OBJECTIVE:
The survey was intended to discover the current state of the work of senior level ethics and compliance officers.

METHODS USED:
Convercent and Ethisphere partnered to create the “2017 Anti-Bribery and Corruption Benchmarking Report.” Senior Ethisphere analysts and Convercent partners created the survey in October, and invited senior-level executives working in ethics, compliance, or anti-corruption worldwide to respond. The survey produced 335 complete and partial responses.

KEY FINDINGS:
- There is an increase from 16% to 30% for the number of Ethics and Compliance Officers reporting to the CEO between 2015 and 2017.
- There is an increase from 39% to 49% for the number of Ethics and Compliance Officers who are almost always or regularly involved in strategic decisions.
- There are still challenges present like how many companies are behind the technology curve, wrestling a mountain of compliance data using legacy processes, outdated tools, and disconnected systems.
- The primary intake methods to capture ethical incidents are: 94% hotline calls, 90% website forms and 40% open door/proxy reports.

CONCLUSION:
- There is always a risk of brand-damaging if financial goals aren't tied to fundamental values and ethics. The connection between these two should not be transparent but should be apparent to both the employees at the bottom and the top.
- Employees should be able to send incident reports that result in follow ups within the company and not retaliations against those who sent the reports. This will give the employee an idea that the company embraces ethical culture, which will enhance brand value and financial performance.