

Why a Secure Shredding Service Is Critical to Healthcare Compliance



Making sure
it's secure.™

You're already familiar with HIPAA and why your patients' protected health information must be kept private. But with the HITECH Act, authorities are increasing their enforcement of HIPAA and imposing expensive case-by-case penalties for willful neglect. It is crucial to be sure that the company you choose to shred your confidential medical information is secure — and helps you comply with the latest legislation. Here's why:

Stricter audits are in place and more fines are being levied.

Regulatory authorities enforcing the HITECH Act are becoming more proactive. Fines and penalties have increased since 2009, and are expected to climb. Check out these examples and recent findings about patient privacy in the U.S.:

- ✗ In February of 2011, a Maryland healthcare provider was fined \$4.3 million for violations to the HIPAA Privacy Rule.¹
- ✗ A large insurance provider in Connecticut paid \$250,000 for waiting more than six months to notify 500,000 patients that their unencrypted personal health information (PHI) was on a missing disk drive.²
- ✗ Enforcement and penalties will continue to climb. The HIPAA Privacy & Security Audit Program is expected to perform audits on 150 covered entities in 2012, and business partners are expected to be included in the future.³
- ✗ The average cost of a data breach per hospital is \$2 million.⁴
- ✗ 60% of hospitals in the U.S. have suffered at least two breaches.⁵
- ✗ The average number of lost or stolen patient records per data breach is 1,769.⁶

Information security may not be your current provider's biggest concern.

Think about it. If secure document destruction isn't your current shredding provider's core competency, your patients' information is at risk. Here's why:

- ✗ Shredding service providers that offer multiple services are primarily concerned with service logistics and cost efficiencies.
- ✗ Service can be compromised when your vendor has to outsource the work to service **all** your locations.
- ✗ Many vendors can't guarantee a secure chain of custody, or provide a certificate of destruction.
- ✗ Their employees may have little or no training, because they have to perform many services in addition to document destruction.
- ✗ A multi-service provider won't have the training and expertise to advise you on best practices, or keep you up-to-date on changes in legislation.



800.697.4733

or visit us at shredit.com



NAID-CERTIFIED INDUSTRY EXPERTS

All Shred-it locations in North America have received NAID Certification for mobile document destruction.

Make Shred-it Your Go-To Partner for Secure Information Destruction



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Switch to an information security expert for all your document destruction needs. Shred-it also has the largest geographical footprint in the world of any shredding vendor, with more than 140 offices on five continents. We consistently service the greatest number of business addresses in North America. And those aren't the only reasons to choose Shred-it as your information destruction vendor:

We are *the* document destruction experts.

Protecting your patients' confidential information is our top priority — because secure destruction is all we do.

- ✓ Why would you trust your patients' privacy with any service provider that leaves you vulnerable to information security breaches?
- ✓ Our Gold Standards quality management process ensures we achieve the highest operational standards and consistent service.
- ✓ Shred-it employees are highly trained security experts.
- ✓ We stay up-to-date on the privacy legislation that affects healthcare.
- ✓ You are guaranteed consistent service from a partner who serves more locations than any other.

What Shred-it clients say about us:

"On site, compliant — and we have to comply with HIPAA. I also like the idea of recycling and saving the planet."

— Susan Luskin, Diversified Administration

"Shred-it services are easy, fast and reliable. We appreciate their friendly service, too!"

— Terri Boone, APS Healthcare

Sources

- 1 http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/hipaa-bares-its-teeth-43m-fine-privacy-violation-022311
- 2 <http://www.corporatecomplianceinsights.com/hipaa-compliance-why-stakes-higher-now-than-ever-before/>
- 3 HIPAA Compliance: Why the Stakes Are Higher Now Than Ever Before, Stacy Chubak Hinners.
- 4 2010 Annual Study: Global Cost of a Data Breach, Ponemon Institute, LLC, 2010.
- 5 2010 Annual Study: Global Cost of a Data Breach, Ponemon Institute, LLC, 2010.
- 6 2010 Annual Study: Global Cost of a Data Breach, Ponemon Institute, LLC, 2010.

Our secure shredding solution provides you with peace of mind.

We use a consistent approach to information destruction across all locations, through our secure, step-by-step process:

- ✓ Shred-it 32G Consoles are constructed to be NFPA industry compliant.
- ✓ Your Shred-it security-trained expert arrives on schedule for pick-ups.
- ✓ We destroy your documents inside our mobile truck — right at your location — and you can watch the process.
- ✓ You receive a Certificate of Destruction after each service, guaranteeing your documents have been securely destroyed.
- ✓ Our services are flexible and can be customized to meet each of your location's needs.
- ✓ At Shred-it, we care about the environment and recycle all paper documents once they've been destroyed.



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