Letter from **vendor** to **relying party**

Dear [Relying Party],

We are committed to giving you and our other business partners the utmost confidence in our information security controls. As evidence of this commitment, we are pleased to inform you that we are engaged in the HITRUST Assurance Program, which is based on rigorous QA evaluation methodologies. For instance, HITRUST Validated Assessments are performed by highly trained and experienced HITRUST-Certified External Assessors, who have the important role of testing and validating security controls and scoring before submission to HITRUST. In addition, the HITRUST Assurance Intelligence Engine™ runs assessment documentation through 150 automated quality checks, and the HITRUST Quality Assurance Team performs another five levels of extensive quality reviews. Through the HITRUST Assurance Program, we are better able to provide you and our other partners with a timely and accurate report regarding the status of our information security and compliance with third-party requirements.

The HITRUST Assurance Program uses the HITRUST CSF framework, which incorporates and leverages a comprehensive set of existing security requirements applicable across all industries. The HITRUST CSF harmonizes more than 40 authoritative sources while providing prescriptive and granular control requirements based on security best practices. Using comprehensive requirements in the HITRUST CSF demonstrates that our organization meets information security requirements from recognized frameworks and standards. The HITRUST framework is widely adopted across a wide range of industries.

In informing you of our participation in the HITRUST Assurance Program, we want to [request / ensure] your acceptance of the assessment results and inquire about your assurance preferences.

**HITRUST Risk-Based, 2-Year (r2) Validated Assessment + Certification**
To provide the highest level of information protection assurance, we are prepared to undergo a HITRUST Risk-Based r2 Validated Assessment + Certification.The HITRUST r2 Validated Assessment (formerly named the HITRUST CSF Validated Assessment) remains the industry gold standard as a risk-based and tailorable assessment to meet demanding standards for mitigating risk exposure due to data volumes, regulatory compliance, or other factors. The r2 Assessment focuses on a comprehensive, risk-based specification of controls suitable for most organizations with a very rigorous approach to evaluation designed to meet high assurance requirements.

**HITRUST r2 Assessment benefits include:**

* 2000+ control requirement statements available, 360 controls average in scope of each assessment based on tailoring.
* Rigorous evaluation approach uses 3×5 or 5×5 control assessment scoring against either 3 or 5 maturity levels.
* Use of the proven HITRUST CSF framework, which is highly prescriptive and regularly updated, unlike many other frameworks that are vague and remain unchanged for many years.
* Assessment and testing through a highly qualified HITRUST Authorized External Assessor firm and the comprehensive HITRUST QA process.
* Targeted Coverage over authoritative sources, such as: NIST SP 800-53, HIPAA, FedRAMP, NIST CSF, AICPA TSC, PCI DSS, GDPR, and more than 30 others.
* 2-year Certification.

We strongly encourage you and our other business partners to accept assessment reports from the highly consistent, reliable, best-in-class HITRUST Assurance Program. We believe this is an excellent opportunity for both of our organizations to manage information risk and demonstrate compliance more effectively.

We greatly appreciate your consideration and review of this matter. For more information about the HITRUST Assurance Program, please visit HITRUST’s [website](http://www.hitrustalliance.net/csf-assurance/) or send an email to info@HITRUSTalliance.net.

Regards,

[Your Organization]