**From Reactive to Resilient: 3 Practices to Help
Financial Firms Thrive Amid Regulatory Change**

*Global Fintech Series byline by Pragya Agarwal*

Imagine a high-stakes game where each player has different rules, the referees interpret them differently, and the rules can change mid-match. Meanwhile, your competitors are still trying to win. That’s what navigating the regulatory environment in modern financial services can feel like.

Growing complexity is making it harder for firms to understand requirements — and even harder to meet them consistently. Some regional initiatives, like the European Union’s Digital Operational Resilience Act (DORA), mandate stringent standards for information and communication technology (ICT) risk management while emphasizing monitoring and operational resilience.

In the U.S., major regulatory agencies such as the Federal Reserve Board (FRB), Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) are still working to coordinate on [revisions to the Basel III Endgame](https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/us/Documents/regulatory/banking-regulatory-outlook-2025.pdf) proposal.

With constant change and such fragmentation, reactive compliance isn’t enough. To stay ahead and be resilient, firms must embed compliance into the core of their operations with three key practices in mind:

* Integrate compliance into operational workflows
* Balance compliance with efficiency
* Tap into scalable expertise via outsourcing partnerships

**Integrating compliance into operational workflows**

Just as security is now built into products from the start, compliance must also be built into processes from the start. That means designing tracking mechanisms to ensure execution of core activities — like onboarding clients, transactions, or launches — rather than adding them later.

Real-time dashboards and cross-functional visibility help teams spot and resolve issues early, allowing firms to meet regulatory requirements without introducing the inefficiencies often associated with traditional compliance checks.

AI-powered automation is another critical step. Large language models (LLMs), the engines behind GenAI, can track regulatory changes across jurisdictions in real time. In areas like anti-money laundering, they can [reduce false positives by up to 40%](https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/us/Documents/regulatory/banking-regulatory-outlook-2025.pdf). By flagging discrepancies or automatically updating internal processes, these tools help narrow the gap between regulation and response.

Unlike rigid systems, agile workflow provides the ability to accommodate frequent shifts. Firms that adopt modular, adaptable processes will enable compliance teams and operational units to make swift adjustments. For example, digital workflow platforms can reflect changes in regulatory requirements and trigger automated reviews or updated documentation with minimal disruption.

**Balancing compliance with efficiency**

Compliance, however, can’t come at the expense of operational efficiency, which can stall growth—or worse. Financial firms must adapt swiftly to regulatory requirements without draining resources or disrupting operations. Data analytics and predictive modeling can help strike this balance. By analyzing historical compliance data, market trends, and emerging regulations, firms can forecast potential changes and their operational impact. This foresight supports smarter planning and resource allocation, ensuring compliance doesn’t derail strategic priorities.

Modular compliance frameworks can also enhance adaptability. Unlike monolithic systems that require costly, time-consuming overhauls, modular architectures allow individual components—such as anti-money laundering (AML), cybersecurity, or data privacy protocols—to be updated independently. This improves resilience and responsiveness without burdening the entire system.

A tiered compliance strategy adds further efficiency. Not all compliance measures carry the same level of urgency or scrutiny. Categorizing requirements into essential (must-do), proactive (should-do), and best-practice (nice-to-have) tiers enables smarter prioritization. This approach helps avoid over-investment in low-risk areas while maintaining rigorous focus on high-impact obligations. It also supports risk-based decision-making, allowing firms to adjust based on regulatory pressure and business impact.

**Tapping into scalable expertise through strategic partnerships**

Given the complexity, breadth, and constant evolution of regulatory frameworks, few financial institutions can maintain all necessary expertise in-house. Strategic partners can take on critical compliance functions or deploy workflow specialists to deliver scalable, cost-effective solutions. With deep regulatory knowledge and operational experience, these partners allow firms to stay focused on growth while offloading the burden of building and maintaining internal compliance infrastructure. In fact, [92% of firms that outsource](https://guidehouse.com/news/financial-services/2023/financial-institutions-outsourcing-compliance) compliance functions report improved efficiency without operational disruption.

Many outsourcing providers offer managed services that proactively monitor regulatory environments and adjust internal workflows accordingly. This real-time responsiveness helps firms stay ahead of regulatory change with minimal manual effort. For example, a provider might automatically update documentation templates or reporting protocols to meet new requirements— eliminating the need for in-house teams to interpret and implement legislative details.

Training is another critical area. As regulations evolve, so must employee understanding. Specialized partners can deliver dynamic, role-specific training programs with scenario-based learning and regular updates tailored to emerging risks — building a culture of continuous compliance readiness. They can also help with effective change management to ensure teams are aligned and equipped to implement updates efficiently.

However, outsourcing does not mean relinquishing control. Strategic partnerships allow financial institutions to retain oversight and accountability while benefiting from specialized knowledge and technology. This hybrid model of in-house oversight combined with external support maximizes both regulatory coverage and operational flexibility.

**TaskUs Pragya Agarwal Biography**

As TaskUs' Global Head of Financial Crimes and Compliance with 24+ years of experience, [Pragya Agarwal](https://www.linkedin.com/in/pragya-agarwal-b8ab615b/) specializes in Financial Crime Compliance and Fraud Management. Certified as a CAMs professional by ACAMs, her skills include consulting on tech-driven solutions for complex compliance challenges, leading large, high-performing teams, and identifying solutions to meet fintech regulatory requirements. A Six Sigma Green Belt, she excels in interpersonal, analytical, communicative, negotiation, mentoring, and leadership skills.