



# CASE STUDY

# ISO 27001 Implementation





# OVERVIEW

This case study delves into the challenges faced by Agrimetrics in securing its information systems and data, its successful partnership with Risk Crew to develop an effective Information Security Management System (ISMS), and ultimately attaining and maintaining its ISO 27001 certification. Additionally, the case study highlights how Risk Crew's 6-step methodology can be beneficial to similar organisations operating in the digital landscape and highlights the significant benefits of securing information systems through a well-designed, executed and maintained ISMS.

## Industry: Agri-tech, Agriculture and Environment

Requirement	Establish and implement ISMS and achieve ISO 27001 certification
Industry Details	Agrifood Data Marketplace, where data can be easily shared, monetised and accessed
Location	United Kingdom, with customer operations spanning global food supply-chains
Implementation Period	The project was conducted over a 6-months period

## About Agrimetrics

Founded in 2015, [Agrimetrics](#) is one of the UK's Agri-Tech Centres for Agricultural Innovation, dedicated to revolutionising the agrifood sector through a thriving Data Marketplace that facilitates the sharing, monetisation and accessibility of data. The company's mission is to catalyse the food, farming and environment sectors through the power of data sharing and analytics – to meet humanity's goal of feeding 10 billion people by 2050. To do this, data and research needs to be shared with the world to accelerate sustainable food production.



## THE CHALLENGE

The nature of the business requires sharing, processing and storing data which posed a significant risk to information security, with sensitive data being susceptible to accidental or deliberate compromise.

This challenge of implementing ISO 27001 was not convincing leadership – as they recognised the importance of protecting data. The challenge was not having a dedicated Data Protection Officer or Compliance Officer, and the absence of an ISMS made it challenging to ensure consistency in its operational activities and management practices.

The organisation needed to establish a secure and standardised data-sharing infrastructure that would enable integrated data and AI-powered analytics – thereby improving farming operations.

## THE SOLUTION

The process began with Risk Crew developing an ISMS framework, which served as a clear and unified set of agreed documents to manage the implementation of policies and procedures for ensuring the confidentiality, availability and integrity of informational assets.

To ensure that the ISMS was aligned with best practices established in the ISO 27001 standard, Risk Crew conducted a comprehensive review of Agrimetrics' existing security policies and procedures, as well as interviews with key business stakeholders. This allowed Risk Crew to understand the existing risk culture and set the tone of the ISMS documentation and policies.

Risk Crew created a framework aligned to the following ISO 27001-mandated baseline clauses which serve as the foundation of Agrimetric's ISMS.

## THE METHODOLOGY

Risk Crew commenced the project by implementing its bespoke ISO 27001 Methodology. This ensured that Agrimetrics was able to create an effective ISMS that could stand up to the rigorous requirements of the certification process.

The project spanned over the course of six months and involved four key individuals from the Agrimetrics team, the Chief Operating Officer, IT Manager, Project Manager and Technology Lead, while the Risk Crew Team was represented by the Client Director and a Security Consultant.

## ● Identification of Key Information Assets

Risk Crew drafted the Information Asset Register that identified the information assets, location, and custodian for Agrimetrics reference. The assets were compiled into groups for ease of reference

## ● Risk Assessment

A comprehensive information security threat and risk assessment was conducted to identify vulnerabilities and quantified the likelihood and impact of potential threats to Agrimetrics' information assets. The findings were presented in a detailed report, which also included recommended remedial actions to address the identified security threats.

## ● Risk Treatment Plan

Risk Crew developed a Risk Treatment Plan (RTP) to regularly identify, minimise and manage security threats to Agrimetric's valuable information assets. Four methods of risk management were utilised in the RTP: reduce, accept, transfer, and avoid.

## ● Vulnerability Scanning

Vulnerability Scanning was conducted against Agrimetrics' internal devices, corporate website and Azure environment to identify any existing security configuration vulnerabilities. High or Medium vulnerabilities were also documented within the risk treatment plan for remediation.

## ● Policy Writing

Risk Crew partnered with Agrimetrics to create all documented policies required for ISO 27001 compliance. The policies were delivered in a framework comprising corporate-level policy statements and annexes detailing the process for meeting the policy

## ● Programme Implementation Assistance

Unlimited email and telephonic support ensured a smooth and successful implementation process. Risk Crew experts were on hand to answer any questions and provide guidance on compliance requirements, ensuring that Agrimetrics fully understood the policies and procedures necessary to meet ISO 27001 standards.

## ● Audit Readiness Rehearsal

A dress rehearsal audit was carried out to certify readiness for the formal Stage 1 Audit. The team meticulously examined every aspect of the security infrastructure and processes, identifying any gaps or areas that required further attention.

# CLIENT BENEFITS

Implementing an ISMS and obtaining ISO 27001 certification proved to be a game-changer for Agrimetrics. The organisation meticulously designed and deployed a customised ISMS, resulting in an enhanced security posture, cultural shift towards heightened security consciousness and ultimately has positioned the company as a forward thinking leader in the agrifood industry.

Read further to get a more in-depth overview of the key benefits.

## Competitive Advantage

Overall, ISO 27001 has elevated Agrimetrics' business positioning in the marketplace, providing a strategic edge in the industry.

The company's decision to be forward-thinking in achieving an ISO 27001 Certification resulted in a multimillion-pound, seven-year programme win with the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). According to Agrimetrics' COO "...this would have been impossible without the certification. It made a difference to being able to play amongst the big boys".

## Cultural Security Change Amongst Staff

The data-centric approach of Agrimetrics' employees facilitated their comprehension of the significance of secure data storage and protection. Agrimetrics ensured that every employee was involved in the certification process, with each department having a designated champion within its team. This inclusive approach fostered a cultural shift within the organisation, raising awareness about the importance of information security.

## Mature Information and Data Regime

Agrimetrics' commitment to implementing and maintaining an effective ISMS has resulted in not only obtaining the ISO 27001 certification but also paved the way for its upcoming ISO 22301 certification – with 95% of the groundwork already accomplished.

## Industry Leader

ISO 27001 certification has become crucial for businesses seeking to establish themselves as leaders in their respective industries. Agrimetrics' success in identifying a gap in the agrifood sector and streamlining its data collection, storage, and protection processes demonstrates the importance of the ISO 27001 framework in helping to achieve their further business goal of – empowering the agrifood industry with research and data to feed 10 billion people by 2050.

# Get Started with ISO 27001 Certification

Risk Crew offers a variety of consultancy options to help you gain and maintain the ISO 27001 certification. Services are delivered by certified and seasoned practitioners who possess a host of industry-recognised information security governance and risk and compliance certifications. This ensures that they consider and address your business objectives throughout the compliance cycle.

All services are delivered under our **100% satisfaction guarantee**.

*See All Our ISO 27001 Consultancy Options*

## ABOUT RISK CREW

We are an elite group of information security governance, risk & compliance experts and the forerunners in the design & delivery of innovative & effective solutions with a 100% satisfaction guarantee.

*Contact us for more information*



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