



Position On PCI Compliance For Web-Based Registration And User Self-Service Pages

Overview

Aria Systems software is a comprehensive solution that meets the complex, mission critical mediation, provisioning, transaction processing and reporting needs of service providers. Our solution enables the real-time provisioning and reporting of services, including such functions as account creation, user authentication, activity tracking, pricing and rating, billing and customer service, including self-service, all on a scale of up to millions of users. We have built the software using an open architecture leveraging web services, or HTTP accessible API's, which facilitate integration with existing software applications, and creation of new accounts and services by our customers.

Common usage of these web services includes the creation of web-based forms that allow our customer's customers to register and maintain their accounts. These registration and user-self service (USS) pages frequently contain credit card information, including credit card number, expiration date and card verification value (CVV). The storage of this sensitive data often engenders questions regarding a company's responsibility under the Payment Card Industry (PCI) Data Security Standards. Aria itself is Level One PCI Compliant (the highest possible), as certified by the PCI Security Standards Council. Listed below is Aria's understanding of the PCI responsibility for the Registration and USS pages in the three (3) options for hosting of the forms. Please note that while this is our understanding, based on our audit and our auditor's review, our customers should review and confirm with their security auditors, as the security responsibility remains with the company.

Hosting Options

1. Aria hosts the Registration and USS pages behind the Aria firewall. This option is fully PCI Level 1 compliant and all forms are subject to coding standards, code reviews, rigorous Quality Assurance testing, and other release process requirements as dictated by PCI Level One Compliance.
2. Customer hosts the Registration and USS pages and passes credit card information to Aria via Aria's web services. In this option, the information stored within Aria is still PCI Level 1 compliant. Given that credit card information is being processed on the customer's servers, Aria believes a PCI responsibility is incurred by said customer. The level of responsibility is to be determined by the customer and their auditors. Information regarding PCI responsibility and compliance can be found at www.pcisecuritystandards.org.
3. Customer hosts the Registration and USS forms, EXCEPT for the forms pertaining to the processing of credit card data. This logic is hosted by Aria and is accessed from the customer-hosted pages via an HTTP POST or some other means. This option is fully PCI Level 1 compliant from Aria's standpoint. Again, given that some of the pages that render credit card forms (forms not data) to our customer's customers are managed by and hosted by the customer, there may be some responsibility for our customers in this scenario.

While not a detailed technical description of the overall process flows, the above should be used as a guideline for initial decision making on hosting your registration and USS forms. Again, Aria strongly recommends you consult with your attorneys or auditors for their opinion regarding the PCI responsibility. For any questions regarding the information contained above, please contact your Aria Account Manager or e-mail support@ariasystems.com

Aria Systems is the leading provider of subscription billing solutions and offers the only "monetization platform" encompassing the full spectrum of Billing and Customer Lifecycle Management services. The **A+ Billing Platform** offers clients the on-demand billing industry's most flexible tool for accelerating revenue capture, optimizing cash flow, and enabling actionable market intelligence while significantly reducing operating costs throughout each phase of the customer lifecycle. Acknowledged as the SaaS billing leader in terms of experience and execution, Aria manages and maintains more than 1 million accounts and has processed more than 1 billion transactions since it began operations in 2003. With Hummer Winblad, Venrock, and software billing icon Dave Labuda as investors, the company is based in Media, Pa. (metropolitan Philadelphia), with offices in the San Francisco bay area as well.





Contact Aria Systems Today!

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About Aria Systems

Aria Systems is the subscription billing and management market leader serving Global 2000 companies. The Aria Subscription Billing Platform is the industry's only enterprise-class solution that automates the entire subscriber life cycle for all recurring revenue models. Disney, Pitney Bowes, Ingersoll Rand, DreamWorks, EMC, Internap, Roku, VMware, Taleo, and HootSuite all rely on Aria for fast time-to-market, low operational costs, and monetization flexibility. For more information, visit www.ariasystems.com.

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