NOVARTIS

Head DDIT ISC Software Development Governance, Integrity & Secure Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC)

Job ID
REQ-10087247
Oct 22, 2026
LOC_IN

About the Role

Key Responsibilities:

- Own the enterprise policy, standards and controls for software engineering, including source control, branching, peer review, testing, release management, environment segregation, change control, configuration and release documentation.
- Rationalise overlapping GxP, SOX, privacy, security and IT-quality requirements into one coherent, risk-based framework, ensuring low-risk internal tools are not governed like regulated clinical systems.
- Retire SDLC controls that do not reduce risk and ensure tooling is implemented to securely speed up software development at Novartis at the highest scale, leveraging and creating AI tooling for the enterprise.
- Implement policy as code and controls as code, including branch protections, mandatory review, signed commits, segregation of duties, deployment approvals and immutable audit trails.
- Build automated, continuous evidence pipelines and define control telemetry including coverage, exceptions, drift, mean time to remediate and control effectiveness, with a focus on agility, automation and speed.
- Own secure-by-default guardrails in golden pipelines and paved-road platforms, aligning with recognized frameworks including NIST SSDF, ISO/IEC 27001 and IEC 62304 where applicable.
- Define controls for AI-assisted engineering, including acceptable use of coding assistants, agentic tooling, IP and licence exposure, provenance, attribution and human accountability for review and approval.
- Define controls for AI-containing products, including model lifecycle, dataset and model documentation, evaluation, drift monitoring, explainability, human oversight and readiness for evolving regulatory requirements.
- Use AI to reduce compliance burden through automated risk assessment drafting, control mapping, test generation, deviation triage and documentation synthesis, while serving as technical authority for inspections, audits, certifications and SDLC remediation.
- Lead a federated community of engineering, quality, security and compliance practitioners, publish practical guidance, advise senior leaders on risk and trade-offs, and partner with software developers across the enterprise to enable efficient delivery of compliant and secure products.

Essential Requirement:

- You are a practitioner. You have substantial hands-on software engineering experience: you have written production code, owned CI/CD pipelines, and can read and modify pipeline configuration, IaC and policy code today, unaided. Expect a technical assessment.
- 10+ years in software engineering, platform engineering, DevSecOps or engineering quality, including senior technical ownership of delivery pipelines at scale.
- Experience designing and operating automated controls in regulated environments — with evidence of replacing manual compliance work with software.
- Working fluency in regulated-software requirements relevant to pharma/life sciences: GxP, GAMP 5 (2nd Ed.), CSA, 21 CFR Part 11, EU Annex 11 and data integrity/ALCOA+.
- Security engineering depth: application security, software supply chain security, secrets and identity management, vulnerability management.
- Credible technical judgement on AI in the SDLC — both the tooling and its governance implications.

- Ability to influence without authority across engineering, quality and business lines, and hold positions with senior stakeholders and auditors.
- Excellent written English.

Desirable Requirement:

- Experience in pharma, biotech, medical devices or another regulated industry (finance, aviation, nuclear), with real inspection or audit exposure.Experience with SOX ITGC in engineering contexts, IEC 62304 / SaMD, and privacy-by-design under GDPR.
- Hands-on with modern stacks: Git-based platforms and policy/protection features, container orchestration, cloud, IaC, policy engines (e.g. OPA/Rego or equivalent), test automation frameworks, SBOM and signing tooling.

You'll receive: You can find everything you need to know about our benefits and rewards in the Novartis Life Handbook. https://www.novartis.com/careers/benefits-rewards

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion:
Novartis is committed to building an outstanding, inclusive work environment and diverse teams' representative of the patients and communities we serve.

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Role Requirements

Division
DIV_TO
Business Unit
Information Technology
Location
LOC_IN
Site
Hyderabad (Office)
Company / Legal Entity
IN10 (FCRS = IN010) Novartis Healthcare Private Limited
Functional Area
FCT_IT
Job Type
Full time
Employment Type
Regular
Shift Work
No
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