TrustArc



Welcome to the Privacy PowerUp Series — your go-to toolkit for mastering the privacy fundamentals. Level up your knowledge and explore every resource in the series.

Vendor Management Essentials

Know Your Role, Control the Risk



You can outsource processing, but not accountability

Controllers may delegate data processing to vendors (processors), who may even subcontract (sub-processors) — but controllers stay accountable for:



Choosing the right vendor



Ensuring compliance



Monitoring over time

A handshake isn't enough. Get your DPA in writing.

A binding **Data Processing Agreement (DPA)** is required. Be sure it includes:



Purpose of processing



involved



instructions



of service



obligations

Before you sign, scrutinize your processor.

1. Expertise & capacity

Vet vendors using this privacy-first due diligence list:

- 2. Jurisdiction & access risks
- 3. Reputation in the market
- 4. Data breach history 5. Regulatory record
- 7. Customer satisfaction

6. Employee turnover

8. Privacy program in place

- Does their AI use your data to train models?

Are humans in the loop?

Is your vendor's AI processing your data?



Is the AI legally compliant and bias-monitored?

Ask your vendors:

- Are they transparent with you and data
- Don't just onboard. Stay on guard.

Conduct risk-based audits

Your oversight never ends:

Regularly assess vendor risk Send tailored questionnaires

- **Vendor Management**
- PowerUp Your

Track changes in processing

Build a reusable audit question library

AUDIT

ADJUST

Data Mapping & Risk Manager Automate data flow mapping



- - Capture vendor risk

Score and track compliance

Generate reports on demand

- Get control and prove it.

REQUEST A DEMO

Want more privacy power moves? Explore the full Privacy PowerUp Series for infographics, articles, and videos that put you in control.

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