

Sarbanes-Oxley



Sarbanes-Oxley Act (SOX)

Sarbanes-Oxley Major Provisions

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 was enacted in the wake of several major corporate and accounting scandals. Its provisions affect email retention, integrity and oversight. Sarbanes-Oxley applies to all publicly traded companies and the CPA's and attorneys associated with these companies.

- Section 802 presents a possible fine of up to \$1,000,000 dollars or a prison sentence of up to 20 years for any person who destroys, alters, mutilates or conceals any electronic document in an official investigation.
- Sarbanes Oxley specifies minimum retention periods for all accounting records, work papers, communications, file attachments, and documents whether transmitted via email, instant messaging or other message modes.
- **Section 302** requires CFO's and CEO's to personally certify and be accountable for their firms record retention policies and financial reports.
- Section 404 requires auditors to certify the underlying controls and processes that are used to compile the financial results of a company. Email is a critical component in being able to achieve this certification.
- Section 103(a) and 801(a) require companies to maintain all documents including electronic documents that form the basis of an audit or review for seven years.

more information at www.athenaarchiver.com (888) 613-9400



Athena Archiver assists companies in complying with Sarbanes Oxley in the following ways:

- Athena Archiver can verify the integrity of the archive because as email comes into the system we time stamp, serialize and create a unique signature for each message.
- Athena allows companies to retain critical email for the required time period in a highly secure encrypted archive. We provide automatic verification of the quality and accuracy of the storage media recording process using CRC checks and cryptographic signatures.
- Athena ensures the integrity of an electronic document by encrypting messages at all points during transmission and storage.
- Unlike some of our competitors, we disallow users and administrators from deleting emails from the archive. The ability to delete email from the archive will almost guarantee Sarbanes Oxley noncompliance.

