



# OSCAL Developer Data Bites

**June 27, 2024**

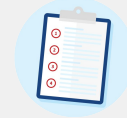


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**Purpose:** To create space for dialogue between developers who use OSCAL and the FedRAMP® automation team.

**Outcomes:**

- Clarity around the new FedRAMP automation website and actions needed prior to finalization
- Understanding of external constraints validation capabilities
- Productive discussion around OSCAL



**Agenda:**

- Welcome
- FedRAMP Automation PMO General Updates
- Pre-Submitted Q&A
- Introduction of the NEW FedRAMP Automation website
- Live Demo of the External Constraints Validation Capabilities (relating to OSCAL-CLI tool)
- Open Forum
- Next Steps & Closing



**Keep the discussion respectful**



**Be curious, seek understanding**



**Speak from your own experience**



**Challenge through questions**



**Focus on ideas**



**Keep it technical**

# General Updates

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June 27, 2024

## Revising OSCAL Guides

FedRAMP automation team is continuing to work towards publishing HTML versions of the OSCAL guides to replace the current PDF versions.

- Guides and related documentation were moved to new repository:  
<https://github.com/GSA/automate.fedramp.gov>
- Final stages prior to release

## Local Validation Tooling

FedRAMP automation team is working on adding metaschema validation mechanisms in the OSCAL-CLI tool.

## GitHub Issues

Prioritized the following:

- Issue #599 - HTML guides and automation website pre-release updates
- Issue #592 - Refactoring CI to use the OSCAL CLI
- Issue #598 - Setting up test harness and framework to automate testing of OSCAL CLI
- Issue #563 - Resolved profile catalogs are missing props

View the [project workboard](#) for more details on ongoing work and upcoming priorities

## Review needed

<https://github.com/orgs/GSA/projects/25/views/7>

# Pre-Submitted Questions

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## Question (Issue #[600](#)):

**Q:** How should the legacy SSP Appendix A be generated when there are parameters by component, and differences in statements?

For instance, CM-6 may have multiple parameters from multiple statements that are different for components, but there is only 1 statement deviation.

**A:** The difference in granularity of control implementation statements in the legacy SSP vs OSCAL SSPs may require some deviation from the published FedRAMP SSP document template.

A key objective of the FedRAMP **Digital Authorization Package Pilot** in 2024 is to explore more expansive use of “components” assemblies in OSCAL SSPs to contextualize security information in a more useful way. A planned outcome of the pilot will be more definitive guidance and requirements around generated content (e.g., printable SSP).

# Live Demo of NEW Automation Website

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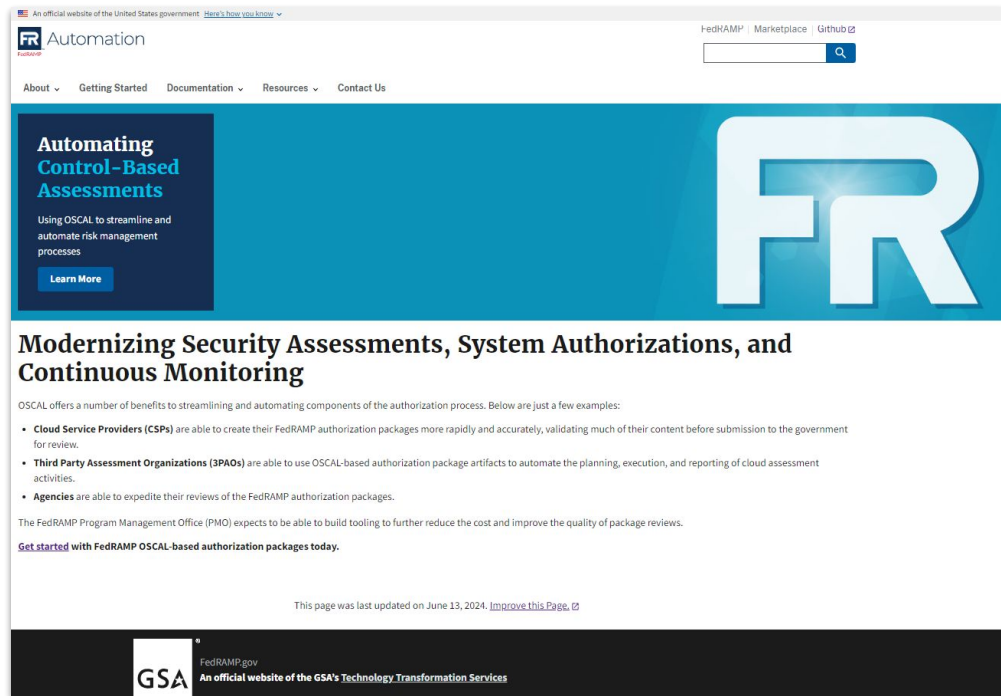
## Desired Purpose & Outcomes

### Purpose

- Provide developer-focused technical documentation to help CSPs, tool suppliers, and integrators with the development, validation, and submission of OSCAL-based FedRAMP packages.
- Establish an automated publication process for FedRAMP's OSCAL documentation using a continuous integration and deployment (CI/CD) approach.

### Outcomes

- Faster and more frequent documentation updates.
- More complete and current documentation.
- Improved documentation leading to a better user experience for stakeholders that are implementing OSCAL-based FedRAMP packages.
- Improved collaboration with a workflow that supports community contributions for fixes or improvements to the documentation.



The screenshot shows the FedRAMP Automation website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the FedRAMP logo and the word "Automation". To the right of the navigation bar are links for "FedRAMP", "Marketplace", and "Github". Below the navigation bar is a search bar. The main content area features a large blue banner with the text "Automating Control-Based Assessments" and a "Learn More" button. Below the banner is a section titled "Modernizing Security Assessments, System Authorizations, and Continuous Monitoring". This section contains a paragraph about OSCAL benefits and a bulleted list of examples. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the GSA logo and the text "FedRAMP.gov An official website of the GSA's Technology Transformation Services".

An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#)

FedRAMP<sup>®</sup> Marketplace Github

Automation

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## Automating Control-Based Assessments

Using OSCAL to streamline and automate risk management processes

[Learn More](#)

## Modernizing Security Assessments, System Authorizations, and Continuous Monitoring


OSCAL offers a number of benefits to streamlining and automating components of the authorization process. Below are just a few examples:

- **Cloud Service Providers (CSPs)** are able to create their FedRAMP authorization packages more rapidly and accurately, validating much of their content before submission to the government for review.
- **Third Party Assessment Organizations (3PAOs)** are able to use OSCAL-based authorization package artifacts to automate the planning, execution, and reporting of cloud assessment activities.
- **Agencies** are able to expedite their reviews of the FedRAMP authorization packages.

The FedRAMP Program Management Office (PMO) expects to be able to build tooling to further reduce the cost and improve the quality of package reviews.

[Get started](#) with FedRAMP OSCAL-based authorization packages today.

This page was last updated on June 13, 2024. [Improve this Page](#)

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## Next Steps

### Pre-Release

- Ongoing FedRAMP internal review.
- EAWG site preview.
- Communication prior to launch.

### Post Release

- Prioritize SSP documentation content fixes and updates (see [documentation issues backlog](#)).
- Figure & diagram updates.
- Continued theme / styling enhancements.

# External Constraints Validation Capabilities

*Relating to the OSCAL - CLI tool*

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## Next Steps

### Feature Summary

- Improvements to external constraints processing
- Producing Static Analysis Results Interchange Format (SARIF) validation results

### Ongoing Work

- Continued improvements to SARIF output
- Building out Metaschema external constraints for FedRAMP validation

<https://github.com/GSA/fedramp-automation/pull/603>

# Open Forum

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# Thank you

Our next Developer Data Bites virtual meeting will be on

**Thursday, July 25, 2024 at 12p ET.**

Submit questions and future discussion topics to [OSCAL@fedramp.gov](mailto:OSCAL@fedramp.gov)

Learn more at [fedramp.gov](https://fedramp.gov)



**@FEDRAMP**

# Collaborating with FedRAMP

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## FedRAMP Automation GitHub: <https://github.com/GSA/fedramp-automation>

- Open Issues: <https://github.com/GSA/fedramp-automation/issues>
- Open Pull Requests: <https://github.com/GSA/fedramp-automation/pulls>
- Active Work: <https://github.com/orgs/GSA/projects/25/views/3>
- Community Review Needed: <https://github.com/orgs/GSA/projects/25/views/7>

## GitHub Resources:

- Issues: <https://docs.github.com/en/issues>
- Pull Requests: <https://docs.github.com/en/pull-requests>

Ensuring your outstanding issues or questions are received:

Issues can be submitted in several ways:



## Preferred

Open an issue on fedramp-automation github so that it will benefit the NIST/FedRAMP community.

<https://github.com/GSA/fedramp-automation/issues>

## Alternate

Email us at [oscal@fedramp.gov](mailto:oscal@fedramp.gov)

## NIST:

<https://pages.nist.gov/OSCAL/>

**Learning Resources:** <https://pages.nist.gov/OSCAL/learn/>

**Current release:** <https://github.com/usnistgov/OSCAL/releases>

**Development version:** <https://github.com/usnistgov/OSCAL/tree/develop>

**Content repo:** <https://github.com/usnistgov/oscal-content>

## FedRAMP:

**Current repo:** <https://github.com/GSA/fedramp-automation>

**Current issues:** <https://github.com/GSA/fedramp-automation/issues>

**Validations work:** <https://github.com/18F/fedramp-automation/tree/master/src/validations>

**Web based validation tool:**

<https://federalist-2372d2fd-fc94-42fe-bcc7-a8af4f664a51.app.cloud.gov/site/18f/fedramp-automation/#/documents/system-security-plan>