

# Novalnet

System and Organization Controls (SOC 2) Type II Report

Description of Organizational Controls and Novalnet Payment platform relevant to the Trust Services Criteria of Security, Availability, Processing Integrity, Confidentiality and Privacy

January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024



# STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

This report, including the Description of tests of controls and results thereof in Section 4, is intended solely for the information and use of the Service Organization, User Entities of the Service Organization's system related to Novalnet Payment platform relevant to the Security, Availability, Processing Integrity, Confidentiality and Privacy during some or all of the period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, and the independent auditors of such user entities, who have a sufficient understanding to consider it, along with other information including information about controls implemented by user entities themselves, when assessing the risks of material misstatements of user entities' financial statements. This report is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. Unauthorized use, reproduction or distribution of this report, in whole or in part, is strictly prohibited.

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1 Independent Service Auditors' Report	5
2 Management Assertion Provided by Novalnet	10
3 Description of the System Provided by the Service Organization	13
4 Information Provided by Independent Service Auditor	52

**SECTION 1** 

INDEPENDENT SERVICE AUDITORS' REPORT

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# **1 INDEPENDENT SERVICE AUDITORS' REPORT**

# To the management of Novalnet

# Scope

We have examined the description of the system provided by Management of Novalnet AG, Novalnet Ltd., Novalnet Payment Corp., and Novalnet e-Solutions Pvt. Ltd. (Collectively referred as "Novalnet") (the "Service Organization") included in Section 3, "Description of Systems Provided by Service Organization" of its Novalnet Payment platform throughout the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 (the "Description") based on the criteria for a Description of a service organization's system in DC section 200, 2018 Description Criteria for a Description of a Service Organization's System in a SOC 2<sup>®</sup> Report, in AICPA Description Criteria, ("description criteria") and the suitability of the design and operating effectiveness of controls stated in the Description throughout the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024, to provide reasonable assurance that Novalnet's service commitments and system requirements would be achieved based on the trust services criteria relevant to Security, Availability, Processing Integrity, Confidentiality and Privacy (applicable trust services criteria) set forth in TSP section 100, 2017 Trust Services Criteria for Security, Availability, Processing Integrity, and Privacy, in AICPA Trust Services Criteria.

Novalnet uses Noris network AG ("subservice organization") for their Data center hosting services. The Description indicates that complementary subservice organization controls that are suitably designed and operating effectively are necessary, along with controls at Novalnet, to achieve Novalnet's service commitments and system requirements based on the applicable trust services criteria. The Description presents Novalnet's controls, the applicable trust services criteria, and the types of complementary subservice organization controls assumed in the design of Novalnet's controls. The Description does not disclose the actual controls at the subservice organization. Our examination did not include the services provided by the subservice organization, and we have not evaluated the suitability of the design or operating effectiveness of such complementary subservice organization controls.

The Description indicates that complementary user entity controls that are suitably designed and operating effectively are necessary, along with controls at Novalnet, to achieve Novalnet's service commitments and system requirements based on the applicable trust services criteria. The Description presents Novalnet's controls, the applicable trust services criteria, and the complementary user entity controls assumed in the design of Novalnet's controls. Our examination did not extend to such complementary user entity controls, and we have not evaluated the suitability of the design or operating effectiveness of such complementary user entity controls.

# Service Organization's Responsibilities

Management of Novalnet is responsible for its service commitments and system requirements and for designing, implementing, and operating effective controls within the system to provide reasonable assurance that Novalnet service commitments and system requirements would be achieved. Management of Novalnet has provided the accompanying assertion in Section 2 titled, "Management Assertion Provided by Novalnet" (the "Assertion") about the Description and the suitability of the design and operating effectiveness of controls stated therein. Management of Novalnet is also responsible for preparing the Description and Assertion, including the completeness, accuracy, and method of presentation of the Description and Assertion; providing the services covered by the Description; selecting the applicable trust services criteria and stating the related controls in the Description; and identifying the risks



that threaten the achievement of the service organization's service commitments and system requirements.

# Service Auditor's Responsibilities

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Description and on the suitability of design and operating effectiveness of controls stated in the Description, based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether, in all material respects, the Description is presented in accordance with the description criteria and the controls stated therein were suitably designed and operating effectively to provide reasonable assurance that the Novalnet's service commitments and system requirements would be achieved based on the applicable trust services criteria. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

An examination of a Description of a service organization's system and the suitability of the design and operating effectiveness of controls involves:

- Obtaining an understanding of the system and the service organization's service commitments and system requirements.
- Assessing the risks that the Description is not presented in accordance with the description criteria and that controls were not suitably designed or did not operate effectively.
- Performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Description is presented in accordance with the description criteria.
- Performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether controls stated in the Description were suitably designed to provide reasonable assurance that the service organization would achieve its service commitments and system requirements based the applicable trust services criteria.
- Testing the operating effectiveness of those controls stated in the Description to provide reasonable assurance that Novalnet achieved its service commitments and system requirements based on the applicable trust services criteria.
- Evaluating the overall presentation of the Description.

Our examination also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

# Service Auditor's Independence and Quality Control

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code of Professional Conduct established by the AICPA. We have complied with those requirements. We applied the Statements on Quality Control Standards established by the AICPA and, accordingly, maintain a comprehensive system of quality control.

# **Inherent Limitations**

The Description is prepared to meet the common needs of a broad range of report users and therefore may not include every aspect of the system that each individual report user may consider important to meet their informational needs.



There are inherent limitations in any system of internal control, including the possibility of human error and the circumvention of controls.

Because of their nature, controls may not always operate effectively to provide reasonable assurance that the service organization's service commitments and system requirements are achieved based on the applicable trust services criteria. Also, the projection to the future of any conclusions about the suitability of the design and operating effectiveness of controls is subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

# **Description of Tests of Controls**

The specific controls tested, and the nature, timing, and results of those tests are listed in Section 4, "Information Provided by the Service auditor: Test of controls".

# Opinion

In our opinion, in all material respects:

- a) The Description presents Novalnet's system that was designed and implemented throughout the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024, in accordance with the description criteria.
- b) The controls stated in the Description were suitably designed throughout the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024, to provide reasonable assurance that Novalnet's service commitments and system requirements would be achieved based on the applicable trust services criteria, if its controls operated effectively throughout that period, and if the subservice organization and user entities applied the complementary controls assumed in the design of Novalnet's controls throughout that period.
- c) The controls stated in the Description operated effectively throughout the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024, to provide reasonable assurance that Novalnet's service commitments and system requirements would be achieved based on the applicable trust services criteria, and if the subservice organization and user entities applied the complementary controls assumed in the design of Novalnet's controls operated effectively throughout that period.

# **Restricted Use**

This report, including the description of tests of controls and results thereof in Section 4, is intended solely for the information and use of management of Novalnet, user entities of Novalnet Payment platform during some or all of the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024, business partners of Novalnet subject to risks arising from interactions with the Novalnet's system, practitioners providing services to such user entities and business partners, prospective user entities and business partners, and regulators who have sufficient knowledge and understanding of the following:

- The nature of the service provided by Novalnet.
- How Novalnet's system interacts with user entities, business partners, subservice organizations, and other parties.
- Internal control and its limitations.



- Complementary user entity controls and complementary subservice organization controls and how they interact with related controls at Novalnet to achieve Novalnet's commitments and system requirements.
- User entity responsibilities and how they may affect the user entity's ability to effectively use Novalnet's services.
- The applicable trust services criteria.
- The risks that may threaten the achievement of Novalnet's service commitments and system requirements and how controls address those risks.

This report is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Accorp Partners CPA LLC

ACCORP PARTNERS CPA LLC License No.: PAC-FIRM-LIC-47383 Kalispell, Montana Date: June 12, 2025

**SECTION 2** 

MANAGEMENT'S ASSERTION PROVIDED BY SERVICE ORGANIZATION

# MANAGEMENT ASSERTION PROVIDED BY NOVALNET

#### For the period from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024

We have prepared the accompanying System Description Provided by Service Organization (Description) of Novalnet AG, Novalnet Ltd., Novalnet Payment Corp., and Novalnet e-Solutions Pvt. Ltd. (Collectively referred as "Novalnet") (the "Service Organization") in accordance with the criteria for a description of a service organization's system set forth in the Description Criteria DC section 200 2018 Description Criteria for a Description of a Service Organization's System in a SOC 2 Report (Description Criteria). The Description is intended to provide report users with information about the Novalnet payment platform (System) that may be useful when assessing the risks arising from interactions with the System throughout the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024, particularly information about system controls that the Service Organization has designed, implemented and operated to provide reasonable assurance that its service commitments and system requirements were achieved based on the trust services criteria relevant to Security, Availability, Processing Integrity, Confidentiality and Privacy (applicable trust services criteria) set forth in TSP section 100, 2017 Trust Services Criteria for Security, Availability, Processing Integrity, Confidentiality, and Privacy, in AICPA Trust Services Criteria.

Novalnet uses Noris network AG ("subservice organization") for their Data center hosting services. The description indicates that complementary subservice organization controls that are suitably designed and operating effectively are necessary, along with controls at Novalnet, to achieve Novalnet's service commitments and system requirements based on the applicable trust services criteria. The description presents Novalnet's controls, the applicable trust services criteria, and the types of complementary subservice organization controls assumed in the design of Novalnet controls. The description does not disclose the actual controls at the subservice organization. The description does not extend to controls of the subservice organization.

The description indicates that complementary user entity controls that are suitably designed and operating effectively are necessary, along with controls at Novalnet, to achieve Novalnet's service commitments and system requirements based on the applicable trust services criteria. The description presents Novalnet's controls, the applicable trust services criteria, and the complementary user entity controls assumed in the design of Novalnet's controls. The description does not extend to controls of the user entities.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, that:

- a. The description presents the System that was designed and implemented throughout the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 in accordance with the description Criteria.
- b. The controls stated in the description were suitably designed throughout the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024, to provide reasonable assurance that Novalnet's service commitments and system requirements would be achieved based on the applicable trust services criteria, if its controls operated effectively throughout that period, and if the subservice organizations and user entities applied the complementary controls assumed in the design of Novalnet's controls throughout that period.
- c. The controls stated in the description operated effectively throughout the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024, to provide reasonable assurance that

Novalnet's service commitments and system requirements were achieved based on the applicable trust services criteria, if the subservice organizations and user entities applied the complementary controls assumed in the design of Novalnet's controls operated effectively throughout that period.

For Novalnet

Name: Gowri Shankar Balasubramaniam Title: IT Application Security Manager Date: 12.06.2025

SECTION 3 DESCRIPTION OF THE SYSTEM

# **3 DESCRIPTION OF THE SYSTEM PROVIDED BY THE SERVICE ORGANIZATION**

# **3.1 Overview of Service Organization and Services Provided**

# Background

Novalnet is a German-based financial technology company specializing in comprehensive payment solutions for businesses worldwide. Established in 2007 and headquartered in Munich, Novalnet has expanded its presence across Europe, North America, and Asia, serving a diverse clientele ranging from small enterprises to large corporations.

The company offers an all-in-one payment platform designed to streamline the entire payment process—from checkout to receivables management. This platform supports over 150 international payment methods and 125 currencies, enabling businesses to operate seamlessly across global markets. Key services include payment processing, subscription management, risk and fraud prevention, invoicing, debt collection, and affiliate and marketplace management.

Novalnet's solutions are tailored to various business models, including e-commerce, SaaS, marketplaces, and platforms, providing flexibility and scalability to meet specific operational needs. The company emphasizes security and compliance, holding certifications such as PCI DSS Level 1 and accreditation from the German Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (BaFin).

The scope of the report includes the following entities:

- Novalnet AG
- Novalnet Ltd.
- Novalnet Payment Corp.
- Novalnet e-Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

# 3.2 Principal Service Commitments and System Requirements

Novalnet designs its processes and procedures to meet objectives for its software application. Those objectives are based on the service commitments that Novalnet makes to customers and the compliance requirements that Novalnet has established for their services.

Security commitments to user entities are documented and communicated in Novalnet's customer agreements, as well as in the description of the service offering provided online. Novalnet's security commitments are standardized and based on some common principles.

These principles include but are not limited to, the following:

- The fundamental design of Novalnet's software application addresses security concerns such that system users can access the information based on their role in the system and are restricted from accessing information not needed for their role;
- Novalnet implements various procedures and processes to control access to the production environment and the supporting infrastructure; and

#### **Description of the System**

• Monitoring of key infrastructure components is in place to collect and generate alerts based on utilization metrics.

Confidentiality commitments include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The use of encryption technologies to protect system data both at rest and in transit;
- Confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements with employees, contractors, and third parties; and,
- Confidential information must be used only for the purposes explicitly stated in agreements between Novalnet and user entities.

Availability commitments include, but are not limited to, the following:

- System performance and availability monitoring mechanisms to help ensure the consistent delivery of the system and its components;
- Responding to customer requests in a reasonably timely manner;
- Business continuity and disaster recovery plans are tested on a periodic basis; and,
- Operational procedures supporting the achievement of availability commitments to user entities.

Processing Integrity commitments include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Procedures exist to prevent, or detect and correct, processing errors to meet the entity's processing integrity commitments and system requirements.
- System output is complete, accurate, and distributed to meet the entity's processing integrity commitments and system requirements.
- System inputs are measured and recorded completely, accurately, and timely to meet the entity's processing integrity commitments and system requirements

Privacy commitments include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Data collection based on consent and, based on an agreement with customers
- Data subject fundamental rights
- Encryption of data at rest and data in transit
- VPN access from outside Novalnet premises
- Complex passwords and two / multi-factor authentication
- Physical and logical access controls
- Privileged access management
- Data retention policy that guides data deletion after the purpose of data in its possession has been served
- Sensitizing Novalnet employees about the importance of preserving privacy to Novalnet by way of training.

Novalnet establishes operational requirements that support the achievement of security commitments and other system requirements. Such requirements are communicated in Novalnet system policies and procedures, system design documentation, and contracts with customers. Information security policies define an organization-wide approach to how systems and data are protected. These include policies around how the service is designed and

developed, how the system is operated, how the internal networks are managed, and how staff is hired.

# **3.3 Components of the System used to provide services**

The purpose of the system description is to delineate the boundaries of the system, which includes the services and commitments outlined above and the five components described below: infrastructure, software, data, and processes and procedures.

# Infrastructure and Network Architecture

The organization's infrastructure is structured in a secure and segmented network environment designed to support its operations efficiently and protect sensitive information. The system is divided into multiple logical segments, each dedicated to specific functions such as web services, application processing, data storage, encryption, customer management, and administrative access. This segmentation allows for clear separation of duties and reduces the risk of unauthorized access between systems.

Access to the system is tightly controlled, with designated entry points for external users and developers. Internal communications and data flows are managed through secure pathways, ensuring that only authorized systems and individuals can interact with critical components. Administrative activities are conducted through a secure gateway, while customer-facing services are accessible through standard web protocols.

The organization places a strong emphasis on security and monitoring. Dedicated systems are in place to oversee performance, detect potential threats, and support regular security assessments. Redundancy and backup mechanisms are also integrated into the infrastructure to ensure reliability and availability of services.

# People

Novalnet's staff have been organized into various functions like Sales, Support, Engineering, Product Management, etc. The personnel have also been assigned to the following key roles:

**Senior Management:** Senior management carries the ultimate responsibility for achieving the mission and objectives of the organization. They ensure that the necessary resources are effectively applied to develop the capabilities needed to accomplish the organization's mission. They also assess and incorporate the results of the risk assessment activity into the decision-making process. The senior management understands that their support and involvement is required in order to run an effective risk management program that assesses and mitigates IT-related mission risks.

**Information Security Officer:** The Senior Management assigns the role of Information Security Officer to one of its staff members who is responsible for the performance of the information security program of the organization. Decisions made in these areas are based on an effective risk management program. The Information Security Officer is responsible for identifying risks, threats, and vulnerabilities, and adding controls to mitigate these risks. Additionally, they also summarize remaining residual risks and report the same to Senior Management in a timely manner.

**Compliance Program Manager:** The company assigns the role of Compliance Program Manager to a staff member who would be responsible for the smooth functioning of the

Information Security Program. The Compliance Program Manager takes care of the effective and timely completion of tasks required for the functioning of all information security controls, across all functions/departments of the organization.

**System Users:** The organization's staff members are the users of the IT systems. The organization understands that use of the IT systems and data according to an organization's policies, guidelines, and rules of behavior is critical to mitigating risk and protecting the organization's IT resources. To minimize risk to the IT systems, staff members that access IT resources are provided with annual security awareness training.

# Data

Data, as defined by Novalnet, constitutes the following:

- Transaction data
- Electronic interface files
- Output reports.
- Input reports.
- System files
- Error logs

All data that is managed, processed, and stored as a part of the Novalnet Payment platform is classified as per the Data Classification Policy which establishes a framework for categorizing data based on its sensitivity, value and criticality to achieving the objectives of the organization. All data is assigned one of the following sensitivity levels:

Data Sensitivity	Description	Examples
Customer confidential	Highly valuable and sensitive information where the level of protection is dictated internally through policy and externally by legal and/or contractual requirements. Access to confidential information is limited to authorized employees, contractors, and business partners with a specific need.	operating data
Company Confidential	Information that originated or is owned internally or was entrusted to Novalnet by others. Company confidential information may be shared with authorized employees, contractors, and business partners but not released to the general public.	<ul> <li>Unpublished financial Information</li> <li>Documents and</li> </ul>
Public	Information that has been approved for release to the public and is freely shareable both internally and externally.	

Further, all customer data is treated as confidential. The availability of this data is also limited by job function. All customer data storage and transmission follow industry-standard encryption. The data is also regularly backed up as documented in the Data backup policy.

# **Procedures and Policies**

Formal policies and procedures have been established to support the Novalnet Payment platform. These policies cover:

- Code of Business Conduct
- Change Management
- Data Retention
- Data Backup
- Information security
- Vendor management
- Physical security
- Risk management
- Password
- Media disposal

- Incident management
- Endpoint security
- Encryption
- Disaster recovery
- Data classification
- Confidentiality
- Business continuity
- Access control
- Acceptable usage
- Vulnerability management

All policies are made available to all staff members to provide direction regarding the staff members' responsibilities related to the functioning of internal control. All staff members are expected to adhere to the policies and procedures that define how services should be delivered. Specifically, staff members are required to acknowledge their understanding of these policies upon hiring (and annually thereafter).

Novalnet also provides information to clients and staff members on how to report failures, incidents, concerns, or complaints related to the services or systems provided by the Novalnet Payment platform, in the event there are problems, and takes actions within an appropriate timeframe as and when issues are raised.

# 3.4 Relevant aspects of the Control Environment, Risk Assessment Process, Information and Communication, and Monitoring

The applicable trust services criteria were used to evaluate the suitability of design and implementation of controls stated in the description. Although the applicable trust services criteria and related controls are included in Section IV, they are an integral part of Novalnet's description of the system. This section provides information about the five interrelated components of internal control at Novalnet, including:

- 1. Control environment
- 2. Risk assessment
- 3. Control activities
- 4. Information and communication
- 5. Monitoring controls

# **Control Environment**

#### **Integrity and Ethical Values**

The effectiveness of controls cannot rise above the integrity and ethical values of the people who create, administer, and monitor them. Integrity and ethical values are essential elements of Novalnet's control environment, affecting the design, administration, and monitoring of other components. Integrity and ethical behavior are the product of Novalnet's ethical and behavioral standards, how they are communicated, and how they are reinforced in practices. They include management's actions to remove or reduce incentives and temptations that might prompt personnel to engage in dishonest, illegal, or unethical acts. They also include the communication of entity values and behavioral standards to personnel through policy statements and codes of conduct.

Novalnet and its management team has established the following controls to incorporate ethical values throughout the organization:

- A formally documented "Code of business conduct" communicates the organization's values and behavioral standards to staff members
- Staff members are required to acknowledge (upon hiring and annually thereafter) comprehensive policies and procedures covering the areas of Information Security, Change Management, Incident Management, and Access Control. Staff Members also acknowledge that they understand their responsibility for adhering to the policies and procedures.
- All new employees go through background checks as a part of the hiring process.

#### **Commitment to Competence**

Novalnet's management defines competence as the knowledge and skills necessary to accomplish tasks that define employees' roles and responsibilities. The following controls have been established in order to incorporate the commitment to competence throughout the organization:

- Management outlines the roles and responsibilities of technical staff to ensure that they are clear about their responsibilities in the organization. These roles and responsibilities are reviewed annually by the senior management.
- Annual Security Awareness Training is provided to all staff which focuses on maintaining the security of the proprietary and customer-servicing systems and related data.
- Employees receive periodic reviews by their supervisors inclusive of discussing any deficiencies noted in the execution of their job responsibilities.
- Employees are evaluated for competence in performing their job responsibilities at the time of hiring.

#### **Management Philosophy and Operating Style**

Novalnet's management philosophy and operating style encompass a broad range of characteristics. Such characteristics include management's approach to monitoring business risks, and management's attitudes toward personnel and the processing of information.

Novalnet's information security function, composed of senior management and the Information Security Officer, meets frequently and includes at least an annual meeting to

review policies and procedures and set the information security program roadmap. The security function, under the direction of senior management, oversees the security activities and communication of its policies and procedures.

Specific control activities that the Novalnet has implemented in this area are described below:

- Senior management meetings are held to discuss major initiatives and issues that affect the business as a whole
- Senior management reviews the functioning of internal controls, vendor risk assessment, risk assessment and high severity security incidents annually

#### **Organizational Structure and Assignment of Authority and Responsibility**

Novalnet's organizational structure provides the framework within which its activities for achieving entity-wide objectives are planned, executed, controlled, and monitored. Management believes that establishing a relevant organizational structure includes considering key areas of authority and responsibility. An organizational structure has been developed to suit its needs. This organizational structure is based, in part, on its size and the nature of its activities.

The management is committed to maintaining and improving its framework for how authority and responsibility for operating activities are assigned and how reporting relationships and authorization hierarchies are established. This also includes policies relating to appropriate business practices, knowledge, and experience of key personnel, and resources provided for carrying out duties.

In addition, it includes policies and communications directed at ensuring personnel understand the entity's objectives, know how their individual actions interrelate and contribute to those objectives, and recognize how and for what they will be held accountable. Organizational charts are in place to communicate key areas of authority and responsibility. These charts are accessible to all employees of the company and are updated as required.

#### Human Resources

Novalnet's success is founded on sound business ethics, reinforced with a high level of efficiency, integrity, and ethical standards. The result of this success is evidenced by the management's ability to hire and retain top-quality personnel who ensure the service organization is operating at maximum efficiency.

Specific control activities that the Novalnet has implemented in this area are described below:

- Background checks are performed on new hires, who are evaluated for competence in performing their job responsibilities at the time of hiring.
- Job positions are supported by job descriptions.
- New employees are required to acknowledge company policy and confidentiality related agreements upon hire and annually thereafter.
- Upon hire and annually thereafter, all employees must complete training courses covering basic information security practices.
- Performance evaluations for each employee are performed on an annual basis.
- If an employee violates the Code of Conduct in the employee handbook or the company's policies or otherwise acts in a manner deemed contrary to the mission and

objectives of the company, the employee is subject to sanctions up to and including termination of employment.

• When a person is relieved of duties from the company, access to critical systems is made inaccessible in a timely manner.

# **Risk Assessment**

Novalnet's risk assessment process identifies and manages risks that could potentially affect its ability to provide reliable services to its customers. The management is expected to identify significant risks inherent in products and services as they oversee their areas of responsibility. Novalnet identifies the underlying sources of risk, measures the impact on the organization, establishes acceptable risk tolerance levels, and implements appropriate measures to monitor and manage the risks.

This process identifies risks to the services provided by the Novalnet Payment platform, and the management has implemented various measures designed to manage these risks.

Novalnet believes that effective risk management is based on the following principles:

- Senior management's commitment to the security of Novalnet Payment platform
- The involvement, cooperation, and insight of all Novalnet staff
- Initiating risk assessments with discovery and identification of risks
- A thorough analysis of identified risks
- Commitment to the strategy and treatment of identified risks
- Communicating all identified risks to the senior management
- Encouraging all Novalnet staff to report risks and threat vectors.

#### Scope

The Risk Assessment and Management program applies to all systems and data that are a part of the Novalnet Payment platform. The Novalnet risk assessment exercise evaluates infrastructure such as computer infrastructure, containing networks, instances, databases, systems, storage, and services. The risk assessments also include an analysis of business/IT practices, procedures, and physical spaces as needed.

Risk assessments may be high-level or detailed to a specific organizational or technical change as the stakeholders and technologists see fit.

Overall, the execution, development, and implementation of risk assessment and remediation programs is the joint responsibility of Novalnet's Information Security Officer and the department or individuals responsible for the area being assessed. All Novalnet staff are expected to cooperate fully with any risk assessment being conducted on systems and procedures for which they are responsible. Staff is further expected to work with the risk assessment project lead in the development of a remediation plan per risk assessment performed.

#### Vendor Risk Assessment

Novalnet uses a number of vendors to meet its business objectives. Novalnet understands that risks exist when engaging with vendors and as a result, continuously assesses those risks

that could potentially affect the Company's ability to meet its business objectives.

Novalnet employs several activities to effectively manage their vendors. Firstly, the Information Security Officer performs an annual exercise of thoroughly examining the nature and extent of risks involved with each vendor relationship. For critical vendors, Novalnet assesses vendor compliance commitments through the review of available information security assessment reports and determines whether compliance levels adequately support Novalnet's commitments to its customers. If a critical vendor is unable to provide a third-party security report or assessment, Novalnet management meets with such vendors periodically to assess their performance, security concerns, and their services. Any vendor risks identified are recorded in the risk assessment matrix, which is reviewed annually by the Senior Management of the company.

#### **Integration with Risk Assessment**

As part of the design and operation of the system, Novalnet identifies the specific risks that service commitments may not be met, and designs control necessary to address those risks. Novalnet's management performs an annual Risk Assessment Exercise to identify and evaluate internal and external risks to the Company, as well as their potential impacts, likelihood, severity, and mitigating action.

### Information and Communication

Novalnet maintains a company-wide Information Security Policy, supported by detailed standards and training to ensure that employees understand their individual roles and responsibilities regarding security and significant events.

Further, Novalnet also has additional policies and procedures that define access management, change management, and authentication requirements and procedures for critical systems. These policies and procedures are published and made available to internal staff via the company intranet.

# **Monitoring Controls**

Novalnet management monitors control to ensure that they are operating as intended and that the controls are modified as conditions change. Monitoring activities are undertaken to continuously assess the quality of internal control over time. Necessary corrective actions are taken as required to correct deviations from company policies and procedures. Staff activity and adherence to company policies and procedures is also monitored. This process is accomplished through ongoing monitoring activities, independent evaluations, or a combination of the two.

# **Control Activities**

Novalnet's control activities are defined through its established policies and procedures which address individual risks associated with the achievement of the company's objectives. Such statements may be documented, explicitly stated in communications, or implied through actions and decisions.

Policies serve as the basis for procedures. Control activities are deployed through policies that establish what is expected and procedures that put policies into action.

# **Significant Events and Conditions**

Novalnet has implemented automated and manual procedures to capture and address significant events and conditions. In addition, detailed monitoring and risk assessment procedures are in place to provide management with all relevant information for any impact on the software application.

# Logical Access Control

The Novalnet Payment platform application uses role-based security architecture and requires users of the system to be identified and authenticated prior to the use of any system resources. User access, which is role-based, is controlled in the software application and authenticates to the database.

Novalnet has identified certain systems that are critical to meet its service commitments. Allaccess to critical systems is under the principle of least required privilege (wherein a staff member is granted the minimum necessary access to perform their function) and controlled by the role of the staff member as well as a role-based access matrix prior to being issued system credentials and granted the ability to access the system. When a person is relieved of duties from the company, access to critical systems is made inaccessible in a timely manner.

The Information Security Officer is responsible for performing quarterly reviews of everyone who has access to the system and assessing the appropriateness of the access and permission levels and making modifications based on the principle of least privilege, whenever necessary.

Access to critical systems requires multi-factor authentication (MFA) wherever possible. Staff members must use complex passwords, wherever possible, for all of their accounts that have access to Novalnet customer data. Staff is encouraged to use passwords that have at least 10 characters, are randomly generated, alphanumeric, and are special character based. Password configuration settings are configured on each critical system. Additionally, company-owned endpoints are configured to auto-screen-lock after 15 minutes of inactivity.

# Change Management

A documented Change Management policy guides all staff members in documenting and implementing application and infrastructure changes. It outlines how changes to the Novalnet system are reviewed, deployed, and managed. The policy covers all changes made to the Novalnet Payment platform, regardless of their size, scope, or potential impact.

The change management policy is designed to mitigate the risks of:

- Corrupted or destroyed information
- Degraded or disrupted software application performance
- Productivity loss
- Introduction of software bugs, configuration errors, vulnerabilities, etc.

A change to the Novalnet Payment platform can be initiated by a staff member with an appropriate role. Novalnet uses a version control system to manage and record activities related to the change management process.

The version control system maintains source code versions and migrates source code through the development and testing process to the production environment. The version control software maintains a history of code changes to support rollback capabilities. It also facilitates the code review process which is mandated for all changes.

To initiate a change, the developer first creates a feature branch with the updated code. Once the code change is ready for review, the developer submits the code for peer review and automated testing, known as a pull request. For all code changes, the reviewer must be different from the author. Once a pull request is approved, the change can be released to production.

The ability to implement changes in the production infrastructure is restricted to only those individuals who require the ability to implement changes as part of their responsibilities.

# Incident Management

Novalnet has an incident management framework that includes defined processes, roles, communications, responsibilities, and procedures for detection, escalation, and response to incidents internally and to customers. Customers are directed to contact Novalnet via the support email address provided during onboarding to report failures, incidents, concerns, or other complaints in the event there were problems.

Incident response procedures and centralized tracking tools consist of different channels for reporting production system incidents and weaknesses. Production infrastructure is configured to generate audit events for actions of interest related to operations and security. Security alerts are tracked, reviewed, and analyzed for anomalous or suspicious activity.

Where required, security incidents are escalated to privacy, legal, customer, or senior management team(s) and assigned a severity rating. Operational events are automatically resolved by the self-healing system.

- Low severity incidents are those that do not require immediate remediation. These typically include a partial service of Novalnet being unavailable (for which workarounds exist). These do not require someone to be paged or woken up beyond normal work hours.
- Medium severity incidents are similar to low but could include scenarios like suspicious emails or unusual activity on a staff laptop. Again, these do not require immediate remediation or trigger automatic calls outside work hours. Low and medium-severity incidents usually cover the large majority of incidents found.
- High severity incidents are problems an active security attack has not yet happened but is likely. This includes situations like backdoors, malware, and malicious access to business data (e.g., passwords, payment information, vulnerability data, etc.). In such cases, the information security team must be informed, and immediate remediation steps should begin.
- Critical severity incidents are those where a security attack was successful and something important was lost (or irreparable damage caused to production services). Again, in such cases, immediate actions need to be taken to limit the damage.

Post-mortem activities are conducted for incidents with critical severity ratings. Results of post- mortems may include updates to the security program or changes to systems required as a result of incidents.

# Cryptography

User requests to Novalnet's systems are encrypted using Transport Layer Security (TLS) using certificates from an established third-party certificate authority. Remote system administration access to Novalnet web and application servers is available through cryptographic network protocols (i.e., SSH) or an encrypted virtual private network (VPN) connection. Data at rest is encrypted using Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) 256-bit.

# Asset Management (Hardware and Software)

Assets used in the system are inventoried or tagged to include business descriptions, asset ownership, versions, and other configuration levels, as appropriate, to help ensure assets are classified appropriately, patched, and tracked as part of configuration management. Novalnet uses tagging tools to automatically facilitate the company's hardware and software asset inventory. This helps to ensure a complete and accurate inventory of technology assets with the potential to store or process information is maintained.

# **Vulnerability Management**

Vulnerability scanning tools are used to automatically scan systems on the network at least monthly to identify potential vulnerabilities. Automated software update tools are used to help ensure operating systems are running the most recent security updates provided by the software vendor. Vulnerabilities identified are risk- ranked to prioritize the remediation of discovered vulnerabilities.

# **Endpoint Management**

Endpoint management solutions are in place that includes policy enforcement on companyissued devices, as well as bring-your-own devices that could connect to or access data within the system boundaries. Policies enforced on endpoints include but are not limited to enabling screen lock, OS updates, and encryption at rest on critical devices/ workstations.

# Availability

Novalnet has a documented business continuity plan (BCP), and testing performed against the recovery time objectives (RTOs) and recovery point objectives (RPOs). At least daily backup schedules are maintained to protect sensitive data from loss in the event of a system failure. Backups are restored at least annually as part of operational activities and are included as part of the BCP test plan.

# **Boundaries of the System**

The scope of this report includes the Novalnet Payment platform. It also includes the people, processes, and IT systems that are required to achieve our service commitments toward the customers of this application.

Novalnet depends on a number of vendors to achieve its objectives. The scope of this report does not include the processes and controls performed by the vendors. The management understands that risks exist when engaging with vendors and has formulated a process for managing such risks, as detailed in the Risk Assessment section of this document.

# **3.5 Complementary User Entity Controls**

Novalnet's controls were designed with the assumption that certain internal controls would be in place at customer organizations. The application of such internal controls by customer organizations is necessary to achieve certain trust services criteria identified in this report. In addition, there may be control activities that are not identified in this report that would be appropriate for processing of transactions for Novalnet customers.

For customers to rely on the information processed through the Novalnet's software application, each customer is expected to evaluate its own internal controls to ensure appropriate control activities are in place. The following general procedures and controls should be considered. They should not, however, be regarded as a comprehensive list of all controls that should be implemented by customer organizations.

- Customers are responsible for managing their organization's Novalnet Payment platform account as well as establishing any customized security solutions or automated processes through the use of setup features
- Customers are responsible for ensuring that authorized users are appointed as administrators for granting access to their Novalnet Payment platform account
- Customers are responsible for notifying Novalnet of any unauthorized use of any password or account or any other known or suspected breach of security related to the use of Novalnet Payment platform.
- Customers are responsible for any changes made to user and organization data stored within the Novalnet Payment platform.
- Customers are responsible for communicating relevant security and availability issues and incidents to Novalnet through identified channels.

# **3.6 Complementary Subservice Organization Controls**

Controls at Service organization and controls at User organization related to Novalnet Payment platform to its customers relevant to the Security, Availability, Processing Integrity, Confidentiality and Privacy ("in-scope trust service criteria"), cover only a portion of the overall internal control structure of its clients. The control objectives cannot be achieved without taking into consideration operating effectiveness of controls at subservice organization providing services to service organization to perform services provided to user entity that are likely to be relevant to those user entity internal control over financial reporting.

This section highlights those internal control structure responsibilities, Novalnet believes should be present at all applicable subservice organization, and which Novalnet has considered in developing its control structure policies and the procedures described in this report.

The subservice organization used by Novalnet relevant to providing services related to Novalnet Payment platform is shown below:

Subservice Organization			Service Pr	ovide	d			
Noris network AG			[	Data cente	r hosti	ing services		
Activity Expected to be Impleme Organization				Implemen	ted by Su	bserv	ice	Applicable Criteria
Logical	access	to	the	underlying	network	and	virtualization	CC6.1, CC6.2,

Activity Expected to be Implemented by Subservice Organization	Applicable Criteria
management software for the cloud architecture is appropriate.	CC6.3, CC6.5, CC7.2
Physical access and security to the data center facility are restricted to authorized personnel.	CC6.4, CC6.5
Environmental protections, including monitoring and alarming mechanisms, are implemented to address physical security and environmental control requirements.	CC6.4, A1.2
Business continuity and disaster recovery procedures are developed, reviewed, and tested periodically.	A1.3
Policies and procedures to document repairs and modifications to the physical components of a facility including, but not limited to, hardware, walls, doors, locks, and other physical security components.	
A defined Data Classification Policy specifies classification levels and control requirements in order to meet the company's commitments related to confidentiality.	C1.1
Encryption methods are used to protect data in transit and at rest.	CC6.1
Secure disposal of personal information to meet the entity's objectives related to privacy.	P4.3
Limiting the use of personal information to the purposes identified in the entity's objectives related to privacy.	P4.1
Retaining personal information consistent with the entity's objectives related to privacy.	P4.2
Granting data subjects, the ability to access their stored personal data for review, amendments, deletions upon request. Also discloses personal information to third parties only upon explicit consent of data subjects and retains timely record of authorized disclosures.	
Creates, retains and notifies in case of a record of detected or reported unauthorized disclosures (including breaches) of personal information. Also obtains commitments from other vendors that have access to do the same.	P6.3, P6.4, P6.5, P6.6

# **3.7 Trust services criteria and Description of Related** Controls:

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
Control	Environment		
CC1.1	entity demonstrates a commitment to integrity	1	Entity has a documented policy to define behavioral standards and acceptable business conduct.
	and ethical values.		Entity has established procedures for new staff to acknowledge applicable company policies as a part of their onboarding.

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet	
		12	Entity has established procedures for staff to acknowledge applicable company policies periodically.	
		432	Entity outlines and documents cybersecurity responsibilities for all personnel.	
CC1.2	COSO Principle 2: The board of directors	24	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves all company policies annually.	
	demonstrates independence from management and exercises oversight of the development and performance of internal control.	25	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the state of the Information Security program including policies, standards, and procedures, at planned intervals or if significant changes occur to ensure their continuing suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness.	
		26	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the Organizational Chart for all employees annually.	
		27	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the "Risk Assessment Report" annually.	
			29	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the "Vendor Risk Assessment Report" annually.
CC1.3	C1.3 COSO Principle 3: Management establishes, with board oversight, structures, reporting lines, and appropriate authorities and responsibilities in the pursuit of objectives.	25	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the state of the Information Security program including policies, standards, and procedures, at planned intervals or if significant changes occur to ensure their continuing suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness.	
		2	Entity maintains an organizational structure to define authorities, facilitate information flow and establish responsibilities.	
		3	Entity has established procedures to communicate with staff about their roles and responsibilities.	
		22	Entity's Senior Management assigns the role of Information Security Officer who is delegated to centrally manage, coordinate, develop, implement, and maintain an enterprise-wide cybersecurity and privacy program.	
		154	Entity has set up mechanisms to assign and manage asset ownership responsibilities and establish a common	

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
			understanding of asset protection requirements.
		396	Entity appoints a People Operations Officer to develop and drive all personnel-related security strategies.
		397	Entity appoints a Compliance Program Manager who is delegated the responsibility of planning and implementing the internal control environment.
CC1.4	COSO Principle 4: The entity demonstrates a commitment to attract, develop, and retain	4	Entity has procedures to ensure that all security-related positions are staffed by qualified individuals who have the necessary skill set.
	competent individuals in alignment with objectives.	5	Entity has established procedures to perform security risk screening of individuals before authorizing access.
CC1.5	COSO Principle 5: The entity holds individuals accountable for their internal control	9	Entity requires that all employees in client serving, IT, Engineering, and Information Security roles are periodically evaluated regarding their job responsibilities.
	responsibilities in the pursuit of objectives.	12	Entity has established procedures for staff to acknowledge applicable company policies periodically.
		7	Entity provides information security and privacy training to staff that is relevant to their job function.
		387	Entity has established procedures for new staff to complete security and privacy literacy training as a part of their onboarding.
		388	Entity documents, monitors, and retains individual training activities and records.
Commu	nication and Information	n	
CC2.1	entity obtains or generates and uses relevant, quality	11	Entity systems generate information that is reviewed and evaluated to determine impacts on the functioning of internal controls.
	information to support the functioning of internal control.	13	Entity makes all policies and procedures available to all staff members for their perusal.
		14	Entity displays the most current information about its services on its website, which is accessible to its customers.

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
-Kelf #		71	Entity has a documented policy outlining guidelines for the disposal and retention of information.
		382	Entity has documented policy and procedures for physical and/or logical labeling of information via documented policy for data classification.
CC2.2	COSO Principle 14: The entity internally communicates	1	Entity has a documented policy to define behavioral standards and acceptable business conduct.
	information, including objectives and responsibilities for internal control,	6	Entity has established procedures for new staff to acknowledge applicable company policies as a part of their onboarding.
	necessary to support the functioning of internal control.	12	Entity has established procedures for staff to acknowledge applicable company policies periodically.
		387	Entity has established procedures for new staff to complete security and privacy literacy training as a part of their onboarding.
		388	Entity documents, monitors, and retains individual training activities and records.
		13	Entity makes all policies and procedures available to all staff members for their perusal.
		15	Entity has provided information to employees, via various Information Security Policies/procedures, on how to report failures, incidents, concerns, or other complaints related to the services or systems provided by the entity in the event there are problems.
CC2.3	COSO Principle 15: The entity communicates with external parties regarding matters	14	Entity displays the most current information about its services on its website, which is accessible to its customers.
	affecting the functioning of internal control.	16	Entity has provided information to customers on how to report failures, incidents, concerns, or other complaints related to the services or systems provided by the Entity in the event there are problems.
Risk As	sessment		
CC3.1	COSO Principle 6: The entity specifies objectives with sufficient clarity to enable the identification	18	Entity performs a formal risk assessment exercise annually, as per documented guidelines and procedures, to identify threats that could impair systems' security commitments and requirements.

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
	and assessment of risks relating to objectives.		
CC3.2	C3.2 COSO Principle 7: The entity identifies risks to the achievement of its objectives across the	21	Entity performs a formal vendor risk assessment exercise annually to identify vendors that are critical to the systems' security commitments and requirements.
	entity and analyzes risks as a basis for determining how the risks should be managed.	18	Entity performs a formal risk assessment exercise annually, as per documented guidelines and procedures, to identify threats that could impair systems' security commitments and requirements.
		19	Each risk is assessed and given a risk score in relation to the likelihood of it occurring and the potential impact on the security, availability, and confidentiality of the Company platform. Risks are mapped to mitigating factors that address some or all of the risk.
		6	Entity has established procedures for new staff to acknowledge applicable company policies as a part of their onboarding.
CC3.3	COSO Principle 8: The entity considers the potential for fraud in assessing risks to the achievement of objectives.	20	Entity considers the potential for fraud when assessing risks. This is an entry in the risk matrix.
CC3.4	COSO Principle 9: The entity identifies and assesses changes that could significantly	21	Entity performs a formal vendor risk assessment exercise annually to identify vendors that are critical to the systems' security commitments and requirements.
	impact the system of internal control.	18	Entity performs a formal risk assessment exercise annually, as per documented guidelines and procedures, to identify threats that could impair systems' security commitments and requirements.
		19	Each risk is assessed and given a risk score in relation to the likelihood of it occurring and the potential impact on the security, availability, and confidentiality of the Company platform. Risks are mapped to mitigating factors that address some or all of the risk.
Monitor	ing Activities		
CC4.1	COSO Principle 16: The entity selects, develops, and performs ongoing and/or separate	23	A continuous monitoring system, to track and report the health of the information security program to the Information Security Officer and other stakeholders.

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
	evaluations to ascertain whether the components of internal control are present and	30	Entity reviews and evaluates all subservice organizations periodically, to ensure commitments to Entity's customers can be met.
	functioning.	389	Entity periodically updates and reviews the inventory of systems as a part of installations, removals, and system updates.
		24	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves all company policies annually.
		25	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the state of the Information Security program including policies, standards, and procedures, at planned intervals or if significant changes occur to ensure their continuing suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness.
		26	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the Organizational Chart for all employees annually.
		27	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the "Risk Assessment Report" annually.
		29	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the "Vendor Risk Assessment Report" annually.
		22	Entity's Senior Management assigns the role of Information Security Officer who is delegated to centrally manage, coordinate, develop, implement, and maintain an enterprise-wide cybersecurity and privacy program.
		154	Entity has set up mechanisms to assign and manage asset ownership responsibilities and establish a common understanding of asset protection requirements.
CC4.2	COSO Principle 17: The entity evaluates and communicates internal control deficiencies in a	23	A continuous monitoring system, to track and report the health of the information security program to the Information Security Officer and other stakeholders.
	timely manner to those parties responsible for taking corrective action, including senior management and the board of directors, as appropriate.	24	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves all company policies annually.
		25	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the state of the Information Security program including policies, standards, and procedures, at planned intervals or if significant changes occur to

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
			ensure their continuing suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness.
		15	Entity has provided information to employees, via various Information Security Policies/procedures, on how to report failures, incidents, concerns, or other complaints related to the services or systems provided by the entity in the event there are problems.
Control	Activities		
CC5.1	COSO Principle 10: The entity selects and develops control activities that contribute	31	Entity has documented a set of policies and procedures that establish expected behavior with regard to the Company's control environment.
	to the mitigation of risks to the achievement of objectives to acceptable levels.	32	Entity's Senior Management segregates responsibilities and duties across the organization to mitigate risks to the services provided to its customers.
		105	Entity establishes guidelines for acceptable and unacceptable technology usage behaviors, including outlining consequences for unacceptable actions.
CC5.2	2 COSO Principle 11: The entity also selects and develops general control activities over technology to support the achievement of objectives.	23	A continuous monitoring system, to track and report the health of the information security program to the Information Security Officer and other stakeholders.
		31	Entity has documented a set of policies and procedures that establish expected behavior with regard to the Company's control environment.
		28	Entity's Infosec officer reviews and approves the list of people with access to production console annually
		30	Entity reviews and evaluates all subservice organizations periodically, to ensure commitments to Entity's customers can be met.
		24	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves all company policies annually.
		25	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the state of the Information Security program including policies, standards, and procedures, at planned intervals or if significant changes occur to ensure their continuing suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness.

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet							
		26	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the Organizational Chart for all employees annually.							
		27	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the "Risk Assessment Report" annually.							
		29	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the "Vendor Risk Assessment Report" annually.							
CC5.3	COSO Principle 12: The entity deploys control activities through policies that establish	31	Entity has documented a set of policies and procedures that establish expected behavior with regard to the Company's control environment.							
	what is expected and in procedures that put policies into action.	6	Entity has established procedures for new staff to acknowledge applicable company policies as a part of their onboarding.							
		12	Entity has established procedures for staff to acknowledge applicable company policies periodically.							
							-		13	Entity makes all policies and procedures available to all staff members for their perusal.
Logical	and Physical Access Cor	trols								
CC6.1	The entity implements logical access security software, infrastructure, and architectures over	34	Entity ensures that logical access provisioning to critical systems requires approval from authorized personnel on an individual need or for a predefined role.							
	protected information assets to protect them from security events to meet the entity's objectives.	33	Entity has documented policies and procedures to manage Access Control and an accompanying process to register and authorize users for issuing system credentials which grant the ability to access the critical systems.							
		38	Entity ensures that the production databases access and Secure Shell access to infrastructure entities are protected from public internet access.							
		42	Entity's Senior Management or the Information Security Officer periodically reviews and ensures that access to the critical systems is restricted to only those individuals who require such access to perform their job functions.							
		43	Entity's Senior Management or the Information Security Officer periodically reviews and ensures that administrative access to the critical systems is restricted							

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
			to only those individuals who require such access to perform their job functions.
		108	A continuous monitoring system, to alert the security team to update the access levels of team members whose roles have changed.
		135	Entity has documented guidelines to manage passwords and secure login mechanisms and makes them available to all staff members on the company employee portal.
		381	Entity has documented policies and procedures to manage physical and environmental security.
CC6.2	6.2 Prior to issuing system credentials and granting system access, the entity registers and authorizes new internal and external users whose access is administered by the entity. For those users whose access is administered by the entity, user system credentials are removed when user access is no longer authorized.	34	Entity ensures that logical access provisioning to critical systems requires approval from authorized personnel on an individual need or for a predefined role.
		33	Entity has documented policies and procedures to manage Access Control and an accompanying process to register and authorize users for issuing system credentials which grant the ability to access the critical systems.
		35	Entity ensures logical access that is no longer required in the event of termination is made inaccessible in a timely manner.
	The entity authorizes, modifies, or removes access to data, software, functions, and other protected information assets based on roles, responsibilities, or the system design and changes, giving consideration to the concepts of least privilege and segregation of duties, to meet the entity's objectives.	34	Entity ensures that logical access provisioning to critical systems requires approval from authorized personnel on an individual need or for a predefined role.
		33	Entity has documented policies and procedures to manage Access Control and an accompanying process to register and authorize users for issuing system credentials which grant the ability to access the critical systems.
		42	Entity's Senior Management or the Information Security Officer periodically reviews and ensures that access to the critical systems is restricted to only those individuals who require such access to perform their job functions.
		37	Entity ensures that access to the production databases is restricted to only those individuals who require such access to perform their job functions.

TSC	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
Ref. #		43	Entity's Senior Management or the Information Security Officer periodically reviews and ensures that administrative access to the critical systems is restricted to only those individuals who require such access to perform their job functions.
		35	Entity ensures logical access that is no longer required in the event of termination is made inaccessible in a timely manner.
CC6.4	The entity restricts physical access to facilities and protected information assets (for example, data center facilities, back-up media storage, and other sensitive locations) to authorized personnel to meet the entity's objectives.	41	Authorized users have access to the servers hosted by the subservice organization.
CC6.5	The entity discontinues logical and physical protections over physical assets only after the ability to read or recover data and software from those assets has been diminished and is no longer required to meet the entity's objectives.	48	Entity has a documented policy that provides guidance on decommissioning of information assets that contain classified information.
CC6.6	The entity implements logical access security measures to protect against threats from sources outside its system boundaries.	45	Where applicable, Entity ensures that endpoints with access to critical servers or data must be encrypted to protect from unauthorized access.
		38	Entity ensures that the production databases access and Secure Shell access to infrastructure entities are protected from public internet access.
		44	Where applicable, Entity ensures that endpoints with access to critical servers or data must be protected by malware- protection software.
		50	Every Production host is protected by a firewall with a deny-by-default rule. Deny by default rule set is a default on the Entity's cloud provider.
		46	Entity has set up measures to perform security and privacy compliance checks on the software versions and patches of

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
			remote devices prior to the establishment of the internal connection.
		47	Entity ensures that endpoints with access to critical servers or data are configured to auto-screen-lock after 15 minutes of inactivity.
		39	Entity requires that all staff members with access to any critical system be protected with a secure login mechanism such as Multifactor authentication.
		104	Entity has documented policies and procedures for endpoint security and related controls.
		119	Entity has documented guidelines to manage communications protections and network security of critical systems.
		141	Entity requires that all critical endpoints are encrypted to protect them from unauthorized access.
		390	Entity develops, documents, and maintains an inventory of organizational endpoint systems, including all necessary information to achieve accountability.
CC6.7	The entity restricts the transmission, movement, and removal of information to authorized internal and external users and processes, and protects it during transmission, movement, or removal to meet the entity's objectives.	45	Where applicable, Entity ensures that endpoints with access to critical servers or data must be encrypted to protect from unauthorized access.
		49	Entity has set up cryptographic mechanisms to encrypt all production database[s] that store customer data at rest.
		141	Entity requires that all critical endpoints are encrypted to protect them from unauthorized access.
		51	Entity has set up processes to utilize standard encryption methods, including HTTPS with the TLS algorithm, to keep transmitted data confidential.
		52	Entity develops, documents, and maintains an inventory of organizational infrastructure systems, including all necessary information to achieve accountability.
		100	Entity ensures that customer data used in non-Production environments requires the same level of protection as the production environment.

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
		106	Entity has a documented policy to manage encryption and cryptographic protection controls.
CC6.8	CC6.8 The entity implements controls to prevent or detect and act upon the introduction of	50	Every Production host is protected by a firewall with a deny-by-default rule. Deny by default rule set is a default on the Entity's cloud provider.
	unauthorized or malicious software to meet the entity's objectives.	46	Entity has set up measures to perform security and privacy compliance checks on the software versions and patches of remote devices prior to the establishment of the internal connection.
System	Operations		
CC7.1	To meet its objectives, the entity uses detection and monitoring procedures	394	Entity's infrastructure is configured to generate audit events for actions of interest related to security for all critical systems.
	to identify (1) changes to configurations that result in the introduction of new vulnerabilities, and (2) susceptibilities to newly	62	Entity has set up methods to continuously monitor critical assets to generate capacity alerts to ensure optimal performance, meet future capacity requirements, and protect against denial-of-service attacks.
	discovered vulnerabilities.	55	Entity identifies vulnerabilities on the Company platform through the execution of regular vulnerability scans.
		56	Entity tracks all vulnerabilities and remediates them as per the policy and procedure defined to manage vulnerabilities.
		61	Entity's infrastructure is configured to review and analyze audit events to detect anomalous or suspicious activity and threats
		391	Entity has a documented policy and procedures to establish guidelines for managing technical vulnerabilities.
CC7.2	The entity monitors system components and the operation of those components for	394	Entity's infrastructure is configured to generate audit events for actions of interest related to security for all critical systems.
	anomalies that are indicative of malicious acts, natural disasters, and errors affecting the entity's ability to meet its objectives; anomalies are analyzed to determine whether	62	Entity has set up methods to continuously monitor critical assets to generate capacity alerts to ensure optimal performance, meet future capacity requirements, and protect against denial-of-service attacks.
		55	Entity identifies vulnerabilities on the Company platform through the execution of regular vulnerability scans.

TSC	Criteria	Control	Control Activity as specified by
Ref. #	they represent security events.	Number 56	Novalnet Entity tracks all vulnerabilities and remediates them as per the policy and procedure defined to manage vulnerabilities.
		61	Entity's infrastructure is configured to review and analyze audit events to detect anomalous or suspicious activity and threats
		391	Entity has a documented policy and procedures to establish guidelines for managing technical vulnerabilities.
CC7.3	The entity evaluates security events to determine whether they could or have resulted	394	Entity's infrastructure is configured to generate audit events for actions of interest related to security for all critical systems.
	in a failure of the entity to meet its objectives (security incidents) and, if so, takes actions to prevent or address such failures.	62	Entity has set up methods to continuously monitor critical assets to generate capacity alerts to ensure optimal performance, meet future capacity requirements, and protect against denial-of-service attacks.
		54	Entity maintains a record of information security incidents, its investigation, and the response plan that was executed in accordance with the policy and procedure defined to report and manage incidents.
		23	A continuous monitoring system, to track and report the health of the information security program to the Information Security Officer and other stakeholders.
		46	Entity has set up measures to perform security and privacy compliance checks on the software versions and patches of remote devices prior to the establishment of the internal connection.
		55	Entity identifies vulnerabilities on the Company platform through the execution of regular vulnerability scans.
		56	Entity tracks all vulnerabilities and remediates them as per the policy and procedure defined to manage vulnerabilities.
		61	Entity's infrastructure is configured to review and analyze audit events to detect anomalous or suspicious activity and threats
		391	Entity has a documented policy and procedures to establish guidelines for managing technical vulnerabilities.

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
		112	Entity has documented guidelines on notifying customers and other stakeholders in case of a breach.
CC7.4	The entity responds to identified security incidents by executing a defined incident response program to	54	Entity maintains a record of information security incidents, its investigation, and the response plan that was executed in accordance with the policy and procedure defined to report and manage incidents.
	understand, contain, remediate, and communicate security incidents, as appropriate.	23	A continuous monitoring system, to track and report the health of the information security program to the Information Security Officer and other stakeholders.
		53	Entity has established a policy and procedure which includes guidelines to be undertaken in response to information security incidents.
CC7.5	The entity identifies, develops, and implements activities to recover from identified	58	Entity has a documented policy on managing Data Backups and makes it available for all relevant staff on the company employee portal
	security incidents.	392	Entity has documented guidelines to manage Disaster Recovery that establish guidelines and procedures for continuing business operations in case of a disruption or a security incident
		393	Entity has documented policies and procedures that establish guidelines for continuing business operations and facilitate the application of contingency planning controls.
Change	Management	1	
CC8.1	The entity authorizes, designs, develops or acquires, configures, documents, tests, approves, and implements changes to infrastructure, data, software, and procedures to meet its objectives.	52	Entity develops, documents, and maintains an inventory of organizational infrastructure systems, including all necessary information to achieve accountability.
		64	Entity has documented policies and procedures to manage changes to its operating environment.
		65	Entity has procedures to govern changes to its operating environment.
		66	Entity has established procedures for approval when implementing changes to the operating environment.
Risk Mit	tigation		
CC9.1	The entity identifies, selects, and develops risk mitigation activities	18	Entity performs a formal risk assessment exercise annually, as per documented guidelines and procedures, to identify

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
	for risks arising from potential business disruptions.		threats that could impair systems' security commitments and requirements.
		19	Each risk is assessed and given a risk score in relation to the likelihood of it occurring and the potential impact on the security, availability, and confidentiality of the Company platform. Risks are mapped to mitigating factors that address some or all of the risk.
		67	Entity has documented policies and procedures that describe how to identify risks to business objectives and how those risks are assessed and mitigated. The objectives incorporate the Entity's service commitments and system requirements
CC9.2	The entity assesses and manages risks associated with vendors and business partners.	21	Entity performs a formal vendor risk assessment exercise annually to identify vendors that are critical to the systems' security commitments and requirements.
		67	Entity has documented policies and procedures that describe how to identify risks to business objectives and how those risks are assessed and mitigated. The objectives incorporate the Entity's service commitments and system requirements
		68	Entity has a documented policy and procedures to manage Vendors/third-party suppliers and provides guidance to staff on performing a risk assessment of such vendors
Additio	nal Criteria for Availabili	ty	
A1.1	The entity maintains, monitors, and evaluates current processing capacity and use of system components (infrastructure, data, and software) to manage capacity demand and to enable the implementation of additional capacity to help meet its objectives.	62	Entity has set up methods to continuously monitor critical assets to generate capacity alerts to ensure optimal performance, meet future capacity requirements, and protect against denial-of-service attacks.
A1.2	The entity authorizes, designs, develops or acquires, implements, operates, approves, maintains, and monitors	60	Entity tests backup information periodically to verify media reliability and information integrity.
		59	Entity backs up relevant user and system data regularly to meet recovery time and

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
	environmental protections, software,		recovery point objectives and verifies the integrity of these backups.
	data back-up processes, and recovery infrastructure to meet its objectives.	58	Entity has a documented policy on managing Data Backups and makes it available for all relevant staff on the company employee portal
		392	Entity has documented guidelines to manage Disaster Recovery that establish guidelines and procedures for continuing business operations in case of a disruption or a security incident
		393	Entity has documented policies and procedures that establish guidelines for continuing business operations and facilitate the application of contingency planning controls.
A1.3	The entity tests recovery plan procedures supporting	60	Entity tests backup information periodically to verify media reliability and information integrity.
	system recovery to meet its objectives.	97	Entity has procedures to conduct regular tests and exercises that determine the effectiveness and the readiness to execute the contingency plan.
		392	Entity has documented guidelines to manage Disaster Recovery that establish guidelines and procedures for continuing business operations in case of a disruption or a security incident
		393	Entity has documented policies and procedures that establish guidelines for continuing business operations and facilitate the application of contingency planning controls.
Additio	nal Criteria for Confident	tiality	
C1.1	The entity identifies and maintains confidential information to meet the entity's objectives related to confidentiality.	69	Entity has a documented Information Security Policy that governs the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information systems
		45	Where applicable, Entity ensures that endpoints with access to critical servers or data must be encrypted to protect from unauthorized access.
		49	Entity has set up cryptographic mechanisms to encrypt all production database[s] that store customer data at rest.

TSC	Criteria	Control	Control Activity as specified by
Ref. #		Number 6	Novalnet Entity has established procedures for new staff to acknowledge applicable company policies as a part of their onboarding.
		12	Entity has established procedures for staff to acknowledge applicable company policies periodically.
		70	Entity performs physical and/or logical labeling of information systems as per the guidelines documented policy defined for data classification
C1.2	The entity disposes of confidential information to meet the entity's objectives related to	48	Entity has a documented policy that provides guidance on decommissioning of information assets that contain classified information.
	confidentiality.	71	Entity has a documented policy outlining guidelines for the disposal and retention of information.
Additio	nal Criteria for Processin	g Integrit	y
PI1.1	The entity obtains or generates, uses, and communicates relevant, quality information	70	Entity performs physical and/or logical labeling of information systems as per the guidelines documented policy defined for data classification
	regarding the objectives related to processing, including definitions of data processed and	116	The Entity's software application ensures input values are limited to acceptable ranges.
	product and service specifications, to support the use of products and services.	117	The Entity's software application ensures mandatory fields are completed before a record entry/edit is accepted.
PI1.2	The entity implements policies and procedures over system inputs, including controls over	70	Entity performs physical and/or logical labeling of information systems as per the guidelines documented policy defined for data classification
	completeness and accuracy, to result in products, services, and reporting to meet the entity's objectives.	116	The Entity's software application ensures input values are limited to acceptable ranges.
PI1.3	The entity implements policies and procedures over system processing to result in products, services, and reporting to meet the entity's objectives.	66	Entity has established procedures for approval when implementing changes to the operating environment.
		118	Company does application regression testing to validate key processing for the application during the change management process.
PI1.4	The entity implements policies and procedures	34	Entity ensures that logical access provisioning to critical systems requires

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
	to make available or deliver output completely, accurately, and timely in accordance with specifications to meet		approval from authorized personnel on an individual need or for a predefined role.
		66	Entity has established procedures for approval when implementing changes to the operating environment.
	the entity's objectives.	118	Company does application regression testing to validate key processing for the application during the change management process.
PI1.5	The entity implements policies and procedures to store inputs, items in processing, and outputs	49	Entity has set up cryptographic mechanisms to encrypt all production database[s] that store customer data at rest.
	completely, accurately, and timely in accordance with system specifications to meet the entity's objectives.	33	Entity has documented policies and procedures to manage Access Control and an accompanying process to register and authorize users for issuing system credentials which grant the ability to access the critical systems.
Additio	nal Criteria for Privacy	1	
P1.0	-	143	Entity has a documented Privacy Policy which meets all the regulatory requirements and is published on the company's website.
		144	Entity includes Privacy Act statements on forms that collect information that will be maintained in a Privacy Act system of records or provide Privacy Act statements on separate forms that can be retained by individuals.
P1.1	The entity provides notice to data subjects about its privacy practices to meet the	143	Entity has a documented Privacy Policy which meets all the regulatory requirements and is published on the company's website.
	entity's objectives related to privacy. The notice is updated and communicated to data subjects in a timely manner for changes to the entity's privacy	144	Entity includes Privacy Act statements on forms that collect information that will be maintained in a Privacy Act system of records or provide Privacy Act statements on separate forms that can be retained by individuals.
	practices, including changes in the use of personal information, to meet the entity's objectives related to privacy.	433	Entity has documented policy and procedures which provides guidance on integrating privacy principles into the design process that help in complying with privacy regulations.
P2.1	The entity communicates choices available regarding the	75	Entity maintains an inventory of categories of personal information collected along with its usage, sources and specific

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
	collection, use, retention, disclosure, and disposal of personal information to the data subjects and the		purposes for collection as per regulatory requirements ("Record of Processing Activities") and reviews it on an annual basis
	consequences, if any, of each choice. Explicit consent for the	76	Entity ensures regulatory requirements regarding user consent are met prior to processing personal data
		98	Entity maintains a list of all contractual obligations based on customer contracts.
P3.1	P3.1 Personal information is collected consistent with the entity's objectives related to privacy.	72	Entity has a documented policy and procedures to provide guidelines for Data Protection which includes staff members' responsibilities with handling personal data as per the company's regulatory requirements
		75	Entity maintains an inventory of categories of personal information collected along with its usage, sources and specific purposes for collection as per regulatory requirements ("Record of Processing Activities") and reviews it on an annual basis
		143	Entity has a documented Privacy Policy which meets all the regulatory requirements and is published on the company's website.
		144	Entity includes Privacy Act statements on forms that collect information that will be maintained in a Privacy Act system of records or provide Privacy Act statements on separate forms that can be retained by individuals.

TSC	Criteria	Control	Control Activity as specified by
Ref. #		Number	Novalnet
P3.2	requiring explicit consent, the entity communicates the need for such consent, as well as the consequences of a	75	Entity maintains an inventory of categories of personal information collected along with its usage, sources and specific purposes for collection as per regulatory requirements ("Record of Processing Activities") and reviews it on an annual basis
	failure to provide consent for the request for personal information and obtains the consent	76	Entity ensures regulatory requirements regarding user consent are met prior to processing personal data
	prior to the collection of the information to meet the entity's objectives related to privacy.	143	Entity has a documented Privacy Policy which meets all the regulatory requirements and is published on the company's website.
		144	Entity includes Privacy Act statements on forms that collect information that will be maintained in a Privacy Act system of records or provide Privacy Act statements on separate forms that can be retained by individuals.
P4.1	The entity limits the use of personal information to the purposes identified in the entity's objectives related to privacy.	75	Entity maintains an inventory of categories of personal information collected along with its usage, sources and specific purposes for collection as per regulatory requirements ("Record of Processing Activities") and reviews it on an annual basis
		143	Entity has a documented Privacy Policy which meets all the regulatory requirements and is published on the company's website.
		144	Entity includes Privacy Act statements on forms that collect information that will be maintained in a Privacy Act system of records or provide Privacy Act statements on separate forms that can be retained by individuals.
		34	Entity ensures that logical access provisioning to critical systems requires approval from authorized personnel on an individual need or for a predefined role.
P4.2	The entity retains personal information consistent with the entity's objectives related to privacy.	75	Entity maintains an inventory of categories of personal information collected along with its usage, sources and specific purposes for collection as per regulatory requirements ("Record of Processing Activities") and reviews it on an annual basis
		143	Entity has a documented Privacy Policy which meets all the regulatory

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
			requirements and is published on the company's website.
		144	Entity includes Privacy Act statements on forms that collect information that will be maintained in a Privacy Act system of records or provide Privacy Act statements on separate forms that can be retained by individuals.
		71	Entity has a documented policy outlining guidelines for the disposal and retention of information.
P4.3	P4.3 The entity securely disposes of personal information to meet the entity's objectives related to privacy.	75	Entity maintains an inventory of categories of personal information collected along with its usage, sources and specific purposes for collection as per regulatory requirements ("Record of Processing Activities") and reviews it on an annual basis
		143	Entity has a documented Privacy Policy which meets all the regulatory requirements and is published on the company's website.
		144	Entity includes Privacy Act statements on forms that collect information that will be maintained in a Privacy Act system of records or provide Privacy Act statements on separate forms that can be retained by individuals.
		80	Entity ensures that Subject Access Requests are being honored in accordance with the Privacy Policy
		71	Entity has a documented policy outlining guidelines for the disposal and retention of information.
P5.1	The entity grants identified and authenticated data subjects the ability to	143	Entity has a documented Privacy Policy which meets all the regulatory requirements and is published on the company's website.
	access their stored personal information for review and, upon request, provides physical or electronic copies of that information to data subjects to meet the entity's objectives related to privacy. If access is denied, data subjects are informed of	144	Entity includes Privacy Act statements on forms that collect information that will be maintained in a Privacy Act system of records or provide Privacy Act statements on separate forms that can be retained by individuals.
		80	Entity ensures that Subject Access Requests are being honored in accordance with the Privacy Policy

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
	the denial and reason for such denial, as required, to meet the entity's objectives related to privacy.		
P5.2	The entity corrects, amends, or appends personal information based on information	77	Entity ensures that appropriate remediation measures are in place when personal data is shared with vendors as a part of its processing activities
	provided by data subjects and communicates such information to third parties, as committed or	143	Entity has a documented Privacy Policy which meets all the regulatory requirements and is published on the company's website.
	required, to meet the entity's objectives related to privacy. If a request for correction is denied, data subjects are informed of the denial and reason for such denial to meet the entity's objectives related to privacy.	144	Entity includes Privacy Act statements on forms that collect information that will be maintained in a Privacy Act system of records or provide Privacy Act statements on separate forms that can be retained by individuals.
		80	Entity ensures that Subject Access Requests are being honored in accordance with the Privacy Policy
P6.1	The entity discloses personal information to third parties with the	76	Entity ensures regulatory requirements regarding user consent are met prior to processing personal data
	explicit consent of data subjects, and such consent is obtained prior to disclosure to meet the entity's	77	Entity ensures that appropriate remediation measures are in place when personal data is shared with vendors as a part of its processing activities
	objectives related to privacy.	79	Entity conducts Data Protection Impact Assessments periodically in order to assess the regulatory risks associated with the processing of personal data
		21	Entity performs a formal vendor risk assessment exercise annually to identify vendors that are critical to the systems' security commitments and requirements.
P6.2	P6.2 The entity creates and retains a complete, accurate, and timely record of authorized disclosures of personal information to meet the entity's objectives related to privacy.	75	Entity maintains an inventory of categories of personal information collected along with its usage, sources and specific purposes for collection as per regulatory requirements ("Record of Processing Activities") and reviews it on an annual basis
		114	Entity appoints a Privacy Officer to assess and facilitate the entity's compliance with relevant regulatory requirements.

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
		80	Entity ensures that Subject Access Requests are being honored in accordance with the Privacy Policy
P6.3	The entity creates and retains a complete, accurate, and timely record of detected or	1105	Entity has documented guidelines on notifying customers and other stakeholders in case of a PII breach.
	reported unauthorized disclosures (including breaches) of personal	114	Entity appoints a Privacy Officer to assess and facilitate the entity's compliance with relevant regulatory requirements.
	information to meet the entity's objectives related to privacy.	113	Entity conducts risk assessment of suspected data breaches and any significant data breaches are notified to all affected parties without unreasonable delay.
		54	Entity maintains a record of information security incidents, its investigation, and the response plan that was executed in accordance with the policy and procedure defined to report and manage incidents.
		112	Entity has documented guidelines on notifying customers and other stakeholders in case of a breach.
P6.4	The entity obtains privacy commitments from vendors and other third parties who have access to personal	74	Entity ensures appropriate procedures are in place to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements related to transfer of personal data outside of the region from which it is collected
	information to meet the entity's objectives related to privacy. The entity assesses those parties' compliance on a periodic and as-needed basis and takes corrective action, if necessary.	77	Entity ensures that appropriate remediation measures are in place when personal data is shared with vendors as a part of its processing activities
		68	Entity has a documented policy and procedures to manage Vendors/third-party suppliers and provides guidance to staff on performing a risk assessment of such vendors
P6.5	P6.5 The entity obtains commitments from vendors and other third parties with access to personal information to notify the entity in the event of actual or suspected unauthorized disclosures of personal information. Such notifications are reported to appropriate personnel and acted on	74	Entity ensures appropriate procedures are in place to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements related to transfer of personal data outside of the region from which it is collected
		76	Entity ensures regulatory requirements regarding user consent are met prior to processing personal data
		77	Entity ensures that appropriate remediation measures are in place when personal data is shared with vendors as a part of its processing activities

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
	in accordance with established incident response procedures to meet the entity's objectives related to	113	Entity conducts risk assessment of suspected data breaches and any significant data breaches are notified to all affected parties without unreasonable delay.
	privacy.	15	Entity has provided information to employees, via various Information Security Policies/procedures, on how to report failures, incidents, concerns, or other complaints related to the services or systems provided by the entity in the event there are problems.
P6.6	The entity provides notification of breaches and incidents to	1105	Entity has documented guidelines on notifying customers and other stakeholders in case of a PII breach.
	affected data subjects, regulators, and others to meet the entity's objectives related to privacy.	113	Entity conducts risk assessment of suspected data breaches and any significant data breaches are notified to all affected parties without unreasonable delay.
		54	Entity maintains a record of information security incidents, its investigation, and the response plan that was executed in accordance with the policy and procedure defined to report and manage incidents.
		15	Entity has provided information to employees, via various Information Security Policies/procedures, on how to report failures, incidents, concerns, or other complaints related to the services or systems provided by the entity in the event there are problems.
		112	Entity has documented guidelines on notifying customers and other stakeholders in case of a breach.
P6.7	The entity provides data subjects with an accounting of the personal information held and disclosure of the data subject's personal information, upon the data subject's request, to meet the entity's objectives related to privacy.	76	Entity ensures regulatory requirements regarding user consent are met prior to processing personal data
		80	Entity ensures that Subject Access Requests are being honored in accordance with the Privacy Policy
P7.1	The entity collects and maintains accurate, up- to-date, complete, and relevant personal	75	Entity maintains an inventory of categories of personal information collected along with its usage, sources and specific purposes for collection as per regulatory

TSC Ref. #	Criteria	Control Number	Control Activity as specified by Novalnet
	information to meet the entity's objectives related to privacy.		requirements ("Record of Processing Activities") and reviews it on an annual basis
		114	Entity appoints a Privacy Officer to assess and facilitate the entity's compliance with relevant regulatory requirements.
		143	Entity has a documented Privacy Policy which meets all the regulatory requirements and is published on the company's website.
		144	Entity includes Privacy Act statements on forms that collect information that will be maintained in a Privacy Act system of records or provide Privacy Act statements on separate forms that can be retained by individuals.
		80	Entity ensures that Subject Access Requests are being honored in accordance with the Privacy Policy
P8.1	The entity implements a process for receiving, addressing, resolving,	76	Entity ensures regulatory requirements regarding user consent are met prior to processing personal data
	and communicating the resolution of inquiries, complaints, and disputes from data subjects and others and	143	Entity has a documented Privacy Policy which meets all the regulatory requirements and is published on the company's website.
	subjects and others and periodically monitors compliance to meet the entity's objectives related to privacy. Corrections and other necessary actions related to identified deficiencies are made or taken in a timely manner.		Entity ensures that Subject Access Requests are being honored in accordance with the Privacy Policy

**SECTION 4** INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE SERVICE AUDITOR

# 4 INFORMATION PROVIDED BY INDEPENDENT SERVICE AUDITOR

#### **4.1 Objective of Our Examination**

This report, including the description of tests of controls and results thereof in this section are intended solely for the information and use of Novalnet, user entities of the Novalnet system related to Novalnet Payment platform during some or all of the period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, business partners of Novalnet subject to risks arising from interactions with Novalnet's system, practitioners providing services to such user entities and business partners, prospective user entities and business partners, and regulators who have sufficient knowledge and understanding of the following:

- the nature of the service provided by the service Organization;
- how the service Organization's system interacts with user entities, subservice Organizations, and other parties;
- internal control and its limitations;
- complementary user-entity controls and how they interact with related controls at the service Organization to meet the applicable trust services criteria; the applicable trust services criteria;
- and the risks that may threaten the achievement of the applicable trust services criteria and how controls address those risks

This section presents the following information provided by Novalnet:

- The controls established and specified by Novalnet to achieve the specified trust services criteria.

Also included in this section is the following information provided by auditors:

- A description of the tests performed by auditors to determine whether Novalnet's controls were operating with sufficient effectiveness to achieve specified trust services criteria. Auditors determined the nature, timing, and extent of the testing performed.
- The results of tests of controls.

The examination was conducted in accordance with the criteria as set forth in DC Section 200. 2018 Description Criteria for a Description of a Service Organization's System in a SOC 2 Report ("description criteria") and the suitability of the design and operating effectiveness of controls stated in the description throughout the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 to provide reasonable assurance that Novalnet's service commitments and system requirements were achieved based on the trust services criteria relevant to Security, Availability, Processing Integrity, Confidentiality, and Privacy ("applicable trust services criteria") set forth in TSP section 100, 2017 Trust Services Criteria for Security, Availability, Processing Integrity, Confidentiality, and Privacy, of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), and the AICPA Statement on Standards for Attestation Engagements No. 18 (SSAE 18). SSAE 18 is inclusive of the following: (1) AT-C 105, Concepts Common to all Attestation Engagements; and (2) AT-C 205, Examination Engagements. Our testing of Novalnet's controls was restricted to the controls identified by Novalnet to meet the criteria related to Security, Availability, Processing Integrity, Confidentiality, and Privacy listed in Section 1 of this report and was not extended to controls described in Section 3 but not included in Section 4, or to controls that may be in effect at user Organizations or subservice Organizations.

It is each user's responsibility to evaluate the information included in this report in relation to internal control in place at individual user entities and subservice Organizations to obtain an understanding and to assess control risk at the user entities. The controls at user entities, subservice Organizations, and Novalnet's controls should be evaluated together. If effective user entity or subservice Organizations controls are not in place, Novalnet's controls may not compensate for such weaknesses.

### **4.2 Control Environment Elements**

The control environment sets the tone of an organization, influencing the control consciousness of its people. It is the foundation for other components of internal control, providing discipline and structure. In addition to the tests of design, implementation, and operating effectiveness of controls identified by Novalnet our procedures included tests of the following relevant elements of the Novalnet control environment:

- 1. Environment
- 2. Internal Risk Assessment
- 3. Information and Communication
- 4. Monitoring
- 5. Control Activities

Such tests included inquiry of the appropriate management, supervisory, and staff personnel; observation of Novalnet activities and operations, inspection of Novalnet documents and records, and re-performance of the application of Novalnet controls. The results of these tests were considered in planning the nature, timing, and extent of our testing of the control activities described in this section.

#### 4.3 Applicable Trust Services Criteria, Controls, Tests of Operating Effectiveness, and Results of Tests

Our tests were designed to examine the Novalnet description of the system related to Novalnet as well as the suitability of the design and operating effectiveness of controls for a representative number of samples throughout the period of January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.

In selecting particular tests of the operational effectiveness of controls, we considered the (a) nature of the items being tested, (b) the types of available evidential matter, (c) the nature of the trust services principles and criteria to be achieved and (d) the expected efficiency and effectiveness of the test.

Testing the accuracy and completeness of information provided by Novalnet is also a component of the testing procedures performed. Information we are utilizing as evidence may include, but is not limited to:

- 1. Standard 'out of the box' reports as configured within the system
- 2. Parameter-driven reports generated by Novalnet systems
- 3. Custom-developed reports that are not standard to the application such as scripts, report writers, and queries
- 4. Spreadsheets that include relevant information utilized for the performance or testing of a control
- 5. Novalnet prepared analyses, schedules, or other evidence manually prepared and utilized by the Company

While these procedures are not specifically called out in the test procedures listed in this section, they are completed as a component of our testing to support the evaluation of whether or not the information is sufficiently precise and detailed for purposes of fully testing the controls identified by Novalnet.

### **4.4 Description of Testing Procedures Performed**

Our examination included inquiry of management, supervisory, and staff personnel; inspection of documents and records; observation of activities and operations; and re-performance of controls surrounding and provided by Novalnet. Our tests of controls were performed on controls as they existed during the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, and were applied to those controls relating to the trust services principles and criteria.

Tests performed of the operational effectiveness of controls are described below:

Test	Description
Inquiry	Conducted detailed interviews with relevant personnel to obtain evidence that the control was in operation during the report period and is accompanied by other procedures noted below that are necessary to corroborate the information derived from the inquiry.
Observation	Observed the performance of the control multiple times throughout the report period to evidence application of the specific control activity.
Examination of Documentation/Inspection	If the performance of the control is documented, inspected documents and reports indicating performance of the control.
Re-performance of Monitoring Activities or Manual Controls	Obtained documents used in the monitoring activity or manual control activity and independently re-performed the procedures. Compared any exception items identified with those identified by the responsible control owner.
Re-performance of Programmed Processing	Input test data, manually calculated expected results, and compared actual results of processing to expectations.

#### **Reporting on Results of Testing**

The concept of materiality is not applied when reporting the results of tests of controls for which deviations have been identified because auditors does not have the ability to determine whether a deviation will be relevant to a particular user entity. Consequently, auditor reports all deviations.

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## **4.5 Testing Procedures Performed by Independent Service Auditor**

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
CC1.1 CC2.2	1	Entity has a documented policy to define behavioral standards and acceptable business conduct.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has a documented policy to define behavioral standards and acceptable business conduct.	
CC1.1 CC2.2 CC3.2 CC5.3	6	Entity has established procedures for new staff to acknowledge applicable company policies as a part of their onboarding.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
C1.1			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has established procedures for new staff to acknowledge applicable company policies as a part of their onboarding.	
CC1.1 CC1.5 CC2.2 CC5.3	12	Entity has established procedures for staff to acknowledge applicable company policies periodically.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
C1.1			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has established procedures for staff to acknowledge applicable company policies periodically.	
CC1.1	432	Entity outlines and documents cybersecurity responsibilities for all personnel.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity outlines and documents cybersecurity responsibilities for all personnel.	

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
CC1.2 CC4.1 CC4.2 CC5.2	24	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves all company policies annually.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity's Senior Management reviews and approves all	No exception noted.
CC1.2 CC1.3 CC4.1 CC4.2 CC5.2	25	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the state of the Information Security program including policies, standards, and procedures, at planned intervals or if significant changes occur to ensure their continuing suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness.	<ul> <li>company policies annually.</li> <li>Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.</li> <li>Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the state of the Information Security program including policies, standards, and procedures, at planned intervals or if significant changes occur to ensure their continuing suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness.</li> </ul>	No exception noted.
CC1.2 CC4.1 CC5.2	26	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the Organizational Chart for all employees annually.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the Organizational Chart for all employees annually.	No exception noted.
CC1.2 CC4.1 CC5.2	27	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the "Risk Assessment Report" annually.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the "Risk Assessment Report" annually.	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
CC1.2 CC4.1 CC5.2	29	Entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the "Vendor Risk Assessment Report" annually.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
		, ,	Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity's Senior Management reviews and approves the "Vendor Risk Assessment Report" annually.	
CC1.3	2	Entity maintains an organizational structure to define authorities, facilitate information flow and establish responsibilities.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity maintains an organizational structure to define authorities, facilitate information flow and establish responsibilities.	
CC1.3	3	Entity has established procedures to communicate with staff about their roles and responsibilities.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has established procedures to communicate with staff about their roles and responsibilities.	
CC1.3 CC4.1	22	Entity's Senior Management assigns the role of Information Security Officer who is delegated to centrally manage, coordinate,	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
		develop, implement, and maintain an enterprise-wide cybersecurity and privacy program.	Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity's Senior Management assigns the role of Information Security Officer who is delegated to centrally manage, coordinate, develop, implement, and maintain an enterprise-wide cybersecurity and privacy program.	

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
CC1.3 CC4.1	154	Entity has set up mechanisms to assign and manage asset ownership responsibilities and establish a common understanding of asset protection requirements.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has set up mechanisms to assign and manage asset ownership responsibilities and establish a	No exception noted.
			common understanding of asset protection requirements.	
CC1.3	396	Entity appoints a People Operations Officer to develop and drive all personnel-related security strategies.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity appoints a People Operations Officer to develop and drive all personnel-related security strategies.	
CC1.3	397	Entity appoints a Compliance Program Manager who is delegated the responsibility of planning and implementing the	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
		internal control environment.	Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity appoints a Compliance Program Manager who is delegated the responsibility of planning and implementing the internal control environment.	
CC1.4	4	Entity has procedures to ensure that all security-related positions are staffed by qualified individuals who have the necessary skill set.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has procedures to ensure that all security- related positions are staffed by qualified individuals who have the necessary skill set.	

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
CC1.4	5	Entity has established procedures to perform security risk screening of individuals before authorizing access.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has established procedures to perform security risk screening of individuals before authorizing access.	No exception noted.
CC1.5	9	Entity requires that all employees in client serving, IT, Engineering, and Information Security roles are periodically evaluated regarding their job responsibilities.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity requires that all employees in client serving, IT, Engineering, and Information Security roles are periodically evaluated regarding their job responsibilities.	No exception noted.
CC1.5	7	Entity provides information security and privacy training to staff that is relevant to their job function.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity provides information security and privacy training to staff that is relevant to their job function.	No exception noted.
CC1.5 CC2.2	387	Entity has established procedures for new staff to complete security and privacy literacy training as a part of their onboarding.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has established procedures for new staff to complete security and privacy literacy training as a part of their onboarding.	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
CC1.5 CC2.2	388	Entity documents, monitors, and retains individual training activities and records.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity documents, monitors, and retains individual training activities and records.	
CC2.1	11	Entity systems generate information that is reviewed and evaluated to determine impacts on the functioning of internal	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
		controls.	Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity systems generate information that is reviewed and evaluated to determine impacts on the functioning of internal controls.	
CC2.1 CC2.2 CC5.3	13	Entity makes all policies and procedures available to all staff members for their perusal.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity makes all policies and procedures available to all staff members for their perusal.	
CC2.1 CC2.3	14	Entity displays the most current information about its services on its website, which is accessible to its customers.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity displays the most current information about its services on its website, which is accessible to its customers.	
CC2.1 C1.2	71	Entity has a documented policy outlining guidelines for the	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
P4.2 P4.3		disposal and retention of information.	described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has a documented policy outlining guidelines for the disposal and retention of information.	
CC2.1	382	Entity has documented policy and procedures for physical and/or logical labeling of information via documented policy for data classification.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has documented policy and procedures for physical and/or logical labeling of information via documented policy for data classification.	No exception noted.
CC2.2 CC4.2 P6.5 P6.6	15	Entity has provided information to employees, via various Information Security Policies/procedures, on how to report failures, incidents, concerns, or other complaints related to the services or systems provided by the entity in the event there are problems.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has provided information to employees, via various Information Security Policies/procedures, on how to report failures, incidents, concerns, or other complaints related to the services or systems provided by the entity in the event there are problems.	No exception noted.
CC2.3	16	Entity has provided information to customers on how to report failures, incidents, concerns, or other complaints related to the services or systems provided by the Entity in the event there are problems.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has provided information to customers on how to report failures, incidents, concerns, or other complaints related to the services or systems provided by the entity in the event there are problems.	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
CC3.1 CC3.2 CC3.4 CC9.1	18	Entity performs a formal risk assessment exercise annually, as per documented guidelines and procedures, to identify threats that could impair systems' security commitments and requirements.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity performs a formal risk assessment exercise annually, as per documented guidelines and procedures, to identify threats that could impair systems' security commitments and requirements.	No exception noted.
CC3.2 CC3.4 CC9.2 P6.1	21	Entity performs a formal vendor risk assessment exercise annually to identify vendors that are critical to the systems' security commitments and requirements.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity performs a formal vendor risk assessment exercise annually to identify vendors that are critical to the systems' security commitments and requirements.	No exception noted.
CC3.2 CC3.4 CC9.1	19	Each risk is assessed and given a risk score in relation to the likelihood of it occurring and the potential impact on the security, availability, and confidentiality of the Company platform. Risks are mapped to mitigating factors that address some or all of the risk.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether Each risk is assessed and given a risk score in relation to the likelihood of it occurring and the potential impact on the security, availability, and confidentiality of the Company platform. Risks are mapped to mitigating factors that address some or all of the risk.	No exception noted.
CC3.3	20	Entity considers the potential for fraud when assessing risks. This is an entry in the risk matrix.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
			entity considers the potential for fraud when assessing risks. This is an entry in the risk matrix.	
CC4.1 CC4.2 CC5.2 CC7.3 CC7.4	23	A continuous monitoring system, to track and report the health of the information security program to the Information Security Officer and other stakeholders.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity uses a continuous monitoring system, to track and report the health of the information security program to the Information Security Officer and other stakeholders.	No exception noted.
CC4.1 CC5.2	30	Entity reviews and evaluates all subservice organizations periodically, to ensure commitments to Entity's customers can be met.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity reviews and evaluates all subservice organizations periodically, to ensure commitments to entity's customers can be met.	No exception noted.
CC4.1	389	Entity periodically updates and reviews the inventory of systems as a part of installations, removals, and system updates.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity periodically updates and reviews the inventory of systems as a part of installations, removals, and system updates.	No exception noted.
CC5.1 CC5.2 CC5.3	31	Entity has documented a set of policies and procedures that establish expected behavior with regard to the Company's control environment.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
			entity has documented a set of policies and procedures that establish expected behavior with regard to the Company's control environment.	
CC5.1	32	Entity's Senior Management segregates responsibilities and duties across the organization to mitigate risks to the services provided to its customers.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity's Senior Management segregates responsibilities and duties across the organization to mitigate risks to the services provided to its customers.	No exception noted.
CC5.1	105	Entity establishes guidelines for acceptable and unacceptable technology usage behaviors, including outlining consequences for unacceptable actions.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity establishes guidelines for acceptable and unacceptable technology usage behaviors, including outlining consequences for unacceptable actions.	No exception noted.
CC5.2	28	Entity's Infosec officer reviews and approves the list of people with access to production console annually	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity's Infosec officer reviews and approves the list of people with access to production console annually	No exception noted.
CC6.1 CC6.2 CC6.3 PI1.4 P4.1	34	Entity ensures that logical access provisioning to critical systems requires approval from authorized personnel on an individual need or for a predefined role.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity ensures that logical access provisioning to critical systems requires approval from authorized	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
			personnel on an individual need or for a predefined role.	
CC6.1 CC6.2 CC6.3 PI1.5	33	Entity has documented policies and procedures to manage Access Control and an accompanying process to register and authorize users for issuing system credentials which grant the ability to access the critical systems.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has documented policies and procedures to manage Access Control and an accompanying process to register and authorize users for issuing system credentials which grant the ability to access the critical systems.	No exception noted.
CC6.1 CC6.6	38	Entity ensures that the production databases access and Secure Shell access to infrastructure entities are protected from public internet access.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity ensures that the production databases access and Secure Shell access to infrastructure entities are protected from public internet access.	No exception noted.
CC6.1 CC6.3	42	Entity's Senior Management or the Information Security Officer periodically reviews and ensures that access to the critical systems is restricted to only those individuals who require such access to perform their job functions.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity's Senior Management or the Information Security Officer periodically reviews and ensures that access to the critical systems is restricted to only those individuals who require such access to perform their job functions.	No exception noted.
CC6.1 CC6.3	43	Entity's Senior Management or the Information Security Officer	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
		periodically reviews and ensures that administrative access to the critical systems is restricted to only those individuals who require such access to perform their job functions.	described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity's Senior Management or the Information Security Officer periodically reviews and ensures that administrative access to the critical systems is restricted to only those individuals who require such access to perform their job functions.	
CC6.1	108	A continuous monitoring system, to alert the security team to update the access levels of team members whose roles have changed.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity uses a continuous monitoring system, to alert the security team to update the access levels of team members whose roles have changed.	No exception noted.
CC6.1	135	Entity has documented guidelines to manage passwords and secure login mechanisms and makes them available to all staff members on the company employee portal.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has documented guidelines to manage passwords and secure login mechanisms and makes them available to all staff members on the company employee portal.	No exception noted.
CC6.1	381	Entity has documented policies and procedures to manage physical and environmental security.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has documented policies and procedures to manage physical and environmental security.	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
CC6.2 CC6.3	35	Entity ensures logical access that is no longer required in the event of termination is made inaccessible in a timely manner.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity ensures logical access that is no longer required in the event of termination is made inaccessible in a timely manner.	
CC6.3	37	Entity ensures that access to the production databases is restricted to only those individuals who require such access to perform	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
		their job functions.	Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity ensures that access to the production databases is restricted to only those individuals who require such access to perform their job functions.	
CC6.4	41	Authorized users have access to the servers hosted by the subservice organization.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether authorized users from have access to the servers hosted by the subservice organization.	
CC6.5 C1.2	48	Entity has a documented policy that provides guidance on decommissioning of information assets that contain classified	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
		information.	Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has a documented policy that provides guidance on decommissioning of information assets that contain classified information.	

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
CC6.6 CC6.7 C1.1	45	Where applicable, Entity ensures that endpoints with access to critical servers or data must be encrypted to protect from unauthorized access.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether where applicable, entity ensures that endpoints with access to critical servers or data must be encrypted to protect from unauthorized access.	No exception noted.
CC6.6	44	Where applicable, Entity ensures that endpoints with access to critical servers or data must be protected by malware-protection software.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether where applicable, entity ensures that endpoints with access to critical servers or data must be protected by malware-protection software.	No exception noted.
CC6.6 CC6.8	50	Every Production host is protected by a firewall with a deny-by- default rule. Deny by default rule set is a default on the Entity's cloud provider.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether Every Production host is protected by a firewall with a deny-by-default rule. Deny by default rule set is a default on the entity's cloud provider.	No exception noted.
CC6.6 CC6.8 CC7.3	46	Entity has set up measures to perform security and privacy compliance checks on the software versions and patches of remote devices prior to the establishment of the internal connection.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has set up measures to perform security and privacy compliance checks on the software versions	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
			and patches of remote devices prior to the establishment of the internal connection.	
CC6.6	47	Entity ensures that endpoints with access to critical servers or data are configured to auto-screen- lock after 15 minutes of inactivity.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity ensures that endpoints with access to critical servers or data are configured to auto-screen-lock after 15 minutes of inactivity.	No exception noted.
CC6.6	39	Entity requires that all staff members with access to any critical system be protected with a secure login mechanism such as Multifactor authentication.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity requires that all staff members with access to any critical system be protected with a secure login mechanism such as Multifactor authentication.	No exception noted.
CC6.6	104	Entity has documented policies and procedures for endpoint security and related controls.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has documented policies and procedures for endpoint security and related controls.	No exception noted.
CC6.6	119	Entity has documented guidelines to manage communications protections and network security of critical systems.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has documented guidelines to manage	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
			communications protections and network security of critical systems.	
CC6.6 CC6.7	141	Entity requires that all critical endpoints are encrypted to protect them from unauthorized access.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity requires that all critical endpoints are encrypted to protect them from unauthorized access.	
CC6.6	390	Entity develops, documents, and maintains an inventory of organizational endpoint systems, including all necessary	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
		information to achieve accountability.	Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity develops, documents, and maintains an inventory of organizational endpoint systems, including all necessary information to achieve accountability.	
CC6.7 C1.1 PI1.5	49	Entity has set up cryptographic mechanisms to encrypt all production database[s] that store customer data at rest.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has set up cryptographic mechanisms to encrypt all production database[s] that store customer data at rest.	
CC6.7	51	Entity has set up processes to utilize standard encryption methods, including HTTPS with the TLS algorithm, to keep	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
		transmitted data confidential.	Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has set up processes to utilize standard	

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
			encryption methods, including HTTPS with the TLS algorithm, to keep transmitted data confidential.	
CC6.7 CC8.1	52	Entity develops, documents, and maintains an inventory of organizational infrastructure systems, including all necessary information to achieve accountability.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity develops, documents, and maintains an inventory of organizational infrastructure systems, including all necessary information to achieve accountability.	No exception noted.
CC6.7	100	Entity ensures that customer data used in non-Production environments requires the same level of protection as the production environment.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity ensures that customer data used in non- Production environments requires the same level of protection as the production environment.	No exception noted.
CC6.7	106	Entity has a documented policy to manage encryption and cryptographic protection controls.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has a documented policy to manage encryption and cryptographic protection controls.	No exception noted.
CC7.1 CC7.2 CC7.3	394	Entity's infrastructure is configured to generate audit events for actions of interest related to security for all critical systems.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity's infrastructure is configured to generate audit	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
			events for actions of interest related to security for all critical systems.	
CC7.1 CC7.2 CC7.3 A1.1	62	Entity has set up methods to continuously monitor critical assets to generate capacity alerts to ensure optimal performance, meet future capacity requirements, and protect against denial-of-service attacks.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has set up methods to continuously monitor critical assets to generate capacity alerts to ensure optimal performance, meet future capacity requirements, and protect against denial-of-service attacks.	No exception noted.
CC7.1 CC7.2 CC7.3	55	Entity identifies vulnerabilities on the Company platform through the execution of regular vulnerability scans.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity identifies vulnerabilities on the Company platform through the execution of regular vulnerability scans.	No exception noted.
CC7.1 CC7.2 CC7.3	56	Entity tracks all vulnerabilities and remediates them as per the policy and procedure defined to manage vulnerabilities.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity tracks all vulnerabilities and remediates them as per the policy and procedure defined to manage vulnerabilities.	No exception noted.
CC7.1 CC7.2 CC7.3	61	Entity's infrastructure is configured to review and analyze audit events to detect anomalous or suspicious activity and threats	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity's infrastructure is configured to review and analyze audit events to detect anomalous or suspicious activity and threats	
CC7.1 CC7.2 CC7.3	391	Entity has a documented policy and procedures to establish guidelines for managing technical vulnerabilities.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has a documented policy and procedures to establish guidelines for managing technical vulnerabilities.	No exception noted.
CC7.3 CC7.4 P6.3 P6.6	54	Entity maintains a record of information security incidents, its investigation, and the response plan that was executed in accordance with the policy and procedure defined to report and manage incidents.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity maintains a record of information security incidents, its investigation, and the response plan that was executed in accordance with the policy and procedure defined to report and manage incidents.	No exception noted.
CC7.3 P6.3 P6.6	112	Entity has documented guidelines on notifying customers and other stakeholders in case of a breach.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has documented guidelines on notifying customers and other stakeholders in case of a breach.	No exception noted.
CC7.4	53	Entity has established a policy and procedure which includes guidelines to be undertaken in	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
		response to information security incidents.	Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has established a policy and procedure which includes guidelines to be undertaken in response to information security incidents.	
CC7.5 A1.2	58	Entity has a documented policy on managing Data Backups and makes it available for all relevant staff on the company employee portal	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has a documented policy on managing Data Backups and makes it available for all relevant staff on the company employee portal	No exception noted.
CC7.5 A1.2 A1.3	392	Entity has documented guidelines to manage Disaster Recovery that establish guidelines and procedures for continuing business operations in case of a disruption or a security incident	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has documented guidelines to manage Disaster Recovery that establish guidelines and procedures for continuing business operations in case of a disruption or a security incident	No exception noted.
CC7.5 A1.2 A1.3	393	Entity has documented policies and procedures that establish guidelines for continuing business operations and facilitate the application of contingency planning controls.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has documented policies and procedures that establish guidelines for continuing business operations and facilitate the application of contingency planning controls.	No exception noted.
CC8.1	64	Entity has documented policies and procedures to manage	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
		changes to its operating environment.	described.	
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has documented policies and procedures to manage changes to its operating environment.	
CC8.1	65	Entity has procedures to govern changes to its operating environment.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has procedures to govern changes to its operating environment.	
CC8.1 PI1.3 PI1.4	66	Entity has established procedures for approval when implementing changes to the operating environment.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
			Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has established procedures for approval when implementing changes to the operating environment.	
CC9.1 CC9.2	67	Entity has documented policies and procedures that describe how to identify risks to business objectives and how those risks	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.
		are assessed and mitigated. The objectives incorporate the Entity's service commitments and system requirements	Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has documented policies and procedures that describe how to identify risks to business objectives and how those risks are assessed and mitigated. The objectives incorporate the entity's service commitments and system requirements	
CC9.2 P6.4	68	Entity has a documented policy and procedures to manage Vendors/third-party suppliers and	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
		provides guidance to staff on performing a risk assessment of such vendors	Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has a documented policy and procedures to manage Vendors/third-party suppliers and provides guidance to staff on performing a risk assessment of such vendors	
A1.2 A1.3	60	Entity tests backup information periodically to verify media reliability and information integrity.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity tests backup information periodically to verify media reliability and information integrity.	No exception noted.
A1.2	59	Entity backs up relevant user and system data regularly to meet recovery time and recovery point objectives and verifies the integrity of these backups.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity backs up relevant user and system data regularly to meet recovery time and recovery point objectives and verifies the integrity of these backups.	No exception noted.
A1.3	97	Entity has procedures to conduct regular tests and exercises that determine the effectiveness and the readiness to execute the contingency plan.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has procedures to conduct regular tests and exercises that determine the effectiveness and the readiness to execute the contingency plan.	No exception noted.
C1.1	69	Entity has a documented Information Security Policy that governs the confidentiality,	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
		integrity, and availability of information systems	Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has a documented Information Security Policy that governs the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information systems	
C1.1 PI1.1 PI1.2	70	Entity performs physical and/or logical labeling of information systems as per the guidelines documented policy defined for data classification	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity performs physical and/or logical labeling of information systems as per the guidelines documented policy defined for data classification	No exception noted.
PI1.1 PI1.2	116	The Entity's software application ensures input values are limited to acceptable ranges.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether the entity's software application ensures input values are limited to acceptable ranges.	No exception noted.
PI1.1	117	The Entity's software application ensures mandatory fields are completed before a record entry/edit is accepted.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether the entity's software application ensures mandatory fields are completed before a record entry/edit is accepted.	No exception noted.
PI1.3 PI1.4	118	Company does application regression testing to validate key processing for the application during the change management process.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
			Company does application regression testing to validate key processing for the application during the change management process.	
P1.0 P1.1 P3.1 P3.2 P4.1 P4.2 P4.3 P5.1 P5.2 P7.1 P8.1	143	Entity has a documented Privacy Policy which meets all the regulatory requirements and is published on the company's website.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has a documented Privacy Policy which meets all the regulatory requirements and is published on the company's website.	No exception noted.
P1.0 P1.1 P3.1 P3.2 P4.1 P4.2 P4.3 P5.1 P5.2 P7.1	144	Entity includes Privacy Act statements on forms that collect information that will be maintained in a Privacy Act system of records or provide Privacy Act statements on separate forms that can be retained by individuals.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity includes Privacy Act statements on forms that collect information that will be maintained in a Privacy Act system of records or provide Privacy Act statements on separate forms that can be retained by individuals.	No exception noted.
P1.1	433	Entity has documented policy and procedures which provides guidance on integrating privacy principles into the design process that help in complying with privacy regulations.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has documented policy and procedures which provides guidance on integrating privacy principles into	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
			the design process that help in complying with privacy regulations.	
P2.1 P3.1 P3.2 P4.1 P4.2 P4.3 P6.2 P7.1	75	Entity maintains an inventory of categories of personal information collected along with its usage, sources and specific purposes for collection as per regulatory requirements ("Record of Processing Activities") and reviews it on an annual basis	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity maintains an inventory of categories of personal information collected along with its usage, sources and specific purposes for collection as per regulatory requirements ("Record of Processing Activities") and reviews it on an annual basis	No exception noted.
P2.1 P3.2 P6.1 P6.5 P6.7 P8.1	76	Entity ensures regulatory requirements regarding user consent are met prior to processing personal data	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity ensures regulatory requirements regarding user consent are met prior to processing personal data	No exception noted.
P2.1	98	Entity maintains a list of all contractual obligations based on customer contracts.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity maintains a list of all contractual obligations based on customer contracts.	No exception noted.
P3.1	72	Entity has a documented policy and procedures to provide guidelines for Data Protection which includes staff members' responsibilities with handling personal data as per the	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has a documented policy and procedures to	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
		company's regulatory requirements	provide guidelines for Data Protection which includes staff members' responsibilities with handling personal data as per the company's regulatory requirements	
P4.3 P5.1 P5.2 P6.2 P6.7 P7.1 P8.1	80	Entity ensures that Subject Access Requests are being honored in accordance with the Privacy Policy	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity ensures that Subject Access Requests are being honored in accordance with the Privacy Policy	No exception noted.
P5.2 P6.1 P6.4 P6.5	77	Entity ensures that appropriate remediation measures are in place when personal data is shared with vendors as a part of its processing activities	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity ensures that appropriate remediation measures are in place when personal data is shared with vendors as a part of its processing activities	No exception noted.
P6.1	79	Entity conducts Data Protection Impact Assessments periodically in order to assess the regulatory risks associated with the processing of personal data	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity conducts Data Protection Impact Assessments periodically in order to assess the regulatory risks associated with the processing of personal data	No exception noted.
P6.2 P6.3 P7.1	114	Entity appoints a Privacy Officer to assess and facilitate the entity's compliance with relevant regulatory requirements.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity appoints a Privacy Officer to assess and facilitate	No exception noted.

TSC Ref. #	Control Ref. #	Control Activities as specified by Novalnet	Testing Performed	Results of Tests
			the entity's compliance with relevant regulatory requirements.	
P6.3 P6.6	1105	Entity has documented guidelines on notifying customers and other stakeholders in case of a PII breach.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity has documented guidelines on notifying customers and other stakeholders in case of a PII breach.	No exception noted.
P6.3 P6.5 P6.6	113	Entity conducts risk assessment of suspected data breaches and any significant data breaches are notified to all affected parties without unreasonable delay.	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described.	The operating effectiveness of this control activity could not be tested as there was no related activity during the audit period.
P6.4 P6.5	74	Entity ensures appropriate procedures are in place to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements related to transfer of personal data outside of the region from which it is collected	Enquired with the management regarding the control activity to ascertain that the control operates as described. Inspected relevant artefacts to ascertain whether entity ensures appropriate procedures are in place to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements related to transfer of personal data outside of the region from which it is collected	No exception noted.