ACUITY
RISK MANAGEMENT

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"Using STREAM, we have transformed our IAMM assessment from a one-off annual reporting event to an integral part of our ongoing IA Maturity Improvement process ..."

Jon Chadwick

DfE IA Team Leader

Department for Education

Department for Education

DfE's experience with Acuity's STREAM Integrated Risk Manager

The Department for Education (DfE), formerly the Department for Children Schools and Families, selected Acuity's STREAM Integrated Risk Manager product in mid 2007 to support its ISO 27001 based Information Security programme.

How STREAM supports DfE Requirements

Key considerations for DfE in selecting STREAM were:

- DfE could represent its organisation structure and business assets within STREAM

- it can be configured to use the in-house preferred business impact, likelihood and control assessment schemes

- The database (which holds potentially sensitive information) is deployed and managed entirely within the organisation's security perimeter

- The system is straightforward to deploy, learn and use with output reports that can be tailored to be meaningful to senior management

- Additional control standards can be imported and maintained as they change over time. These include standards such as ISO 27001, BS 25999, SPF, Hannigan DHR and the Information Assurance Maturity Model (IAMM)

- STREAM helps to address key challenges such as compliance reporting, and Residual Risk measurement against Risk Appetite.
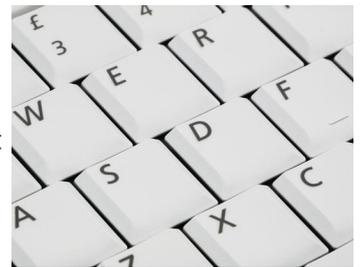
The Acuity solution

Acuity's **STREAM Integrated Risk Manager** was used initially to address ISO 27001 compliance for information security critical processes within the Department. In 2009, the full IAMM question set and scoring regime was replicated within STREAM, and then updated in 2010 in line with the latest version. DfE's STREAM system became the **primary repository** for the Department's IAMM data, and for its Delivery Partners and Major Third Parties. This has had the following benefits:

- It provides a mechanism for collecting IAMM data from multiple organisations into a single repository where that data can be compared, reviewed and consolidated into a single view of the Department and its Delivery System

- It enables DfE to: assign ownership of each IAMM control to the relevant subject matter expert from across the Department; distribute those controls to each expert for self-assessment; and capture their recommended scores and supporting evidence/rationale

- DfE is now able to insulate its Delivery Partners from changes to the CO IAMM Excel worksheet, and download the updated IAMM data into the latest version of the CO worksheet at the end of the assessment process

- DfE now maintains all IAMM data in a common, flexible repository where authorised staff can regularly interrogate, review, update and report upon it.

Further information on Acuity and STREAM

Please contact us on +44 (0) 20 7297 2086 or visit www.acuityrm.com