy complete critical task without incumbent help	Primary passed; deputy needed guidance	FAIL
Transition	Successor can execute material change without incumbent	Build works; release plugin needs vendor access	FAIL

SEPARATE GOVERNANCE DECISIONS

Decision	Outcome	Reason
Architecture conformance	PASS	Observed implementation matches approved design
Security clearance	CONDITIONAL	Residual authorization pending
Production authorization	NO GO	Recovery objective failed; internal capability incomplete
Technical ownership acceptance	BLOCKED	Internal deputy and independent change not demonstrated
Exit cutover authorization	NO GO	Supplier blackout rehearsal unsuccessful

DECISION PRINCIPLE

A PASSED DESIGN DOES NOT OVERRIDE A FAILED RECOVERY TEST

Remediation and Reassessment

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Actions remain open until independent evidence supports closure.

PRIORITIZED ACTIONS

Priority	Required correction	Accountable owner	Closure evidence	Target
1	Repair restoration workflow and repeat complete recovery drill	Operations	Measured RTO within 60 minutes; integrity proof	14 days
1	Qualify separate internal deputy through unaided recovery and change exercise	Technical owner	Independent assessor result; no incumbent assistance	21 days
1	Resolve licensed plugin dependency or validate alternative release path	Platform and Legal	Enterprise executable build and deployment	30 days
2	Obtain authorized disposition of bounded security residual	Security and Risk	Signed scope, expiry and risk decision	7 days
2	Repeat supplier blackout exercise with vendor access unavailable	Transition owner	Observed independent change and recovery	35 days

REASSESSMENT DECISION RECORD

Decision field	Recorded position
Current authorization	Production deployment not authorized
Permitted activity	Controlled test environment remediation and verification
Release identity	Release 2.4; changes require fresh impact assessment
Reassessment trigger	New recovery, competence and independent change evidence
Required enterprise review	Operations, technical owner, security and product authorities
Commercial consequence	To be determined under the actual agreement; not inferred from this example

What This Example Demonstrates

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An illustrative decision trail, not the complete Built by Sentient operating methodology.

WHAT THE ASSESSMENT CHANGED

Before assessment, the delivery team reported the platform as ready based on functional tests, completed architecture reviews and supplier led recovery demonstrations. The evidence review distinguished these claims from independently observed enterprise operating capability.

THREE CONSEQUENCES FOR ENTERPRISE LEADERSHIP

Observation	Management consequence
Legal ownership is not sufficient	Contracted rights require a workable enterprise controlled build and change path
Operational proof matters	A recovery target is meaningful only when an actual exercise demonstrates it
Supplier independence must be tested	A transition plan without independent execution cannot establish continuity readiness

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE BOUNDARY

This worked example exposes selected observations, evidence references, decisions and remediation outcomes. The complete BBS framework includes detailed controls, assessment instruments, decision records, capability tests and configured operating artifacts. These are applied within a scoped Signature Intervention.

CONNECTED INTELLECTUAL WORK

Research: The Problem of Vendor Dependent Technology. Framework: Vendor Technology Ownership and Control. Flagship: The Vendor Built It. Does the Enterprise Actually Own It?

ENGAGEMENT APPLICATION

VENDOR TECHNOLOGY OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL ASSESSMENT

SENTIENT REVIEW

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