

Case Study



 **Industry:** Banking Trade Association

 **Employees:** 330+

Company Summary:

Founded in 1875 and based in Washington, D.C., the American Bankers Association (ABA) is the largest financial trade organization in the United States. Representing banks of all sizes—including community banks, regional and major banks, savings associations, and trust companies—ABA provides training, certifications, advocacy, research, and community support across the U.S. financial sector. It is also the publisher of the ABA Banking Journal.

THE CHALLENGE

ABA needed to assess and document security access across approximately 50 Workday security groups with clarity and precision. Recognizing that true security maturity requires moving beyond raw data, ABA partnered with Kognitiv to transform complex domain and business process permissions into clear, actionable insights, ensuring total transparency over sensitive compensation, payroll, and PII access.

Pain Points Identified:

- Difficulty understanding and comparing access levels across security groups in a meaningful, user-friendly format.
- Time-consuming and error-prone manual analysis of ever changing Workday security policies and permissions.
- Limited visibility into sensitive access areas, including payroll, compensation, and personal identifiable information (PII).
- Need for repeatable documentation that could be used in audits and shared with stakeholders.

To meet ABA's needs, Kognitiv deployed its Security Panel – a proprietary and powerful Workday-native solution offering a visual and categorized summary of security group access. The tool was deployed in 2 days and now enables ABA to make informed decisions, document access levels clearly, and proactively manage potential security risks on an ongoing basis.

Key Components:

- ✓ **Access Transparency**
The Security Panel visualizes permissions across more than a dozen sensitive data categories (e.g., PII, Compensation, Payroll, Recruiting), identifying whether a security group has View, Modify, or No access to each area.
- ✓ **Live Workday Integration**
The Security Panel pulls live data from ABA's Workday tenant, ensuring that access summaries remain current. This enables ABA to instantly refresh and regenerate reports as changes are made.
- ✓ **Drill-Down Insights**
ABA is able to easily click into each access category to see detailed breakdowns of underlying components—empowering them to trace permissions back to specific Workday security policies and business processes in real-time.
- ✓ **Security Governance Enablement**
Using the tool, ABA can now produce audit-ready documentation, share clear summaries with internal stakeholders, and more confidently govern system access in line with internal controls and compliance best practices.

THE SOLUTION

Key Takeaways

- Kognitiv's Security Panel bridges the gap between complex Workday security configurations and real-world access implications, making it easier to manage, report on, and govern access.
- By leveraging live Workday data and translating it into actionable insights, ABA gains a critical edge in maintaining compliance and securing sensitive employee information.



Streamlined Security Audits: Significantly reduces effort required to analyze and report on Workday access, enabling quicker audits and internal reviews.



Improved Governance: Enhances visibility into who has access to sensitive Workday data, allowing ABA to take corrective actions and apply the principle of least privilege where necessary.



Risk Reduction: Identifies and resolves overexposed access configurations, helping ABA reduce their risk footprint and improve data protection.



Operational Efficiency: Empowers HR and IT teams to review security access in hours instead of days, using an intuitive, shareable visual format.

THE IMPACT

