

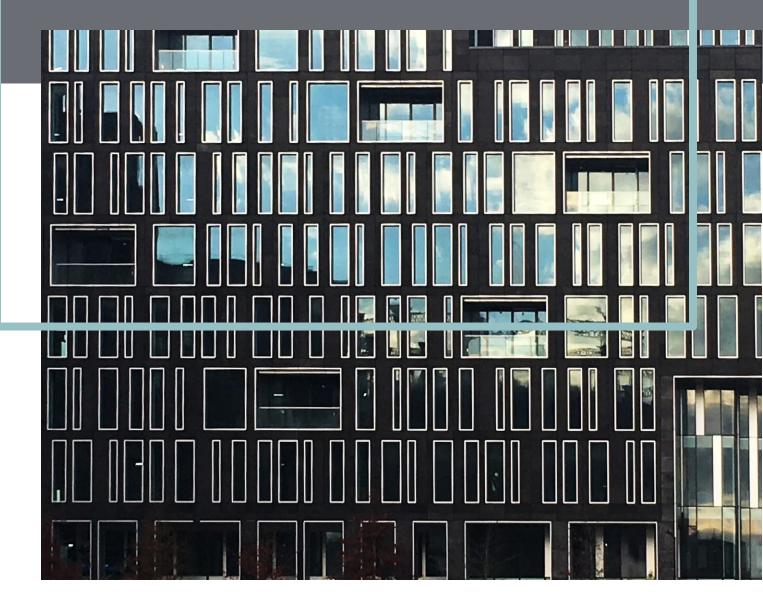


Oyster Consulting, LLC

## Starting Your Broker-Dealer

oysterllc.com 804.965.5400

Oyster Consulting understands the complexity of running a broker-dealer. We provide tailored, beginning-to-end services, helping you design and build your road to long-term success. Our clients leverage our know-how from navigating the complex registration process and vendor contract negotiations to developing and implementing an efficient and compliant operating model.





Oyster Consulting has multi-disciplined professionals who will provide you with the detailed knowledge and commitment you need to facilitate your firm's registration with FINRA.

#### Registration

For Broker-Dealers, we engage a full suite of professionals to usher you and your team through the FINRA New Member Application. We understand how to design practical and reasonable regulatory compliance programs and can help draft your Business Plan. Don't go it alone - our industry NMA experts turn one of your firm's toughest challenges into a smooth process



#### **Outsourced CCO**

Our Outsourced CCO professionals provide the unique benefit of getting a highly functioning, multi-disciplined professional without having to interview, negotiate, hire, onboard and maintain another employee. We provide an outsourced professional who is right-sized for your organization — no more having to wonder if your candidates are qualified to meet the daily challenges of regulatory compliance for your firm. At Oyster, our outsourced CCOs provide superior capabilities for RIA compliance backed by an entire company of industry professionals.



Outsourcing your FINOP role also provides transition support on an interim basis, allowing you time to find the best full-time candidate to replace departing employees.

We assist our clients with long-term solutions and short- term needs so you can spend your valuable time on investments and building client relationships

#### **Outsourced FINOP**

Oyster's experienced, licensed FINOP team will prioritize your FOCUS and Capital requirement calculations when you need us. When you outsource your FINOP role, you get a team of experienced industry practitioners.

Oyster Consulting will provide your firm with an outsourced FINOP who understands the industry and your firm but who also has the experience and resources to navigate regulatory nuances and interpretations. Our FINOPs stay current with industry and regulatory changes and have the expertise to ensure compliance with net capital reporting, FOCUS filings, documentation and to provide financial audit support.

## **AML Annual Testing**

Staying on top of the changing regulations, professional criminal tactics and evolving technology requires time and dedication. Oyster has a team of experienced industry practitioners and former regulators focused on Anti-Money Laundering.

Outsourcing your AML program minimizes your risk while protecting your firm and clients. Let Oyster manage your program so you can focus on running your business.



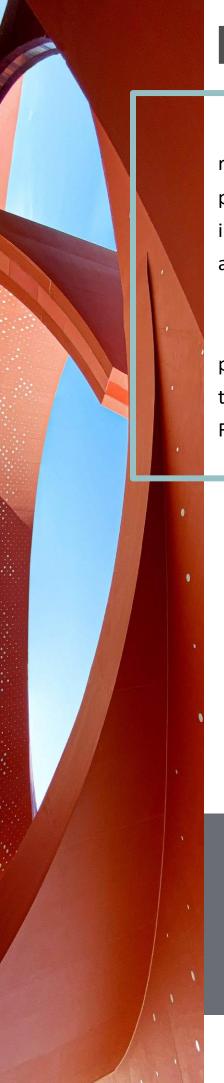
Branch exams are a critical part of every Broker-Dealer's system of compliance and controls. Oyster's experienced, industry practitioners provide onsite and remote branch examinations.

#### **Branch Exams**

From supervisory controls and operating procedures to office security procedures, our proven review process is risk-based and aligned with your lines of business and product mix.



Our branch exams process provides regulatory compliance while allowing you to leverage a road map to prioritize your challenges and opportunities. Whether you are looking to outsource the Branch Exam process or conduct a review of your program, Oyster Consulting is ready to help. Oyster can also provide licensed outsourced professionals to provide an end-to-end compliance program for your firm.



#### BD 3120/3130

Robust supervisory controls are an essential component of risk mitigation for your firm. Ensuring your firm's compliance program is current with evolving regulatory requirements is an important factor when it comes to protecting your business and reputation.

Oyster consultants have the expertise to create a testing program customized to your firm and its lines of business. Our testing program and gap analysis will meet the requirements of FINRA Rule 3120 for Registered Broker-Dealers.

We will review and test your supervisory controls and procedures, document the review and collaborate with your firm's management to recommend ways to enhance your firm's control environment. Oyster's experienced industry practitioners will also provide your firm with recommendations to achieve industry best practices. Our disciplined and time-tested process is designed to ensure your firm's processes and procedures are compliant.

If you are a dual-registered firm we can also perform your Investment Advisor annual review. Our experts will ensure sure your program is investment advisor program is compliant, reflects your firm's capabilities, leverages technology and has effective, streamlined processes.

### **Clearing Conversion Support**



Our process, knowledge of the marketplace and relationships with the major clearing firms allows us to mitigate the challenges you face. We have faced the same issues and will help you navigate the difficult decisions. We know your employees' time is fully committed, so we stand ready to backfill tasks during transitions so you can maintain high service levels. Our collaborative team will execute the change and implement ongoing practices to make the conversion smooth for your firm and your clients.

## Management Consulting

From strategic planning to integration of firm cultures and systems, Oyster is the partner that will help you find the right match and create value.

Organic growth requires a disciplined approach to product strategy, talent acquisition, process and system implementations to support a sustainable and risk managed organization. We can help with time-tested methods utilizing the latest best practices.

Growth through acquisition requires a thoughtful due diligence and integration process to drive results. Our consultants have run and participated in some of the largest mergers and acquisitions in the industry's history. We know what it takes to be successful and where the pain points are.

Oyster will partner with you to define your goals and create a path to get there, supported by industry intelligence and benchmarks. Firms leverage our experience to help select the right strategic match based on culture and capabilities.

Our team of conversion specialists will work to integrate the best business practices for your new products and services, or during mergers, from each legacy firm. We will perform a gap analysis of each firm's systems, operating procedures, and policies to create a roadmap for resolving those differences. Our team can also help with data mapping during system conversions, creating an employee retention strategy and with new product implementation.

# Oyster Solutions: Governance, Risk and Compliance Software

"Oyster Solutions will take your compliance program to the next level."

- Current Client



Built for the way you do business.

Oyster Solutions is designed for the way you work, today and tomorrow as your firm grows.

Our modules are custom-designed and offer flexibility unique to the marketplace.

At the core of Oyster Solutions is an advanced engine that drives entitlements, roles, visibility and firm-specific hierarchy. Oyster Solutions doesn't overwhelm users with information they don't need. Our roles-based approach gives your users access to the information they need, when they need it.

Adopting appropriate compliance behaviors is easy with powerful workflows and processes. With configurable workflows, Oyster Solutions allows you and your employees to see what needs to be completed and when. Your firm's policies, procedures and workflows are aligned to risks, so your team can prioritize the important tasks. You get peace of mind knowing your firm is meeting its regulatory responsibilities.

#### We create simplicity

Today's financial services industry is more complex than ever. Regulators require more comprehensive testing while modern back-office operations and trading platforms demand scalability and focus to maintain value. At Oyster, we simplify strategic projects, testing and compliance by breaking them into manageable parts, then guide you through the project, start-to-finish.

Our experts share their industry experience and provide the technical know-how, putting guidance into action.

Oyster Solutions, our governance, risk and compliance software, automates and integrates regulations and risk with your policies, processes and reporting. This unique platform provides you with supervision, oversight and testing that proves the results, all in one place.

Let Oyster help you define your goals and how to get there. From strategy to execution, Oyster Consulting keeps your firm ready for the future while excelling in the present.

"Oyster took away the guess work, providing us with a strategy that led to value.

-President and CEO, National Broker-Dealer

